

12-1-1912

On the Status of Some Species of the Genus Panurginus

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Recommended Citation

Crawford, J. C., "On the Status of Some Species of the Genus Panurginus" (1912). Co. Paper 194.
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Cwfd 1902

Ohio, on the south shore of Lake Erie. Whether the members of this band were migrants from the shores of Hudson Bay and Lake Athabasca, far away to the northwest, or whether they had gathered there from the east or west it was of course impossible to say.

The next band to be observed was at Urbana, Illinois, September 12, 1902, also in the afternoon, but at a temperature of 55° Fahr., with a brisk northwest wind and clear sky. Either this or another band of butterflies of this species was reported at Milledgeville, Illinois, about 160 miles to the northwest of Urbana, three days prior, while evidently still another was reported at Hoopstown, Illinois, some 35 to 40 miles north-east, a few days later. Whether or not these all belonged to the same band of migrants, from whence they came, or how the members came to be associated together, is still an unsolved problem. At Urbana, the company moved away on the morning of the 13th, but the usual number were observed wandering about, in a perfectly natural way, during the remainder of the month.

The third migration, observed by the writer, took place on September 12, about 3 p.m., on the Mall in Washington, D.C. The weather was cold, with light n.w. wind, but the sky was unclouded. This last, however, was not further investigated.

The daily press of Chicago, Illinois, September 13, one day prior to the occurrence in Washington, called attention to swarms of this butterfly observed congregating in the parks and gardens of the city and starting southward on their journey.

While it is true that this insect is of no economic importance, and of far too common occurrence to interest the collector, yet it seems to me that studies of the migrations of this species are well worth while, and the results would, beyond a doubt, prove of material aid in studying a similar habit in much more important species. The migration of insects is of itself an interesting problem, and a little care in observing and recording the appearance of these migrations and under what conditions these took place, would surely repay the many entomologists, amateurs and professionals scattered over Canada and the United States.

ON THE STATUS OF SOME SPECIES OF THE GENUS PANURGINUS.

BY J. C. CRAWFORD, WASHINGTON, D. C.

In a paper on the bees of Nebraska,* Messrs Swenk and Cockrell say that a comparison of cotypes of *Panurginus nebrascensis* with specimens of *P. ornatipes* shows that the two are synonyms and that *P. boylei* is a subspecies. The types of all of the involved

*ENT. NEWS, XVIII., 183, 1'07.

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species being in the collections of the U.S. National Museum has led to a re-examination of them and the characters given show them to be abundantly distinct. In view of these characters, what Messrs. Swenk and Cockerell had under the name *ornatipes* is somewhat of a mystery.

Panurginus ornatipes Cresson.—Male type: Process of labrum emarginate; punctures covering clypeus; punctures of mesoscutum small, sparse, at median anterior margin the punctures more sparse than at sides; a yellow stripe exteriorly on middle tibiae (hind tibiae missing, but in a specimen from Paris, Texas, which is certainly conspecific with the type, the hind tibiae have a similar stripe); wings yellowish and slightly dusky.

Panurginus nebrascensis Crawford.—Male type: Process of labrum rounded apically, punctures covering clypeus; punctures of mesoscutum, large, close, at anterior ends of parapsidal furrows separated from each other by about the diameter of a puncture; punctures at median anterior margin of mesoscutum finer and crowded; middle and hind tibiae completely annulate with black; wings dusky, more so apically.

Panurginus boylei Cockerell.—Male type: Process of labrum emarginate apically; clypeus with a median impunctured space which has a median depressed line; punctures of mesoscutum as large as in *nebrascensis* but not crowded along anterior median margin; middle and hind tibiae completely annulate with black; wings slightly yellowish.

NOTE ON VANESSA CALIFORNICA AT PEACHLAND, B. C. IN 1912.

BY J. B. WALLIS, WINNIPEG, MAN.

A somewhat remarkable visitation of *Vanessa californica* came to my notice when in Peachland, B. C., during July, 1912.

Almost immediately on my arrival I was questioned concerning a caterpillar (descriptions decidedly remarkable!) which had occurred in such numbers as to defoliate its food-plant, and had been compelled to migrate by thousands. I was also told of the appearance, in very large numbers, of a brown butterfly which was believed to be connected with the "worms."

In neither of my two previous visits (1907-9) had *californica* been seen, so I was quite at a loss to place a caterpillar whose food-plant was *Ceanothus* sp.

Next day the problem was solved. On going a mile or two into the hills, *californica* was found in very great numbers. There must have been many thousands of them, and in favored spots they almost filled the air. Being in a wagon, I made little effort to secure specimens, although five were taken at one almost aimless sweep of the net.

December, 1912