

and no correct account of the anatomy of the sponge in question had appeared until the publication of my work.

I am aware that in his "Monograph of the Australian Sponges" (Proc. Linn. Soc. N. S. W. vol. ix. p. 1140) Dr. von Lendenfeld accepted the "family" with some hesitation. He says, "I have not seen any representatives of this family myself, but am of opinion that they might perhaps be considered as colonies of *Leucones* or *Sycones*, as Marshall asserted before Poléjaeff's essay was published." He also says of "*Teichonella labyrinthica*" (*loc. cit.* p. 1142), "The anatomy of this sponge is totally unknown, so that its name and position here are only preliminary." How near Marshall's opinion came to the truth of the matter spongologists will be able to judge for themselves. Since the publication of the above remarks Dr. von Lendenfeld has repeatedly maintained the "family *Teichonidæ*," and continued to do so until the very year in which my preliminary results were published. In other words, from 1885 till 1890 Dr. von Lendenfeld stuck to the family; then, when the outcome of my researches on "*T. labyrinthica*" and "*T. prolifera*" had been published and sent to him, he suddenly dropped the "family" and adopted my views without giving any reasons for so doing. Surely it is taxing our credulity too much to ask us to believe that he arrived at his results independently!

Melbourne,  
November 8, 1892.

XII.—*Description of a new Species of the Cicadan Genus*  
*Pœcilopsaltria*. By W. L. DISTANT.

THE very beautiful species here described was obtained by Herrn P. Frey at Nossi-Bé, an island near the north-west coast of Madagascar. Dr. Karl Brancsik, who has already commenced to publish the results of this expedition ('*Jahreshefte des naturw. Vereines des Trencsiner Comitates*,' 1890-91, xiii. u. xiv. Jahrg.), has submitted a specimen to me for identification, which proves to be a perfectly new species.

*Pœcilopsaltria Brancsiki*, sp. n.

♀. Head and thorax above ochraceous, the lateral and posterior margins of the pronotum greenish ochraceous. Head with a cruciform spot at centre of front and a spot at each basal angle of same, a broken transverse fascia between



the eyes, and a spot near anterior angles of vertex black. Pronotum with two central lineate black spots, a similarly coloured semicircular spot at centre of basal margin, and the incisures blackish. Mesonotum with two tooth-like spots at centre of anterior margin, followed by a smaller spot on each side, a slender broken lateral fascia, and a spot near each anterior angle of the cruciform elevation black. Abdomen above castaneous, shaded with black, and greyishly pilose. Abdomen beneath and legs ochraceous; a broad subapical annulation to anterior femora, the anterior and intermediate tarsi, and the bases and apices of the tibiæ black.

Tegmina pale greenish opaque for more than half their length, remaining area obscure hyaline where the venation is fuscous; the transverse veins at the bases of the second, third, fifth, seventh, and eighth apical areas are narrowly infuscated; two small fuscous spots in upper ulnar area, some narrow and obscure discal fuscous markings and a series of small fuscous spots near the apices of the longitudinal veins to the apical areas. Wings pale greenish, with the venation and almost the basal half blackish.

The width of the head, including the outer margins of the eyes, is a little more than that of the base of the mesonotum; the lateral angles of the pronotum are broadly and angularly produced.

Long. ♀ 41 millim.; exp. tegm. 115 millim.

Hab. Nossi-Bé Island.

### XIII.—Notes on Two Genera of Coreidæ found in Madagascar. By W. L. DISTANT.

IN the last published part of the 'Revue d'Entomologie,' tome xi. p. 264, Dr. Bergroth has continued his criticisms on the writings of his colleagues who study the order Rhynchota. Much of this criticism is valuable, some unfortunately is misleading; for excessive criticism is as open to error as is too prolific description. Amongst other proposed corrections is the statement that my genus *Parabrachytes* "est identique au genre *Odontorrhopala* \*, Stål." I should be very glad to adopt this opinion of Dr. Bergroth but for the following distinctive characters, which he strangely appears to have quite overlooked or forgotten when he wrote: "Les seules différences sont offertes par les antennes . . . et par le rostre."

\* Dr. Bergroth has altered the spelling of this generic name; as proposed by Stål it was "*Odontorhopala*."



Distant, William Lucas. 1893. "XII.—Description of a new species of the Cicadan genus *Pœcilopsaltria*." *The Annals and magazine of natural history; zoology, botany, and geology* 11, 52–53.

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