

A remarkable case of malformation of the discal cell in a specimen of *Liogma glabrata*.

By

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In August 1893 I caught in Aussee (Styria) a Tipulid which is undoubtedly *Cylindrotoma glabrata* Schin. II, p. 563 (whether it is the same as *Limnobia glabrata* Meig. I, p. 142 is probable, but not certain, as I shall presently show). In this specimen the discal cell is open, in consequence of the complete disappearance of the crossvein which separates it from the first basal cell. On both wings, the structure is exactly the same, and the adjoining veins forming the discal cell (the posterior branch of the third vein and the fourth vein) do not show the slightest vestige of a stump or any trace of an obsolescent crossvein. In all my experience with Tipulidae I have never met with a case of disappearance of the crossvein in that place, the more so as this vein-section is not properly a crossvein, but the first section of the anterior branch of the fork of the fourth vein, which fork, according to Schiner's view, encloses the discal cell. An inexperienced entomologist would have easily taken this specimen for a new genus, although there is not the slightest doubt that it is a malformed *glabrata* Schin. I have visited Aussee in 1879 and in 1893, for the purpose of visiting friends, and not of collecting; still I picked up interesting specimens here and there. Besides the *glabrata*, marked Aug. 1893, I have a normal specimen of the same species, labelled July 1879, from which I conclude that *glabrata* is not rare in that locality (Schiner calls it: „sehr selten“, for Austria).

Meigen's description (I, p. 142) must be modified in connection with his corrigendum in VI, p. 274. Meigen calls the thoracic stripes *atrae* „tiefschwarz“, which is a rather inappropriate term for the shining stripes of *glabrata*. Nevertheless, the identification is possible. At any rate, even if the species should prove not to be

glabrata Meig., it can be called *glabrata* Schin. (nec Meig.), as *glabrata* Meig. in that case would probably belong to some other genus than *Liogma*.

I proposed the genus *Liogma* in Monogr. IV, p. 298 (1869) for the European *glabrata* and the North-American *nodicornis*. The wing of the latter is figured l. c. pl. I, f. 7: it differs from *glabrata* in having the proximal end of the submarginal cell in direct contact with the discal cell, so that the anterior crossvein is suppressed, a formation which has no generic importance whatever.

Liogma has four posterior cells, the true *Cylindrotomae* (*distinctissima* and *americana*) have five. Schiner has a non-committal way of expressing himself about this difference, which requires verification: „der von dem obersten Zweige der vierten Längsader in die erste Hinterrandzelle hinein ausstrahlende Zweig, welcher bei *distinctissima* in der Regel vorhanden ist, fehlt bei dieser Art, *glabrata*, in der Regel" (Schin. II, p. 563, line 8 from bottom; a similar statement on the same page, line 6 from top).

That aberrant specimens of such a description really occur in both genera remains to be proved.

Erratum.

In my article: „On the atavic index-characters etc.", Berl. Ent. Zeitschr. 1894, p. 73, line 10 from top, strike out: „two-winged insect" and put „Dipteron" instead.

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