

generic. He showed *Atherix ibis* Fab., from Europe, and *A. variegata* Walk., from the northern part of our continent, and contrasted with them *A. longipes* Bell., and three other species, all from the warmer parts of America. The four tropical species agreed in their graceful form, longer and more slender legs and a number of evident characters. Mr. Knab said that he was unwilling to propose a generic name at this time, as a number of genera had been created agreeing in general characters with *Atherix* and usually placed as synonyms of it. The status of these genera should be carefully established before creating a new one.

Mr. Banks said that he was of the opinion that the southern forms are probably a new genus, since the European and Northwestern species of *Atherix* are locally common and if they are blood-suckers the habit would have been noticed long ago.

The third paper, "A New Genus and Species of Gryllidæ from Texas," by A. N. Caudell, was read by title.

A NEW GENUS AND SPECIES OF GRYLLIDÆ FROM TEXAS.

BY A. N. CAUDELL.

TRIGONIDOMIMUS n. gen.

Description (Female, the male unknown).—This genus belongs to the subfamily Gryllinæ, but bears a strong superficial resemblance to *Cyrtorhpha* and related genera of small crickets of the subfamily Trigonidiinæ. The second segment of the tarsi is minute, not at all depressed or cordiform. Hind tibiæ more slender than usual in the subfamily Gryllinæ and armed above on the outer half with three spurs on each margin and on the basal part there are a few serrations, small but distinct when viewed through a hand lens. There are five apical calcaria, two ventral ones subequal in length and both short, scarcely as long as the tibial spines, and two longer ones on the inner side and one on the outer. On the inner side the middle calcar is about three times as long as the ventral one and the upper one a fourth longer than the middle. The second outer calcar is fully as long again as the ventral one. Metatarsus of hind tarsi rounded above, armed only with hairs, as are also the hind tibiæ between the spurs and serrations. Fore tibiæ furnished with foramina only on the anterior face. Head large and rounded, broader than the pronotum, the front convex; eyes very small and but little prominent. Antennæ inserted

immediately beneath the eyes, distinctly nearer the clypeal suture than to the top of the head. Apical segment of the palpi moderately enlarged apically and triangular in shape as common in many gryllid genera. Ovipositor approximately equaling the hind femora in length and almost straight.

Type: Trigonidomimus belfragei, new species.

Trigonidomimus belfragei, new species.

Head large; eyes small, broadly oval, and set far apart. Pronotum nearly quadrate, narrower than the head or the width across the base of the elytra. Elytra shorter than the abdomen, about three times as long as the pronotum; wings caudate, extending half their length beyond the tip of the abdomen. Anal cerci very long. Legs moderately slender, hind femora moderately swollen and tapering to the very tip, the hind tibiae slender.

General color brownish yellow, the tip of the ovipositor and the eyes and the base of the antennæ blackish; the legs are clear honey yellow and the elytra are darker. The antennæ grow paler towards the tip.

Length, antennæ, 15+ mm.; pronotum, 1.25 mm.; elytra, 3.75 mm.; wings, 11 mm.; hind femora, 4.75 mm.; ovipositor, 4.5 mm.; anal cerci, 5.5 mm.; width, pronotum, 1.5 mm.

Two females, Texas, Belfrage.

Type: Coll. Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge, Mass.; *paratype*, U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C. (Cat. No. 15389). The type bears the following written label: "59 Quite rare specimens, coming to light at night Sept.-Oct."

At the conclusion of his paper, Mr. Caudell said he did not quite understand the significance of No. "59" which appeared on Belfrage's label.

Mr. Schwarz explained that Mr. Belfrage had the habit of numbering those species of each order which he collected himself in Texas and to distribute them always under the same number among his numerous correspondents and customers in the United States and in Europe, so that should these numbers be preserved it would add considerably to the identification of his specimens. Among the orthopterists in Europe he had a good customer in Professor Stal in Stockholm. Belfrage collected only at two points in Bosque County, Texas, viz, Waco and Clifton, although in his letters he constantly speaks of proposed trips to other parts of the State. At the instance of Dr. Le Conte he commenced about the year 1875 to write up a list of the insects collected in Bosque County.

As far as Mr. Schwarz recollects, only the list of the Coleoptera was ever finished, and he has seen this manuscript in the possession of Dr. Le Conte in the year 1878. However, it has never been published and the manuscript is probably still in the possession of Mrs. Le Conte. A small fraction of a copy of this list of Coleoptera in the handwriting of Belfrage, including the Carabidæ and Dytiscidæ, is still in the possession of Mr. Schwarz. Belfrage was not in the habit of labeling the specimens he sent to his correspondents; his peculiar and neat way of pinning and mounting render the specimens collected by him easily recognizable. Of the numerous letters Belfrage received from his correspondents from all over the world many are preserved in the National Museum. An obituary note on Mr. Belfrage will be found in the American Naturalist, 1883, p. 424.

end

—The fourth paper was "Notes on Some Nearctic Mantispidæ," by Nathan Banks.¹

In connection with his remarks, Mr. Banks exhibited a new genus of Mantispidæ from Australia which appears in three striking color varieties. He also showed specimens of a new thynnid wasp, and a new genus of Scoliidæ from Arizona.

—At the conclusion of the regular papers on the programme President Quaintance called on Dr. C. S. Minot, of Cambridge, Mass., who responded with a few remarks on the early New England entomologists and related some very amusing anecdotes regarding Dr. Hagen.

—Under Notes and Exhibition of Specimens Mr. Banks exhibited a bottle of insects taken from a freshly painted house and suggested that there was something in the color as well as the odor that attracted them to it.

Mr. Barber stated as his opinion that the so-called attraction of painted surfaces is exaggerated. A more logical explanation in most cases would give greater importance to the temporary alighting and immediate continuance of flight in the seasonal swarmings of many insects caught on adhesive surfaces. Different species behave differently; with some insects the odor of paint will be attractive and with others repulsive.

¹ Published Proc. Ent. Soc. Wash., XIV, 178, 1912.