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Descriptions of New Hymenoptera

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captured and put into strong alcohol, which had the effect of preserving the colors of the specimens remarkably well. The collection was of interest in extending a knowledge of geographical distribution. It was rich in species of *Aeschna*, whereas on the East coast there are but three species. The speaker pointed out the methods of separating the California species. The species *luteipennis* and *californicus* are types of groups, and are separated by the anatomy of the appendages, the former having an excision and the latter a carina. Other species are *cornigera*, *constricta*, *multicolor* and *ventricolis*. The comparative anatomy of the appendages in these species was also pointed out. The females could not be separated, except in one case, and that was by the size of the specimen.

Dr. H. SKINNER, *Recorder*.

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

DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW HYMENOPTERA.

By T. D. A. COCKERELL, Entomologist N. M. Ag. Ex. Station.

Melissodes tristis Ckll., n. sp. ♂.—Black with pale ochreous pubescence. Length about 10 mm. Face strongly and closely punctured, the between the eyes and the ocelli the punctures become much smaller and less crowded. Clypeus strongly punctured, black; mandibles dark reddish, except their black shining bases. Head clothed with long pubescence, pale ochreous, except that below the eyes, which is white. Antennæ rufous on one side and blackish on the other, the basal and two terminal joints fuscous. First joint of flagellum conspicuously longer than second, and longer than the first joint of *M. agilis*. Thorax strongly punctured, thickly clothed with pale ochreous pubescence, which becomes white on the sides and beneath. Abdomen rather dull, rather finely and sparsely punctured, pubescence as in *agilis*, but paler. Last segment reddish, with a purplish lustre, its apex broadly truncate. The tooth at the side of the penultimate segment is not so large as in *agilis*. Femora and tibiæ black, tarsi reddish; tibiæ and tarsi with long pale pubescence. Inner tooth of claw on middle foot decidedly shorter in proportion to outer than is the case in *agilis*. Wings hyaline with rather pale brown nervures. Third submarginal cell with its radial side conspicuously shorter than that portion of the third transverso-cubital nervure from the radial nervure to the bend; whereas in *agilis* these are about equal. This character in *tristis* seemed certainly of specific value, but on examining the second example of the new species the third submarginal was found to be as in *agilis*. Co-type, no. 3359, U.S.N.M.

Hab.—Las Cruces, N. Mex., Aug. 21, 1893. Two specimens. The *M. agilis* used for comparison is one I caught at Iuarez,



Mex., on August 26th. It was identified by Mr. Fox, and is, I believe, an addition to the Mexican fauna. Mr. Fox, who has access to the types of Cresson, assures me that *M. tristis* is undescribed. He remarks that it resembles the ♂ of *M. menuacha*, *agilis*, and *confusa*, but differs in not having a yellow clypeus.

Calliopsis subalpinus Ckll. n. sp. ♂.—Black, with the antennæ and front legs partly rufous. Length about 8.5 mm. Head broad, somewhat broader than thorax, shining black, finely and rather sparsely punctured, rather thinly clothed with long grayish white hairs, which are denser on the face. Clypeus pale primrose-yellow, except a black patch, broader than long and broadly notched below, on its upper median border, and a small black spot on each side of this patch. The space between the clypeus and the antennæ, and a band along the front lower margin of each eye, are also pale yellow. Mandibles pale yellow, with the tips rufous; antennæ with the flagellum more or less yellowish rufous, the last two segments being wholly so; scape black. Length of antennæ $2\frac{1}{3}$ mm. Thorax oval, shining pitch-black, sparsely punctured, with hairs like those on the head. Abdomen black, shiny, finely and rather closely punctured; the last three segments conspicuously hirsute at sides with pale brownish hairs; the last five segments dorsally with a fine appressed pubescence of the same color, while on the first two segments the hairs are sparse and more inconspicuous. The general appearance produced by the hairs of the abdomen at a glance is as if it were dusty. Length of abdomen nearly 5 mm. Legs black, hairy like the thorax; tarsi of front and middle legs, and anterior part of tibiæ of front legs orange-rufous. Wings hyaline, brilliantly iridescent, green and pink in certain lights, venation fuscous; apex of primaries conspicuously fuscous, the fuscous portion being sharply defined, and about as large as the second submarginal cell. Marginal cell very elongate, narrowly truncate at apex; first submarginal over twice as long as broad, second submarginal subquadrate, narrowed above. *Co-type No 3344 U.S.N.M.*

Hab.—Las Cruces, N. Mex., 1893. One specimen.

Mr. Fox assures me that this species is hitherto undescribed. In Custer County, Colorado, I took *Calliopsis* in the high-alpine zone, but not in the mid-alpine (Tr. Am. Ent. Soc. xx, 310). The present species, from 3800 feet in southern New Mexico, is quite different from the high-alpine one I found in Colorado.

Nomada penniger Ckll. n. sp.—Black with reddish legs and abdomen; length about 6 mm. Head about as broad as thorax, broader than long, eyes large. Head pitch-black, shiny, finely punctured; face covered with appressed grayish silvery hairs, which are pinnately barbed; antennæ very dark brown; mandibles reddish; clypeus reddish. Scape of antennæ with conspicuous appressed pale hairs; funicle without hairs,

but very finely pubescent towards the end. Ring-joint hairy. First joint of flagellum fully one-third longer than second. Thorax circular seen from above, obliquely oval seen from the side. Dorsum of mesothorax and scutellum shining black, deeply punctured; tegulae rufous; prothorax, sides of thorax, postscutellar and metathorax, except a shining central or dorsal portion, thickly clothed with appressed silvery hairs, resembling those on face. Mesothorax, scutellum and metathorax with a slight median furrow. Abdomen broadly ovate-lanceolate, about as long as head and thorax; shiny, smooth on dorsum, except the descending portion of the first segment, and the lateral and inferior margins of the remaining ones, which are silvery, with minute appressed hairs. There is also a microscopic and nearly imperceptible pubescence on the dorsum of all the segments. Basal portion of first segment, distal half of third, and the whole of the dorsum of fourth, fifth and sixth segments black; abdomen otherwise dark rufous. Legs rufous, pubescent, tibiae and first joint of the tarsus presenting a black cloud on their outer surface; tibiae and first joint of tarsus silvery, with appressed hairs; tibial spurs black. Wings extending to end of abdomen; hyaline, primaries with the external margin broadly pale fuscous, the color forming a darker cloud near the apex. Discal portion of marginal cell also with a fuscous cloud. Third submarginal cell conspicuously narrowed above. Marginal cell narrowly truncate at apex. Veins dark brown.

Hab.—Las Cruces, N. Mex., July 29, 1893. One specimen.

Mr. Fox states that the species is undescribed; this I could not have ascertained for myself, not having access to many of the published descriptions.

OBITUARY.

LUCIEN FRANCOIS LITHIERRY, the celebrated Hemipterist, died in Lille on the 4th of April, 1894, aged 64 years.

We have lately learned of the death of Mr. OLIVER J. STALEY, of Marshall, Saline County, Missouri. Mr. STALEY was doing good work in his locality, and we heard of his death with sorrow and regret.