

FOUR NEW GENERA AND SPECIES OF WEST AFRICAN SESIIDÆ.

BY W. J. HOLLAND, PH. D.

In the following paper I give descriptions of four new genera and species of tropical West African Sesiidæ, which were collected for me by the Rev. Dr. Good in the valley of the Ogové, about two hundred miles from the mouth of the river. I have compared the insects with the collections contained in the British Museum, the National Collection at Paris, and various English and French private collections, to which I have had access, and have satisfied myself with reasonable certainty that they have not as yet been described. Very little, in fact, has as yet been done to elucidate the natural history of the African species of this exceedingly interesting family of lepidopterous insects. I judge that there must be many exceedingly curious forms in this group yet to be discovered in the rich tropical forests of equatorial Africa.

Cicinnocnemis* gen. nov.

♂.—Palpi long, produced, and directed upward, widely separated at the base, and converging toward the extremities; the third joint half as long as the second, which is greatly elongated; all the joints are heavily clothed with hair. The antennæ are more than half as long as the costa of the primaries, terete, imbricated, simple at the tips. The second and third pair of legs have the tibiæ swollen at their extremities. The second pair are armed at the extremity with double spurs; the third pair have double median and double terminal spurs; the third pair also have upon the upperside of the tibiæ near their upper extremity peculiar brush-like tufts of hair. The abdomen has a series of brush-like lateral tufts of hair on the five last segments. On the next to the last segment there are in addition two lengthy pencils of hair which are directed downward. At the anal extremity are two divergent similiar pencils of hair. In the primaries, vein five springs from the lower end of the cell; vein six from the upper end of the cell; veins seven and eight are stalked, the stalk springing from the same point as veins six and nine. In the secondaries vein one has two branches; four and five spring from the lower end of the cell; six and seven are stalked; and eight runs parallel to the costa from the base, terminating upon the costa before reaching the apex. Type *C. cornuta* Hoil.

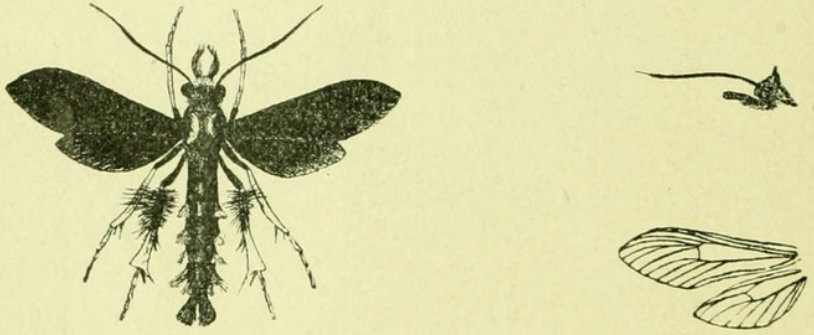
C. cornuta sp. nov.

♂.—Palpi black on the upper side, bright orange below; front bright orange; collar, upper side of thorax, and abdomen deep black; the lateral tufts of hairs bright orange; the anal tufts black; the pectus and the lower side of the abdomen bright orange; the lower side of the thorax black with greenish iridescent reflec-

* *κίκιννος* = cincinnus; *κνήμη* = tibia.

tions. The legs are bright orange with the upper side of the femora, the upper-side of the tarsi of the first and second pairs, and a narrow streak on the sides of the tibiae of the third pair velvety black. The primaries on the upper side are deep black with bright greenish-blue streaks upon the median nerve and at the origin of the subcostal nervules. The secondaries are brownish with a brilliant violaceous gloss on the outer margin. On the underside, the wings are black glossed with violet-blue, shading into pinkish in certain lights. The costa of the primaries at the base is orange-yellow, and a narrow bright orange-yellow ray runs from the base of the secondaries to the outer margin near the middle. The outer margin near the anal angle is narrowly tinged with orange-yellow. Expanse, 44 mm.

This very beautiful and singular insect mimics in its general appearance certain African wasps. The type is unique.



CICINNOCNEMIS CORNUTA HOLL. ♂, 1.

Cicinnoscelis** gen. nov.

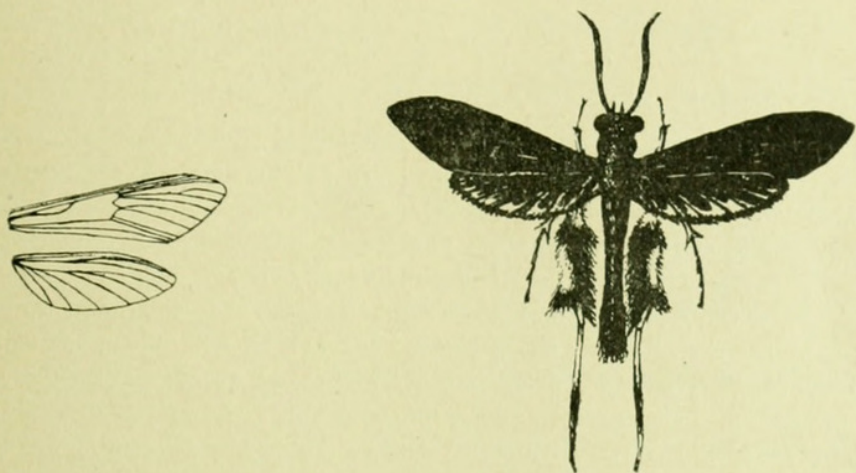
♂.—Palpi moderately large, porrect, curving forward and upwardly, with the first and second joints flattened horizontally and heavily clothed with hairs, the third joint fine, cylindrical, and almost naked. The antennae are moderately long, thickened at the middle and furnished with short double pectinations from base to tip. The first pair of legs are short, without spurs on the tibiae; the second pair are moderately long, armed with a single minute inner spur beyond the middle, and with three spurs at the end, the middle one long, the other two short; the third pair of legs is relatively very long, the tibiae and tarsi being greatly produced. The tibiae in this pair are armed with a very long spur about the middle, and with two shorter spurs at the end, and are very heavily clothed with long, hair-like scales directed inwardly toward the abdomen. The tarsi are heavily clothed with short hairs. The abdomen is greatly produced and provided with a conspicuous tuft of anal hairs. The primaries are narrow, elongated, with the apex and outer margin moderately rounded. The secondaries are narrow, elongated, with the outer and inner margins evenly rounded. In the primaries there is a deep pit or depression on the under side in the cell near the costa before the base. Veins 2 and 3 are very close together and parallel, vein 4 and 5 spring from the lower angle of the cell, veins 7 and 8 are stalked; veins 9, 10 and 11 together with 6, 7 and 8 all spring from near the upper angle of the cell. In the secondaries the cell

* * κίκιννος — cincinnus; σκέλος = crus,

is long and narrow and acutely pointed at the end.* The internal vein has two branches; veins 4 and 5 spring from the lower angle of the cell, 6 and 7 from the upper angle; vein 8 runs parallel to the costa and is closely appressed to vein 7 at its outer extremity. Type *C. longipes* Holland.

C. longipes sp. nov.

♂.—Genae white. Palpi, antennæ, and entire body black. Femora black, tibiæ and tarsi orange margined with black. On the upper side the primaries are black; and the secondaries of the same color glossed with morpho-blue near the apex and with translucent spots on the inner margin between the nervules. The fringes of the secondaries are broadly black. On the underside the wings are much as on the upper side. Expanse, 55 mm.



CICINNOSCELIS LONGIPES HOLL. ♂, 1.

Tipulamima† gen. nov.

♂.—Palpi slender, moderately compressed, third joint narrow, long, pointed. The antennæ are cylindrical, squamose. The body is long, narrow, tapering, and slightly tufted at the anal extremity. The first pair of legs are short, feeble; the second are longer, armed with double spurs at the end of the tibiæ, the third pair are very long armed with double spurs at the middle and at the ends of the tibiæ. The primaries are narrow, produced, rounded at the apex and on the outer margin. The secondaries are relatively broader, rounded at the apex, and slightly lobed on the outer margin near the anal angle. After several attempts to minutely ascertain and depict the neuration I have given up the attempt as it would be necessary to make a microscopic mount of the wings, which I am unwilling to do as the specimen is thus far unique in collections. Type *T. flavifrons* Holland.

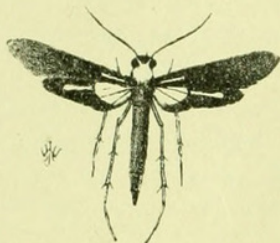
T. flavifrons sp. nov.

♂.—Antennæ and eyes black. The palpi, front, collar, patagia, and the front half of the thorax orange-yellow. The remainder of the thorax and the entire abdomen are black with steel-blue reflections. The front pair of legs and the femora and tibiæ of the second pair are orange-yellow, the tarsi of the second pair

* The cut is defective. A line should be inserted from the point where veins 4 and 5 unite to the point of union between veins 6 and 7.

† Tipula = nomen generis dipterorum, mima.

and the third pair throughout are blue-black. The anterior wings are blue-black with a narrow translucent ray near base. The secondaries are also blue-black with the basal third translucent, and an elongated subpyriform translucent bar beyond the cell just above and parallel to the third median nervule. Expanse, 28 mm.



TIPULAMIMA FLAVIFRONS
HOLL. ♂, 1.



TRICHOBATES SEXSTRIATA
HOLL. ♂, 1.

Trichobaptēs || gen. nov.

♂.—Palpi moderately long, and compressed; the first and second joints hairy, the third joint minute and subconical. The antennæ are relatively long, dilated beyond the middle, squamose. The anterior legs have the tibiæ without spurs, heavily clothed with hairs. The second pair of legs have double spurs at the end of the tibiæ, which are still more heavily clothed with hairs than the first pair. The third pair of legs have a median and double terminal spurs on the tibiæ, which are profusely clothed with hairs and have at the upper end a broad fan-like brush of hairs which spreads out and covers the hairy brush-like covering of the tibiæ. The neuration I have not been able to accurately determine for the same reason as in the case of the last genus. Type *T. sexstriata* Holland.

T. sexstriata sp. nov.

♂ Palpi black above, bright orange-yellow below. The antennæ are black, marked with white before the tip on the upper-side. The front is black. The collar is blue-green. The top of the thorax is black defined posteriorly by a narrow white line. The patagia are orange-yellow. The abdomen is black, banded at the base and on the middle of the upper side with orange-yellow, and before the tip, which is black, with crimson. The pectus is white; the lower side of the thorax is black; the lower side of the abdomen is crimson with a ventral row of black dots. The femora of the three pair of legs are black, marked at either end with white. The tibiæ are bright crimson, with the upper ends black. The crimson brush of hairs on the tibiæ of the second pair is banded on the middle with white. On the third pair the crimson brush is marked externally by a round black spot. The fan-like brush at the upper end of the tibiæ of the last pair is fulvous orange. The primaries above and below are black, crossed by three yellowish semitranslucent bands. The secondaries are black with the middle area diaphanous and devoid of scales. On the underside the secondaries have in addition to the markings of the upper side a yellowish transverse band running from the anal angle inwardly to the middle, and the inner margin laved with yellowish before the base. Expanse, 32 mm.

This gaily colored and singular moth is altogether one of the most beautiful insects of the group to which it belongs.

|| Τριχοβαπτῆς = qui comam tingit.



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