

erstes Geisselglied etwa $\frac{1}{6}$ so lang als das zweite, dieses so lang als 3 + 4. Hinterkopf skulpturlos. Mesonotum mit goldgelbem, länglich dreieckigem Tomentfleck, jederseits davon querverieft. Schulterbeulen und der hinten daranstossende Teil der Mesopleuren mit goldgelbem Toment, ein ebensolcher grosser dreieckiger Tomentfleck im unteren Teile der Mesopleuren, welche nach dem Sternum hin gerundet sind. Sternum punktiert. Scutellum zweibeulig, längs gerieft. Mittelsegment grob querverieft, jederseits an Basis und Apex ein goldgelber Tomentfleck. Beine schwarz, die Coxen II und III hinten goldgelb tomentiert. Abdomen mit stahlblauem Schimmer; Stiel mitunter dunkelrot, wenigstens auf der Unterseite, mitunter einfarbig schwarz. Tegulae pechbraun; Flügel glashell mit schwach verdunkeltem Aussenrande. Länge 19 mm.

Argentinien, Provinz Catamarca. Andalgalá (C. Bruch leg.).

57 (56.9)

The Old Inhabitants of a Jerusalem Garden.

by A. H. Scinton.

(Continuation).

In the garden there stood a pear tree such as a Roman merchant retired from business would long to graft, and another near at hand, hung with fruit and probably bird sown, grew out of a hawthorn, *Crataegus Azarolus*; *pirum* a pear, was a word understood alike by Jew and Roman; the pear tree seems adapted to a dry soil. Devonshire heat and moisture produces on good ground monster docks and dandelions, brobdinag ribwort and greater plantains, and in the drains buttercups put forth gigantic leaves: at Jerusalem it is natural to talk of the water of life and of the habitable world founded on the floods, for along the drainage of the sea coast, where there is water under the sand, depend the large grape bunches of Caesarea, beneath which Schulze supped, and where lately Mr. Hanouer discovered the *Lilium pancratium* growing wild; the ostrich-egg pomegranates and lemon-oranges of Jaffa, and the apples of Ascalon. Here on the uplands the apple did not thrive among the trees of the orchard, but presently there resounded a cry of Mismish! when a black man came on the scene with apricots for sale, the fruit of the *Prunus armeniaca*, from the good trees that flourish beside the pools of Solomon or ever gushing fountain of the Baptist, nigh at hand; the apples of gold that graced the baskets, or some say leaves of silver: a village in the south country was known as the House of Apples. A fig tree hung with green figs whose ancestors may have populated the gardens of Bethpage and indicated by their fresh leaves that summer was nigh, had not escaped the notice of my landlady; the barren fig tree had no fruit when the Jewish Passover had arrived; it might have been the end of April, and the green figs ripen early.

On the 14th of May a north-westerly wind rolled clouds of yellow sand over Jerusalem and the sun shone

like an electric light hung on high. In a small vineyard attached to the garden stood an almond tree already buzzing with buprestide beetles, black but comely, and so unlike their ornamental Indian relatives; and in the partition wall the Oriental Hornets, *Vespa orientalis*, had established a colony; they were more of a chocolate colour than the English hornets and they passed much of their time sitting on the vine leaves in the sunshine in company with a large Wasp Fly, *Laphria dizonae*, that deceptively resembled them. Their wings were more rounded and they were less dashing than the English hornets, and I never understood how they could put to flight two kings of the Amorites. Against the wall grew an elder bush that had more stalks to its cymes than the English one, in which they number five, its flowers of ivory white seemed to be scorched brown by the summer sun, and my landlady, who wished to make elder wine, wondered why it never bore fruit: finally the barren elder was brought to the notice of Dr. Post, author of the Syrian Flora.

A pomegranate, *Punica granatum*, which in days of old furnished a drink at a place called Gath-Rimmon, near Jaffa, flaunted a soon dropping flower of crimson velvet. Haggai said, of a bad season, 'that the vine, fig tree, pomegranate and olive, had not brought forth', and Thomson remarks that the olive is wont to cast its unripe fruit; Heroditus reported that no olives grew in Babylonia, and the Rabshakeh of Sennacherib only tells the Jews to expect corn and wine in Assyria, where venison, hares and black partridges were not wanting. On one of the Assyrian slabs in the British Museum an eunuch may be seen carrying locusts stuck on thorns to a banquet at Nineveh, and certain species were appreciated by the Jews. One, the leaping beetle of Leviticus, it has been ingeniously suggested was the *Truxalis nasuta* and its kind, known to the Greeks as a caricature of the snake-feeding ichneumon adored by the Egyptians; these may be seen stalking like spectres on the Jaffa sands among the blue-leaved *Salvia Horminum* and *Petunculus* shells, and they are met with as far south as the Pacific islands and Australia. At a dinner party they must have resembled the something small of Lord Dundreary — a shrimp. Another, the Salaam with a smooth head, I felt sure I recognised in the *Eremobia cisti* with the semblance of a bald pate that I mistook for a small frog when I saw it leap up on the cliffs of Jaffa the beautiful.

(to be continued).

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Zeitschrift/Journal: [Societas entomologica](#)

Jahr/Year: 1910

Band/Volume: [25](#)

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Artikel/Article: [The Old Inhabitants of a Jerusalem Garden. 32](#)