

II. Mitteilungen aus Museen, Instituten usw.

Linnean Society of New South Wales.

Abstract of Proceedings, June 29th, 1904. — 1) Descriptions of Australian Micro-Lepidoptera. XVIII. *Gelechiadae*. By E. Meyrick, B.A., F.R.S., Corresponding Member. This family forms a smaller proportion of the *Tineina* in the Australian region than it does in Europe, amounting perhaps to about 12 per cent. of the whole. As, however, the species are often retired in habit, small, inconspicuous, and rather difficult to study, they have been much neglected, and may perhaps prove eventually to be more relatively numerous than they seem at present. Fortunately only seven species were known to Walker, others assigned by him to this family being wrongly attributed. Mr. O. Lower has in late years described some number; he has very kindly transmitted specimens of all these (frequently the actual types) for examination, so that the author has been able to ascertain positively their identity in all cases; this assistance has been most valuable. Much material in specimens and notes of localities has also been received from him, as well as from Mr. G. Lyell, the late Mr. G. Barnard, and other collectors whose records are duly acknowledged in their place. Altogether 274 species are here recorded, of which 207 are now described as new. Of this total 85 species, or not much less than a third, are included in the endemic genus *Protolechia*, but no other strictly endemic genus attains any large size, though 40 out of the 55 genera are endemic, so far as is known. — 2) A Variable Galactan Bacterium. By R. Greig Smith, D.Sc., Macleay Bacteriologist to the Society. A bacterium isolated from the tissues of a species of *Strychnos* grew on gelatine as brittle moruloid colonies which contained an insoluble gum. Cultivation at 30° C. caused the organism to rapidly lose the faculty of forming this insoluble gum. A soluble gum was produced instead, and the colonies in consequence became gummy and otherwise uncharacteristic. The gums from both forms of bacteria were galactans and differed only in solubility. M. Steel exhibited an unusually perfect series of the galls of both sexes of *Brachyscelis pedunculata*, Fuller.

Abstract of Proceedings, July 27th, 1904. — 1) Notes on Australian Coccidae ex Coll. W. W. Froggatt, with Descriptions of new Species. No. I. By E. Ernest Green, F.E.S., Government Entomologist of Ceylon. (Communicated by W. W. Froggatt, F.L.S.). A species of *Chionaspis* found upon the undersurface of the leaves of *Eucalyptus tereticornis*, Sm., and the Nut-grass Coccid, a species of *Antonina*, are described as new. The latter may be classed with the few beneficial species of Coccids, as it is credited with destroying the host-plant (*Cyperus rotundus*, Linn.), a most objectionable weed, over a large area of the Hunter River flats, A.F.W. Some critical observations upon *Mytilaspis spinifera*, Mask., and the identity of *Chaetococcus*, Mask., with *Antonina*, Sign., are recorded. — 2) Three New Generic Names for Mollusca. By Captain F. W. Hutton, F.R.S. The author finds, through the publication of the 'Index Zoologicus', that the following generic names, published by him for Land Mollusca, have been forestalled: — *Pyrrha*, by Cabanis in Aves, 1849; *Carthaea*, by Walker in Lepidoptera,

1858; and *Rhenea*, by Saalmüller in Lepidoptera, 1884. He therefore proposes the following names to replace them—*Thermia* for *Pyrrha*, *Serpha* for *Carthaea*, and *Delos* for *Rhenea*. — 3) On a new Species of *Heteronympha*, and a new Variety of *Tisiphone abeona*, Don. By G. A. Waterhouse, B.Sc., B.E., F.E.S. Mr. Gurney exhibited, on behalf of Mr. Froggatt, specimens of the Coccids described in Mr. Green's paper. Mr. G. A. Waterhouse exhibited both sexes of the *Heteronympha* described as new in his paper; and for comparison, examples of *Het. banksii*, Leach (♂♀); also the typical form and new variety of *Tisiphone abeona*, with examples of *T. joanna* and var. *rawnsleyi* for comparison.

III. Personal-Notizen.

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