

TRAVANCORE : near Keni, in secondary forest, *Bourdillon* !

Stem scandent tawny-hirsute. *Leaves* 2 in. long, $1\frac{1}{2}$ – $2\frac{1}{4}$ in. wide, tawny-hirsute as are the petioles 1– $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. long. *Peduncles* 1– $2\frac{1}{2}$ in., tawny-hirsute : cymes many-fld. ; pedicels $\frac{1}{4}$ in. *Calyx* $\frac{1}{6}$ in. quite glabrous. *Corolla* $\frac{1}{2}$ in., yellow, tube urceolate limb short ; filaments glabrous ; basal processes papillose. *Ovary* 2-locular, locules 2-ovuled ; base surrounded by a deep disk.

The presence of this genus in Southern India is interesting as the locality is mid-way between its Malayan and its African habitats. The present species is somewhat intermediate in structure as well as in locality between the wide-spread African, and the almost equally wide-spread Indo-Chinese and Malayan species, though it perhaps approaches more closely to the latter. It is however abundantly distinct by reason of its quite glabrous obtuse sepals.

9. CONVULVULUS LINN.

7 b. CONVULVULUS TENELLUS *Stocks*.

Add to localities of *Noviciæ Indicæ* viii. 102 :—

N.-W. HIMALAYA : Kashmir, Bargila, *Winterbottom* !

It is interesting to find that this was collected in Kashmir by Winterbottom during his 1847 journey ; it is remarkable that no one has reported it from Kashmir since.

Description of a New species of Branchipus from Calcutta.—By A. ALCOCK, M.B., C M.Z.S., *Superintendent of the Indian Museum.*

Plate X.

[Received 19th August, 1896.]

The species here described and figured was found in flooded rice-fields near Calcutta, by Museum Employées Moti Rám and Seorutton. Twelve males and six egg-laden females were taken.

It belongs to the section *Streptocephalus* of the genus *Branchipus*, and is most closely related to *Branchipus rubricaudatus*, Kluuzinger, from the south coast country of Arabia, and, through the female, to *Branchipus torvicornis*, Waga, from the neighbourhood of Warsaw.

Branchipus (Streptocephalus) bengalensis, n. sp.

The body in life is rather over an inch long, and is of a semi-transparent hyaline colour flecked with grey, except the tail-fork which is bright red. Spirit specimens are a good deal shrunken, and are uniform white.

Behind the head are twenty segments, namely, 11 thoracic, each with a pair of swimming feet, and 9 abdominal, legless.

Each fork of the tail is over one-eighth of an inch long, and has beautifully plumose edges.

The antennules are well developed, and the eyes are large globular and stalked.

The "rostrum" is a small fleshy foliaceous excrescence, situated in front of the mouth, and furnished with a short median finger-like papilla: its free edge is thus somewhat trilobed.

The antennæ *in the male* are more than half as long as the body.

Their *basal joint* has on the ventral surface, at the distal end, a curved rather rigid antenniform filament.

The doubly-curved *second joint* has (1) at its proximal end, dorsally, four curved flagella, one of which is much larger than the others and has its concave edge serrated; and (2) along its outer and upper surface a row of long acicular spinelets.

The *third segment*, which joins the second almost at a right angle, bifurcates from its base into (1) a short upstanding (dorsad) branch, and (2) an obliquely-directed (ventrad) branch. The outstanding dorsad branch itself soon bifurcates into (1) a stout downcurved hooklet; and (2) a slender slightly curved flagellum. The long ventrad branch consists of (1) a slender basal piece; and (2) two long slender flagella: the outer flagellum is elegantly curved and hook-like; the inner flagellum, which has its dorsal edge armed with a row of short spinelets, again bifurcates—the outer (longer) branch of this last bifurcation being also curved and hook-like.

The antennæ *in the female* form a pair of short broad leaf-like lobes—usually with a thickened fleshy midrib—bending over the eyes in repose, like curtains.

In the above description the antennæ of the male are supposed to be fairly well extended, not flexed in repose; and the animal is supposed to be in morphological position, not swimming on its back as in life. A male and an egg-laden female were liberated in the Museum tank in the hope of establishing a supply of this large and beautiful species.

An Instance of the Natural Repellent Effect of "Warning Colours."—By
A. ALCOCK, M.B., C.M.Z.S., *Superintendent of the Indian Museum.*

[Received 19th August, 1896.]

The observation here recorded appears to be noteworthy as corroborative evidence in favour of the protective value of "Warning Colours."

I have in my possession a very docile young Himalayan bear, one of whose most strongly marked appetites is for grasshoppers. He seizes



Alcock, A. 1896. "Description of a New Species of Branchipus from Calcutta."
The journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal 65(III), 538–539.

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