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cartridge-buff. *Legs*: cartridge-buff, wood-brown outwardly. *Forewing*: cartridge-buff, irrorated with fuscous; orbicular indicated by a fuscous-black speck; postmedial fascia, a suffused fuscous band, oblique and slightly incurved to inner margin medially; a little beyond this fascia, and parallel to it, a fine, faintly marked fuscous line; subterminal fascia fuscous-black, parallel to postmedial fascia, proximal edge sharply defined, distal edge suffused; subterminal area tinged with fuscous, termen fuscous. *Hindwing*: cartridge-buff, post-medial and subterminal fasciae fuscous and parallel with termen from vein 6 to inner margin; termen fuscous. *Underside*: *forewing* cartridge-buff suffused with wood-brown on upper half, postmedial fascia faintly showing through from upper side; *hindwing* cartridge-buff irrorated with wood-brown, postmedial fascia faintly showing through from upper side.

*Expanse* 26mm. (*tip to tip* 23mm.).

HOLOTYPE. *Male*. Baguio, subprov. Benguet, Luzon I., Philippine Is., 5000ft., 12.III.1912.

NEAREST ALLY.—*L. similis*, Moore. (Formosa, China, India).

(*To be continued.*)

### Coccinellid Hybrids. A Provoked Communication.

By T. FRED MARRINER, F.E.S.

Mr. Leman, writing upon Coccinellid variations in the *Ent. Record* of ante p. 35 refers to an article by Prof. Capra of Genoa, in which it is pointed out that the hybrid named by me *Coccinella biabilis* is really the form of *C. variabilis* named by Linnaeus as *C. 10-pustulata*, and Mr. Leman wonders what I may have to say on the matter. I can only say that I have no sufficient reference library here to verify what Prof. Capra says, but I am quite willing to accept his statement. This only goes to show that the form is a very old established one, which, of course I knew, as did others, for I should think it appears in every British Collection. But does Prof. Capra's statement do away with the fact of its hybrid origin—the 'point of my paper? I did my best at the time to discover whether the form had been named but no one, to whom I submitted it, recognised it for the *10-pustulata* mentioned by the Professor, hence when submitting the results of my experiments (since confirmed by other workers) to the Entomological Society of London, I proposed the name *C. biabilis* as denoting the origin of the insect. I had quite a voluminous correspondence over the matter, and, until Prof. Capra noted it, no one in any way criticised the name, and certainly *biabilis* seems eminently suitable and distinctive. I have not, unfortunately, seen the article by Prof. Capra, referred to by Mr. Leman, but anyone who has experimented in the breeding of *Coccinellidae* knows that hybridisation is common, at any rate, under the artificial conditions of the laboratory, and soon comes to the conclusion that our present Classification of the group requires some revision. The experienced Coleopterist may, nay can, at a glance distinguish *C. variabilis* (*10-punctata*) from *A. bipunctata* but can anyone give me in plain language to be put before a mere beginner a worded distinction between the two—leaving out the colour of the legs which is not invariable? Further, in my experience of *C. biabilis* at least 10%,

probably more, have the black legs of *A. bipunctata* while the rest have the pale variety of *C. 10-punctata*.

Can anyone explain this, except as a result of the crossing between the two species? My work on this group has brought me to two conclusions, viz:

Either the two present species *A. bipunctata* and *C. 10-punctata* have originally been one and gradually become two via an intermediate form which might be *C. biabilis*, or if two species originally, these are gradually merging into one represented by *C. biabilis*. So far as my outdoor work in Cumberland is concerned, during the last 12 years of observation I am inclined to the latter of these alternatives. But these changes of nature, these evolutions, are so slow that neither Prof. Capra, nor Mr. Leman, nor myself will be alive to say "I told you so," by the time the change is completed.

As another example of—shall I say 'probable instability' among our *Coccinellidae* I might mention the case of a form to which Mr. Dollman called attention in the *Ent. Rec.* 1912. plate 11, a form of *Mysia oblongoguttata*, which he names var. *nigroguttata*. On coming across his note I examined my series of this insect and found I had the same form bred from an accidental mating in my cages between *M. oblongoguttata* and *A. ocellata*. Last summer I tried a mating to verify or disprove my former note, and, though the resultant imagines were not exactly var. *nigroguttata* they had the same characteristic markings; mating two of these hybrids proved abortive; mating a ♂ hybrid with ♀ *A. oblongoguttata* or ♀ *A. ocellata* produced fertile ova, which unfortunately did not come through the larval stages successfully.

As this var. *nigroguttata* has been recorded from more than one locality since the time of its recording and naming, and as both *M. oblongoguttata* and *A. ocellata* are found in all those localities, we have here probably another example of the same happening as in the case of *C. biabilis*.

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### The Butterflies of Jebel Qineisa, Lebanon.

By P. P. GRAVES, F.E.S., and R. ELDON ELLISON.

The authors of this paper have paid several visits on various occasions to this mountain which is situated in the Central Lebanon immediately North of the Beirut-Damascus Railway. There are two passes traversed by high roads, reaching a maximum altitude of over 5,000 feet on each side of the mountain, the Azuniyah Pass to the North and the Khan Murad Pass to the South of it. The rocks are mainly calcareous. The surface where not rocky is occupied by mountain meadows and the thin stony cornfields which are a monument to Lebanese optimism. There were once some larches in the Northern Pass but they have vanished, presumably owing to the war, and there are now very few trees in the area. The most recent French survey gives the summit of Jebel Qineisa an altitude of 2091 metres (about 6850 ft.).

The senior author visited the mountain twice in May, 1905, and early in August, 1907. He also received some specimens taken by Signor F. Cremona above Hammana village on the Western slopes of the mountain. Mrs. Nicholl and the late Colonel H. J. Elwes spent