

NOTE ON ATROPHARISTA JURINOIDES TOWNS.

The following notes refer to an article by Dr. Williston in *Psyche*, Vol. 6, p. 409, March, 1893.

In the first place Dr. Williston has not examined the types of this species. The types are in my own collection, with the exception of one ♂ which was sent to the American Entomological Society. I have never identified or seen the specimens in Mr. Aldrich's collection, though I doubt not they are the same.

Upon examining the ♂, I find that the hairs on the eyes are extremely faint, but can be seen on close scrutiny. Upon examining the eyes of the ♀, I also find that, though still more faint, some microscopic hairs can be distinguished on inferior portions. Therefore hairiness of the eyes is not a sexual character here, but only the degree of hairiness is. This is a very frequent sexual character in the Tachinidae, and the ♂ usually, if not always, possesses it in the greater degree.

The eyes, however, of neither sex of this species are hairy enough to be called so, and therefore in my generic description I stated the eyes to be bare (*Trans. Am. ent. soc.* xix, 92-3). Before describing the new genus *Atropharista*, I read in Dr. Williston's description of *Melanophrys* that his genus had the eyes thinly pilose (at least in the ♂), and the third antennal joint 4 or 5 times as long as the second; moreover, the fourth vein was said to have a stump of a vein at bend. *Atropharista jurinoides* has the eyes unnoticeably hairy, the third antennal joint in both ♂ and ♀ hardly longer than the second, while the fourth vein has either no stump whatever at bend, or an extremely short one. I therefore think that I was warranted in not referring the present species to *Melanophrys*.

I should state that I have recently received two ♀ specimens of this species from Mrs. A. T. Slosson, collected at Franconia, New Hampshire. These show, in addition to the silvery stripe from eye to antennae, a detached

silvery marking at lower front corner of eye. Upon examining the South Dakota ♀, I find this silvery marking more faintly represented in it. This is the lowermost portion of the broad silvery marking to be seen in the ♂ of this species. Probably the ♀ of *Melanophrys flavipennis* does not possess this, since its ♂ does not possess the broad silvery marking of the ♂ of the present species.

C. H. Tyler Townsend.

MOULD IN CABINETS.

Get some small, cheap Turkey sponges, as free from large holes as possible, and cut them into cubes of from one half to one inch each. Take some long stout pins, and putting two through one of the cubes of sponge, suspend thus the latter in the drawer so that it touches nothing but the pins. Then get some of Calvert's No. 5 carbolic acid . . . and a glass pipette; lift the carbolic by the pipette, and put as much on the sponge as this will hold without dripping. This will completely prevent the increase of the fungus; and if the carbolic be renewed in two or three months, and if the drawers are pretty tightly closed, will kill what may be therein. The carbolic should not be allowed to get on the insects, but the vapor will be found to help to keep them clean and bright by preventing all forms of decomposition. . . . The tissues of the insects in the drawers become after a time, I believe, slightly carbolized, and then mites and mould will not attack them. I use it in all my boxes and drawers, and consider it essential to the preservation of collections containing very large insects by keeping the atmosphere inside the drawers quite disinfected. (*Ent. Mo. Mag.* April, 1893, p. 93-94.)

D. Sharp.

PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES.

CAMBRIDGE ENTOMOLOGICAL CLUB.

10 February, 1893.—The 176th meeting was held at 156 Brattle St. Mr. S. Henshaw was chosen chairman.

Voted: That Article V of the By-Laws be amended by striking out the words "the members of this committee chosen at large shall audit the accounts of the treasurer," and substituting therefor "the accounts of the treasurer shall be audited by a committee of two appointed at the annual meeting by the chair."

Dr. H. S. Pratt of Cambridge was elected to active membership.

Mr. S. H. Scudder exhibited a male of *Melanoplus atlanis* taken by Mrs. A. T. Slosson on the summit of Mt. Lafayette, N. H., in October, in which the terminal segment of the abdomen was entire and not notched. The nearest approach to this condition which he had been able to find after examining many individuals of this species was in some taken in the Moosehead Lake district of Maine. Like these also it differs from more southern specimens of the same species in that the marginal apophyses of the last dorsal segment are relatively shorter and are gibbous at the base. He also showed specimens of a species of *Metrypa* taken at Capron, Fla., by

Mr. E. A. Schwarz and at Punta Gorda, Charlotte Harbor, in the same state, by Mrs. Slosson. This is the first record of the genus in the United States.

Mr. Scudder further stated that recently, in the course of compiling certain statistics for the U. S. Geological Survey, he had occasion to count the number of drawings of fossil insects which had been made under his direction and found that they exceeded 3500—a larger number, he believed, than had fallen under the study of any one else; of these 1949 (including a number now printing) had already been published on 97 plates, all but 18 of quarto size.

Mr. H. G. Dyar read a paper on the species of *Arctia* occurring at Pouckepsie, N. Y., and exhibited specimens and drawings.

Mr. A. P. Morse read a description of a new species of *Stenobothrus* and made remarks on the New England species of the genus which were exhibited.

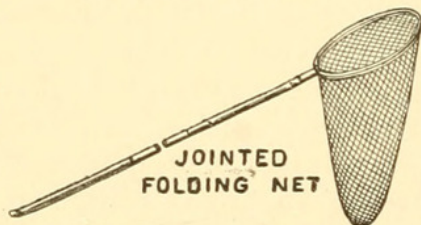
The club then proceeded to examine portions of Mr. Scudder's collection of Orthoptera.

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1893. "Proceedings Of the Cambridge Entomological Club." *Psyche* 6, 461–462.
<https://doi.org/10.1155/1893/61594>.

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