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THE BEE-GENUS BRACHYNOMADA.

BY T. D. A. COCKERELL, BOULDER, COLORADO.

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In 1807 Jurine described a curious parasitic bee from Europe, naming it *Pasites maculatus*. A ferruginous variety (var. *brunneus* Friese) occurs in Northern Africa; a specimen before me is from Biskra, Algeria, (*F. D. Morice*). A second species, *P. minutus* Mocs., occurs in Hungary; while *P. friesei* Ckll. comes from Mt. Kilimandjaro in Africa. *P. villosus* Friese, from the Transvaal, is to be called *Margania villosa*. *Pasites* has two submarginal cells in the anterior wings, 12-jointed antennæ in both sexes, and the spine at the end of the female abdomen is entire, not bifid as in *Ammobates*. According to our knowledge of bee-structure, this cannot be a primitive form; it must be derived from an ancestor with three submarginal cells, antennæ 12-jointed in the female, 13-jointed in the male, and possibly the caudal spine of the female divided. Such a type, agreeing in all general features with *Pasites*, is found where we might least expect it, in South America, particularly in Argentina. I believe the relationship between the European and South American genera is a fact, and that we have in America a remnant of a once widely distributed type, which gave rise to the now exclusively old world *Pasites*. The supposed *Pasites* described by Cresson from Cuba is now referred to *Hypo-chrotania*. The South American genus referred to was named by Holmberg in 1886 *Brachynomada*. He had two species from the Argentina, which he called *B. argentina* and *B. chacoënsis*. In 1907 Ducke gave the name *Nomada tomentifera* to a form of *B. argentina*. Friese, in 1908, gave a synopsis of the species known to him, but unfortunately referred them to Holmberg's *Dæringiella*, which is an Epeoline genus. Friese showed that the genus extended into Brazil. The list of species, as it stands to-day, is as follows:

B. argentina Holmbg." *tomentifera* (Dke.)*B. chacoënsis* Holmbg.*B. franki* (Friese)." *obscuripes* (Fr.).*B. bigibbosa* ((Friese).*B. thoracica* (Friese).

In 1916 (Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist., June, p. 432) I described a new genus *Austrodioxys*, with the species *A. thomasi* from the Argentine. It has in general the characters of *Brachynomada*, but there are only two submarginal cells. Ducke intimates that two submarginal cells may occur as an abnormality in *Brachynomada*; but there is no reason for doubting that the specimen of *A. thomasi* is normal.

I have before me, from the U. S. National Museum, a small bee collected by Prof. L. Bruner at Carcarana, Argentina. Ashmead examined it and referred it to the North African genus *Schmiedeknechtia* Friese. It is, however, of the *Brachynomada* type, and since it has only two submarginal cells, it ought to go in *Austrodioxys*. Unfortunately, however, the second submarginal cells receive both recurrent nervures, whereas in *Austrodioxys* the first submarginal receives the first recurrent. In *Austrodioxys* it must be the first transverse cubital which has dropped out, but in the Bruner specimen rather the second. Under these circumstances it will probably be best to consider *Austrodioxys* a subgenus only, its type becoming *Brachynomada thomasi* (Ckll.). The Carcarana insect may be described as follows:

***Brachynomada subminiata*, n. sp.**

♀.—Length about 7 mm., anterior wing 5; head and thorax black, strongly punctured; the face, upper border of prothorax, and sides of thorax to a considerable extent, with silvery white hair; mandibles simple with a broad, red median band; lower margin of clypeus polished and exposed; face broad; flagellum ferruginous beneath; cheeks broad, with fine, white hair; mesothorax shining, with coarse punctures; scutellum strongly punctured, broadly truncate, subemarginate in middle; tegulae rufo-testaceous; wings dusky hyaline, nervures and the large stigma dark ferruginous; first s.m. not twice as long as second; second s.m. receiving first r.n. near base, the second a short distance beyond middle; legs rather obscure ferruginous, with white hair, the anterior femora blackened; claws as in *B. thomasi*; abdomen broadly, densely punctured; first segment red; second black, red apically; third red, more or less stained with black basally; 4 to 6 dark; segments 1 to 4 with clear-cut, narrow white hair-bands,

fifth with a more diffuse band; apex with a pair of entirely separate parallel red spines, curved downward; venter red, black apically. (*Bruner*, 17).

The basal nervure meets the transversomedian; the marginal cell is obliquely truncate and appendiculate, exactly as in *Pasites*. The hind legs are much more slender than in *Pasites maculatus*, and the outer apical angle of hind tibia is much more salient. The face, though broad, is not so broad as in the *Pasites*.

LECTOTYPES OF HYMENOPTERA (EXCEPT APOIDEA)
DESCRIBED BY ABBÉ PROVANCHER.

BY A. B. GAHAN AND S. A. ROHWER, WASHINGTON, D.C.

(Continued from vol. XLIX, page 433.)

***Limneria compacta*.** Type.—Female, Ent. Branch, Dept. Agr., Ottawa.

***Limneria crassicornis*.** Type.—Male, yellow label 1222. 2nd Coll. Pub. Mus., Quebec. Left antenna beyond middle, right anterior leg at trochanter, left median tarsus and hind tarsi broken off.

***Limneria dentata*.** Type.—Female, yellow label 451. 2nd Coll. Pub. Mus., Quebec. Right antenna gone at scape.

***Limneria distincta*.** Type.—Female, yellow label 1060. 2nd Coll. Pub. Mus., Quebec. Right antenna at scape, left at 6th joint, gone.

***Limneria excavata*.** Type.—Not in Pub. Mus., Quebec, unless under *Limneria valida* Cress.

***Limneria flavipes*.** Type.—Male, yellow label 358. 1st Coll. Pub. Mus., Quebec. Right antenna beyond middle, right wings, left hind wing, gone.

***Limneria fusiformis*.** Type.—Female, yellow label 302. 2nd Coll. Pub. Mus., Quebec. Left antenna at scape, right at apex, gone; median tarsi broken; right hind tarsus and left hind leg at femora, gone.

***Limneria guignardi*.** Type.—Harrington Coll.

***Limneria hyalina*.** Type.—Female, yellow label 299. 2nd Coll. Pub. Mus., Quebec.

January, 1918