

Synonymica concerning exotic dipterology. No. II.

By

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A first instalment of these Synonymica was published by me in the Wiener Entomol. Zeitschr. 1882, p. 19—21. I deem it useful to continue their publication from time to time, although I hope, by and by, to incorporate them all in a general catalogue of the described exotic diptera. This catalogue is already prepared in manuscript, but requires some revision. The *Nemocera* I hope to publish soon.

I. *Dialysis* Walker, Ins. Saund. p. 4 (O. Sacken, Catal. N. Am. Dipt. p. 43). This genus is the same as *Triptotricha* Loew. (Leptidae).

During my earlier visits to the Brit. Mus. I have not been able to find this genus among the collections. This summer (1883) I noticed a specimen wrongly labeled *Xylophagus americanus* Wied. which is a *Triptotricha*, and which, I have no doubt, is the type of Mr. Walker's *Dialysis dissimilis*. Mr. Walker introduced this specimen in the Catal. Dipt. Br. Mus. I, p. 128 as *Xyl. americanus* Wied. with a query, and the remark that „it does not quite agree with Mr. Wiedemann's description.“ This disagreement was very natural, considering that the specimen is a Leptid and Mr. W.'s *Xyl. americanus* a *Subula*. Later, in the Dipt. Saund. Mr. Walker described this same specimen as *Dialysis dissimilis* nov. gen. et spec., which he still considered a *Xylophagid* (!). As a synonym is added: *Xyl. americanus*? Cat. Dipt. B. M. I, 128. At the same time he left the old label to the specimen, apparently forgetting to add a new one, and thus arose the difficulty in discovering the type-specimen. As Mr. Walker's definition of *Dialysis* does not contain any of the characteristic marks of *Triptotricha*, and, on the contrary, as it is vitiated by a misleading datum in being placed among the *Xylophagidae*, it cannot be considered a definition at all, and *Dialysis* ought not to supersede *Triptotricha*.

In the Ann. Soc. Entom. Fr. 1879, p. 197, Mr. Bigot described a *Dialysis dispar* from California, which he also refers to the *Xylophagidae*. This is likewise a *Triptotricha*, a fact which the author's kindness enabled me to ascertain in his own collection.

II. *Nonacris* Walk. Ins. Saund. 7 (N. transequa, S. America) is represented in the Brit. Mus. by a single male, which, to all appearances, is a male *Chiromyza*; I could not discover any difference.

III. *Inopus* Walk. Ins. Saund. 2, Tab. 1, f. 7 (I. despectus, sine patria). The type in the Brit. Mus. (a single male, very much damaged) has no macrochaetae, nor spurs on the hind tibiae, both characters applicable to *Chiromyza*; the venation is like that of *Chiromyza*; but the body is more slender, and the antennae, as represented in the figure are not those of *Chiromyza* (they are broken in the type-specimen). The question therefore about this genus remains in suspense until more specimens, and in better preservation, are produced for examination.

IV. *Lampromyia* Macq. and *Leptynoma* Westw. Trans. Ent. Soc. 1876, p. 517, Tab. VI, f. 7. I owe to the kindness of Prof. Westwood the opportunity to examine the typical specimens of *Leptynoma sericea* (South Africa) in the Oxford Museum. It has two pulvilli, the third being rudimentary; the supernumerary crossvein in the marginal cell, which the figure shows, proved upon close examination to be merely a darker shade in the brown spot upon which it is placed in the figure; these are the two principal differences which prevented the identification of this genus with *Lampromyia* Macq. A few remarks about the latter genus may not be amiss here.

Lampromyia has no macrochaetae; the legs are smooth, except some very minute, almost microscopic bristles on the tibiae; front tibiae with a single spur, the others with two; two pulvilli. Face and front show very little difference in breadth in both sexes, the eyes not being contiguous in the male, as they are in most Leptidae. The abdomen is not tapering in the female, as other Leptidae have it; it is only a little broader on the proximal half than that of the male and ends obtusely. The male genitals show a singular horny armature, consisting of a subglobular body, with a kind of concave lid over it, in the shape of an inverted half-cylinder; within the hollow of the latter, when seen from below, a pair of palpi-like organs are visible, which probably represented the forceps. Altogether, with its long proboscis, *Lampromyia* is a very singular insect.

Macquart, who at first (Hist. Nat. Dip. II, 660) referred *Lampromyia* to the Bombylidae, corrected himself afterwards, (D. E. II, 1, 29) and pointed out its relationship to *Vermileo*. The same view was taken by Schiner and is no doubt the true one. Four species are described now: *cylindrica* Fab. (Syn. funebris Duf.), *pallida* Macq., *canariensis* Macq. and *sericea* Westw. (*Leptynoma*). About *canariensis* Macquart

says: (in Webb and Berthelot) „perhaps variety of pallida“; the colored figure however looks more like *L. funebris* Duf.

I had an opportunity to examine specimens of *L. pallida* taken near Tunis by the Marchese Doria of Genoa.

V. *Metoponia* Macq. D. E. 2. Suppl. 28; 1847 (Australia) is entirely different from *Metoponia* Loew. (North-America, Northern Asia, Eastern Europe), see Catal. N. A. Dipt. p. 43. Loew has never explained on what ground he assumed this identity. Recently I had occasion to examine Macquart's types in Mr. Bigot's collection and thus to ascertain, that they are, generically, entirely different from the N. Am. specimens, more narrow and elongate, with a more convex front; to any one knowing both forms it would never have occurred to place them in the same genus. Unfortunately, there were no specimens of *Metoponia* Loew at hand, to draw up a detailed comparison; for the present I must content myself with the statement of the fact. For *Metoponia* Loew, I propose the name of *Allognosta*, in allusion to the misunderstanding which has taken place about it. — *Chiromyza fulvicaput* Walker, Ins. Saund. p. 163 is the same as *Metoponia rubriceps* Macq., and it is a question whether *Metoponia* Macq. is not more related to *Chiromyza* than to *Beris*.

VI. *Apelleia* Bellardi, Saggio etc. Append. differs from *Ocnaea* Erichs. in its glabrous eyes only. But as *Exetasis* Walk. Ins. Saund. 203, Tab. 5, f. 1 also has glabrous eyes (judging by the plate, the letterpress being silent on this point), and as it shows other differences besides, especially in the venation, and is nevertheless considered a synonym of *Ocnaea*, the position of *Apelleia* becomes rather precarious. I have a new species from Central America before me which is an *Ocnaea*, except its glabrous eyes, and therefore agrees with *Apelleia*. In describing the latter, Prof. Bellardi compares it quite correctly to *Eriosoma* Macq. and *Exetasis* Walk. and states the differences; but both of these genera are considered now (since Erichson and Loew) as synonymus of *Ocnaea*. — At present the number of described species of this group is small; but they seem to be common in the warmer regions of America, and with the increase of described species a subdivision may become necessary, and then the genera *Apelleia* and *Exetasis* may both be reinstated again.

VII. *Hermetia chrysopila* Loew, Cent. X, 11 (Texas) 1872, is the same as *Hermetia aurata* Bellardi, Saggio, I, 27 (Mexico) 1859. —

Chrysops vulneratus Rondani, Esame etc. 44 is certainly the same as the well-known *Chr. costatus* Fab.

Trypeta pulla Wied. A. Z. II, 506 (sine patria) is the same as *Amphicnephes pertusus* Loew, Monogr. etc. III, 84, Tab. 8, f. 1 (United States). The type being in the Museum in Vienna, it will be easy to verify this synonymy. At the same time it is in the interest of the stability of nomenclature, that species sine patria should not be allowed to lay claim to priority. The identification of such species, without speaking of the useless labor it entails, involves an element of uncertainty, which will in most cases prevent a careful writer from taking any notice of them.

The three above-quoted synonymies are derived from the comparison of the descriptions only, not of type-specimens.

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