

A FEW NOTES ON N. AMERICAN ACRIDII.

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I have long had upon my desk a partly completed revision of the Calliptenoid series of N. American Acridians. The task I have undertaken in the study of our fossil insects has hitherto prevented its completion ; and as it bids fair to be long delayed, the following notes are published for the assistance of students of that special group, which is remarkably developed in the United States, from whence I have about one hundred species, while Europe scarcely possesses a dozen.

In a short paper on dimorphism in western Acridians,* I called attention to the long and short-winged forms in the species of this group. A few examples may be given : thus *Pezotettix plagosus* Scudd. and *Caloptenus Turnbulli* Thom. are to be referred to the same species ; *Pezotettix abditum* Dodge and *Caloptenus junius* Dodge seem to belong together ;† the same may be said of *Pezotettix nigrescens* Scudd. and *Melanoplus clypeatus* (*Caloptenus clypeatus* Scudd.) ; *Pezotettix Scudderi* Uhler resembles *Melanoplus glaucipes* Scudd. at a further remove ; while not only is *Pezotettix enigma* Scudd. apparently merely a short-winged form of *Melanoplus collaris* Scudd., but *Pezotettix jucunda* Scudd. is perhaps only an impoverished form of the same, with still shorter tegmina.

It is rather remarkable that aside from the above, very few of our species have been twice named. A few synonyms, however, have occurred to me in addition to some already published. *Pezotettix flavoannulatus* La Munyon, 1877, is *Pezotettix picta* Thomas, 1870 ; *Pezotettix borealis* Scudd., 1862, is *Pezotettix septentrionalis* Sauss., 1861 ; *Pezotettix tellustris* Scudd., 1877, is *Pezotettix Dawsoni* Scudd., 1875 ; *Pezotettix minutipennis* Thom. (Dec.), 1876, is *Pezotettix gracilis* Bruner (July) 1876 ; *Pezotettix viola* Thom. has been in my collection for years under the MSS. name *P. affiliatus* Uhl. ; but Mr. Thomas's is the only published name.

Finally *Pezotettix obesa* Thom. must form the type of a new genus, for which the name of Bradynotes is proposed. It is most nearly allied

* Proc. Bost. Soc. Nat. Hist., xix., 336.

† Unless my memory is at fault, Mr. Dodge has independently reached the same conclusion concerning these two forms.

indeed to *Pezotettix*, but has some characters which ally it more closely to *Calliptenus* proper, and not a few points of general resemblance to *Ommatolampis*, although the structure of the tarsi is different. It is remarkable for the form of the sternal surface of the thorax, the obsolescence of the prosternal spine, the unarmed edge of the last dorsal abdominal segment of the ♂ and the great robustness of the body, especially of the ♀.

BRADYNOTES, nov. gen. The head is stout, rather broader below than above, the cheeks being full; the space between the upper edge of the mandibles and the lower border of the eye is equal to (♂) or rather less than (♀) the height of the eye; vertex between the eyes broad; front well rounded, not oblique, the frontal costa prominent, rather broad and sulcate; antennæ slender, equal, shorter than the hind femora. Thorax very stout, the pronotum very short, not covering the whole of the mesonotum, both front and hind borders straight, the posterior lobe only half as long as the anterior and rugulose, while the anterior lobe is smooth; lateral lobes separated from the dorsum by distinct rugæ; prosternal spine very much abbreviated, becoming in the ♀ a mere blunt tubercle, and in the ♂ very short and conical; mesostethium and metastethium together fully as broad as long, the metasternal lobes distant in the ♀, approximate in the ♂. Tegmina and wings altogether wanting. Hind femora small, moderately stout, reaching the tip of the abdomen in the ♂, but not in the ♀, the upper carina smooth; spines of hind tibiæ equal in both rows, the lateral edges of the tibiæ between them smooth and rounded; first hind tarsal joint perhaps a little longer than the last joint, but certainly shorter than the second and third joints together. Terminal abdominal joints of the abdomen of the ♀ short, making the tip blunt, as in the series of *Pezotettix* represented by *P. jucunda* Scudd.; abdomen of male upcurved apically, the last ventral segment being long; hinder edge of the last dorsal segment smooth and entire, unprovided with tubercles or prolongations as in *Pezotettix* and *Melanoplus*.

The only species known to me is *B. obesa* (*Pez. obesa* Thom.)

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