Genera auctorum.


Fenaria sevorsa, Grote, Pap. ii. p. 132. U.S.A.

Species omitted.

Ethnistas eucarta, Feld. Reis. Nov. pl. 136. f. 28, belongs to the Pyraustinae.


[Received May 10, 1897.]

So little has been published respecting the Lepidopterous fauna of the country south of Shoa, that the present collection, although unhappily in very poor condition, is of considerable interest.

The following is a list of the species:

Rhopalocera.

2. Ypthima aseterope, Klug.
4. Hypolimnas misippus, L., var. inaria.
7. " elantoia, Cram.
11. " boopis, Trimen.
14. Pyrameis cardui, L.
15. Eurytela dryope, Fabr.
17. " achatolica, Wallgr.
20. Atella phalantha, Drury.
22. " seis, Feisch.
23. Pardopsis punctatissima, Boisd.
24. Polyommatus beticus, L.
25. Catochrysops asopus, Hopfl.

1 Mr. Gillett says that the collection was made at a place called Sheik Husein, long. about 40° 45' E., lat. 7° 44' S., which accounts for the butterflies being partly Abyssinian and partly Somalian.
31. Colias edusa, L., var. electra. 
32. Terias zoe, Hopf.
34. Teracolus eris, Klug. 21st November.
42. " celimene, Lucas. 21st November.
44. " ansorgei, var. ?, Marsh. Between 1st October & 19th November.
45. " vesta, Reiche (int. form). 
46. " protomedia, Klug. 
52. " bromius, Doubi. Between 1st October & 19th November.

**Heterocera.**

Only five small species were obtained, and of these only two are in sufficiently good condition to be recognized:—

57. Mentaxya albifrons, Hüb. 

All that can be said of the three others is that one is a *Hyphenid*, a second a *Macaria*, and the third probably the remains of some form of *Pyralid*.

In this series, although it includes no new species, there are several forms of interest:—The example of *Catocryops osiris* measuring only ten millimetres in expanse of wings; whilst it is satisfactory to receive typical males of *Teracolus eris*; a female form of *Teracolus heuglini* var. *thruppi* approaching the female of *T. daiva*, respecting which it will be worth while to make a few

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1 This form has the ashy-whitish basal area of *T. aurigineus* in the males; the discal black band of the primaries varies as in that species, and that of the secondaries is represented by black dashes on a grey ground, as is often the case in *T. aurigineus*, but the under surface is ochraceous with all the markings weakly defined: it may be the dry phase of *T. ansorgei*. 
observations. *Teracolus heuglini* of Felder was based upon dry-season examples of a species of which the wet and intermediate phases were not recognized. In his recent paper on the synonymy of *Teracolus* Mr. Guy A. K. Marshall reduced *T. heuglini*, *T. nouna*, and the whole of the *T. antigone* group of *Teracolus* to synonyms of *T. evagore*, totally misunderstanding their seasonal relationships.

In a recent paper on Lepidoptera from Arabia and Somali-land (P. Z. S. 1896, p. 247), Capt. Nurse speaking of *T. yerburyi* observes:—"From all the pupae emerged typical *T. yerburyi*, except from one which produced *T. nouna*, much to my surprise. I did not notice that one of the larvae was different from the others, so that the larva of *T. nouna* must closely resemble that described above."

In dry countries like Aden and Karachi the seasonal phases of *Teracolus* are undoubtedly produced simultaneously as mere variations, if produced at all: in the case of *Teracolus phisadia* the male is always a wet-season phase and the female always dry-season; in the nearly allied *T. puellaris* both dry and wet phases of the male occur, but only dry of the female; whereas in the species nearest to the latter (*T. vestalis*) dry and wet forms of both sexes are abundant, but all flying together. Indeed one of Col. Swinhoe's chief objections to Capt. Watson's decision as to the dry and wet forms of *Teracolus* was based upon the fact that at Karachi he took all the so-called 'seasonal forms' flying together throughout the year. That this is not the case where the seasons are well defined has been amply proved, but it appears to be unquestionably true of very hot and dry countries where there is next to no rainfall.

A careful examination of the *T. daira* group of *Teracolus* has convinced me that the following are the seasonal forms or phases of the three most nearly allied species:—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wet-season</th>
<th>Intermediate</th>
<th>Dry-season</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

It will, however, be necessary to note that the dry-season forms, being much alike in these three species, owing to the simple character of their markings, have hitherto been confounded in papers upon the Lepidoptera of Aden and Somali-land. Also *T. swinhoei* is practically a wet-season form with yellow ground-tint, this alone entitling it to be called intermediate; it does not nearly approach *T. evagore* (=*saxeus*), which is the form bred from a larva of *T. yerburyi* by Capt. Nurse.

Other species of interest in Mr. Gillett's collection are:—

A somewhat rubbed male of *Teracolus ludoviciae*, a very distinct species related to *T. puniceus* and *T. helena* (of both of which species I have examined series of both dry- and wet-season forms, and which therefore are certainly not synonymous).

Both sexes of *Teracolus casta* and the female of its wet-season
form *T. sipylus*, clearly proving this to be a well-marked geographical race distinct from *T. evenina*.

An example of what seems to be an intermediate phase of *T. vesta*, differing from the wet-season form of *T. mutans* in its small discocellular black spot, smaller discal salmon-buff spots, larger marginal spots, and strongly defined brown bands on the under surface of the secondaries.

A form which I take to be a dry-season phase of *T. ansorgei*, already referred to in footnote.

Specimens of *Herpenia melanargyre* showing considerable variation in size, proving that *H. iterata* (which differs constantly in the red coloration of the markings below) is a nearly allied but distinct geographical race.

Lastly, examples of *Papilio erinus* with unusually narrow blue banding on the upper surface of the primaries.

4. On the Malagasy Rodent Genus *Brachyuromys*; and on the Mutual Relations of some Groups of the *Muridae* (*Hesperomyinae, Microtinae, Murinae*, and "*Spalacidae"*) with each other and with the Malagasy *Nesomyinae*.

By Dr. C. I. Forsyth Major, C.M.Z.S.

[Received June 1, 1897.]

(Plates XXXVII.-XL.)

It has been stated not long ago (1893), in a valuable Mannal, that the Rodents are amongst the few exceptions to the rule, according to which the Malagasy Mammals belong to peculiar specifically Malagasy genera¹. This statement, made originally by Rütimeyer in 1867², was true at that date. In the intervening 28 years five genera, containing six species, of Malagasy Rodents have been brought to notice; several of them, however, were so scantily characterized as to explain the undue neglect to which they have been subjected.

The genus *Brachyuromys* was characterized by me last year³, upon specimens collected in Madagascar, the species *B. ramiro-hitra*, of which a short description was given, being taken as type. In the same place it was pointed out that Bartlett’s "*Nesomys betsileoensis"⁴ is a second species of *Brachyuromys*.

At this Society’s Meeting of Dec. 1, 1896⁴, some considerations on the Malagasy Rodents as a whole were presented; the great majority of them I considered to "belong to the so-called Cricetine

⁴ P. Z. S. 1879, p. 770.
⁵ P. Z. S. 1896, pp. 978–980.

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