

ENTOMOLOGICAL NEWS

AND

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ENTOMOLOGICAL SECTION

ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES, PHILADELPHIA.

VOL. V.

NOVEMBER, 1894.

No. 9.

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BENJAMIN DANN WALSH.

We present this month a picture of a deceased American entomologist of note. The picture is from a photograph in the album of the American Entomological Society. Mr. Walsh at the time of his death was senior editor of the “American Entomologist,” an excellent journal, copies of which are now very scarce. Mr. Walsh was succeeded as editor by Prof. C. V. Riley, who gave a very interesting account of the life and works of Mr. Walsh in the number of the journal published for December and January; 1869–70, from which we take the liberty of extracting the following: “On Friday, the 12th of November, 1869, Mr. Walsh started in excellent spirits on his usual morning walk to the post-office, and on his return, while walking on the track—the track of the Chicago and Rock Island Railroad, he suddenly noticed the passenger train for Chicago slowly nearing him. Stepping aside he continued his way on what he supposed was a side track, down which the train in reality came, though he did not discover his mistake until the engine was close upon him. His left foot

The Entomological Section

ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES, PHILADELPHIA.

PROCEEDINGS OF MEETINGS.

SEPTEMBER 27, 1894.

A regular stated meeting of the Entomological Section of the Academy of Natural Sciences was held in the Hall, S. W. cor. Nineteenth and Race Streets, this evening, Dr. G. H. Horn, Director, presiding. Members present: Calvert, G. B. Cresson, Laurent, Johnson and Skinner. Associates: Boerner and Reinick. Mr. Laurent exhibited two species of *Pamphila* taken at Mt. Airy, Pa. The species were *ocala* and *phylæus*; the speaker said they were very rare, although they had previously been taken about Philadelphia. Mr. Laurent also stated that *Crioceris 12-punctatus* Linn., which is one of this country's acquisitions to its Coleopterous fauna, was introduced from the other side of the Atlantic. It was discovered in our country by Prof. Otto Lugger, near Baltimore, Md., some ten years ago. Prof. J. B. Smith found it in Salem County, N. J., in May, 1892. In the next two years it distributed itself over the greater portion of the southern half of New Jersey and has now gained a foothold in Pennsylvania, as specimens were captured by the speaker during August of the present year at Holmesburg Junction, Philadelphia. Field workers should be on the lookout for this insect, as it will be interesting to note the rapidity with which it spreads over the land; so far its progress has been slow. The insect is found in company with the well-known asparagus beetle, *Crioceris asparagi* Linn. Dr. Horn exhibited the plates illustrating his paper on the Coleoptera of the peninsula of California, which is to appear in the Transactions of the California Academy. Mr. Calvert stated that on the island opposite Wood's Holl, Mass., he had found an Agrionide heretofore only found in Florida. Mr. Johnson exhibited specimens of *Holcocephala calva*, showing abnormalities in venation. The branches of the second longitudinal vein are connected near their junction by a transverse vein thus forming a small discal cell; in one specimen this mutation is on the right side and on the left in the other. He also mentioned the capture of *Orthostethus infuscatus* at Avalon, N. J., on July 22d. Mr. Wm. J. Fox was unanimously elected a member of the Section.

Dr. HENRY SKINNER, *Recorder*.

Philadelphia, Oct. 9, 1894.—A stated meeting of the Feldman Collecting Social was held at the residence of Mr. H. W. Wenzel, No. 1509 S. 13th Street. Members present: Laurent, Boerner, Seeber, Dr. Castle, Trescher, Fox, E. Wenzel, Bland, Hoyer, H. W. Wenzel, Haimbach and Schmitz. Honorary members: Dr. G. H. Horn and Dr. John B. Smith. Meeting called to order at 9 P. M. Mr. Philip Laurent, president, in the chair. A written communication from Mr. Geo. Stortz was read. Dr. Horn made some remarks, illustrated by blackboard sketches, on the proper method of determining the genus *Scymnus*, of which the following is a brief ac-

count: "Good structural characters divide *Scymnus* into groups; these characters are found on the underside of the body. The first character of value is the form of the metacoxal plate; this is either entire, that is, united by a nearly semi-circular line, or the plate is incomplete, not forming a semi-circle. There is a similar line, but less useful for classification behind the middle coxæ. Our species of *Scymnus* may be divided into two genera—*Scymnus*, with five ventral segments, and a possible new genus with six segments. Color character must not be too strictly used, as in this respect the legs, especially, are very variable, while the style of color is quite constant." Continuing, he stated that 800 species of Coleoptera were now known from the peninsula of California, which show that the west coast as far as explored, is a continuation of the San Diego fauna. A small collection from the northern central region, at a moderate elevation, are more nearly related to the region near Los Angeles and Santa Barbara. The gulf coast of the peninsula is related in its fauna to Arizona and to some extent to Texas, while the extreme end of the peninsula, east of a line from La Paz to San José del Cabo is decidedly tropical and has a few Mexican species in it. Mr. Albert Hoyer reported the capture of a specimen of *Chlœnius angustus* at Templeville, Md. A general discussion among the members followed, after which the meeting adjourned to a collation at 10.30 P. M.

THEO. H. SCHMITZ, *Secretary*.

The following papers were read and accepted by the Committee for publication in ENTOMOLOGICAL NEWS:

NEW SPECIES OF MUTILLIDÆ.

By T. D. A. COCKERELL and JESSIE E. CASAD, N. M. Ag. Coll.

Sphærophthalma heterochroa n. sp.—♀ 8.5 mm. long; dark brown, with the pubescence variously scarlet, black and yellowish white,—thus quadricolored. Head subquadrate, about as wide as thorax; face, below level of eyes, cheeks and scape of antennæ, clothed with sparse, appressed, yellowish white hairs; crown of head densely covered with appressed scarlet hairs, among which are scattered erect, long, black hairs. Antennæ brown, basal joint shining reddish. Thorax pyriform seen from above, quadrate seen from side, abruptly truncate behind. Dorsum of pro- and meso-thorax clothed similarly to crown of head with scarlet pubescence interspersed with black hairs; sides with scattered, yellowish white hairs. Metathorax reticulate, with sparse, erect, black hairs. Abdomen elongate-pyriform; first segment sessile with second, but with the suture impressed; black hairs spring from its dorsal surface; its basal portion is toothed at sides. Large second segment dorsally clothed with scarlet appressed hairs, interspersed with black, erect hairs as on head thorax, except a broad, black, basal blotch, which is obscurely trilobed. The same segment clothed on sides and beneath with sparse yellowish