

MISCELLANEA

INSECTS.

THE OCCURRENCE OF *Dactylopius citri*, RISSO, IN THE HIMALAYAS.—On May 27th last year, while collecting insects in the Himalayas, I met with a number of nymphs of a Coccid in the nests of a small black species of ant. The nests were constructed under loose stones on a mountain-side at elevations varying from approximately 12,300 to 12,500 feet. The locality was about 5 miles north-west of Badrinath, near the Satopanth Glacier in Garhwal. Some of the nymphs were sent to Mr. E. E. Green of Peradeniya who identified them as belonging to the cosmopolitan species *Dactylopius citri*, Risso, and remarked that it occurs commonly in ants' nests in Ceylon. The species secretes a honey-dew similar to that of Aphides, and is farmed by a number of species of ants. The distribution of this insect at this elevation is a fact of some interest, and I may add that the locality from which it was obtained is seldom visited by man, though it is less than 4 miles from the entrance to the Mana Pass into Tibet.

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NOTE ON AQUATIC RHYNCHOTA.—Two new species (each representing a new genus) of marine Rhynchota have recently been described by Mr. W. L. Distant from the Andaman Sea (*Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist.* (8), v, pp. 146, 147; *Faun. Brit. Ind.*—Rhynchota, v, pp. 154, 155, figs. 82, 83); but unfortunately the specimens figured, having originally been preserved in alcohol, were evidently dried before being drawn, with the result that they have been represented in a shrivelled condition. The acquisition of fresh specimens enables me to add the following supplementary particulars to Mr. Distant's descriptions:—

Euratas formidabilis, Dist.

Specimens of both sexes were taken by Mr. S. W. Kemp on the surface of a backwater at Vizagapatam on the Coromandel Coast in April, 1910, and were preserved dry. They are somewhat stouter and smoother in appearance than Mr. Distant's figure would suggest and the impressions on the collar represented as deep pits are obsolescent. The colour is somewhat darker than that of de-alcoholized specimens.

Fabatus servus, Dist.

Female specimens were taken on the shore of Ross I., Andamans, in March, 1911, by Mr. C. A. Paiva. The body in the adult of this sex is somewhat elongate, the length being 5 mm. and the maximum breadth about 1.5 mm. The sides of the thorax are straight and nearly parallel, except that the collar is much narrower than the posterior part, the anterior angles of which are broadly rounded. A deep mid-dorsal groove runs along the whole length of the thorax. The coloration is very characteristic. The dorsal surface of the head is leaden grey, edged with chocolate-brown and with a pale line running parallel to the margin of each eye posteriorly; that of the pronotum is deep chocolate-brown, with a large transverse oval spot of leaden grey on each side of the mid-dorsal groove on the collar, a much larger and more elongate longitudinal spot of the same colour on each side of the posterior part and, posterior to this spot, a sinuous transverse bar of the same colour running from near the lateral margin to near the mid-dorsal groove a short distance in front of the insertion of each leg of the 3rd pair. The dorsal surface of the legs and abdomen is piceous, but the segments of the latter are edged with silvery grey posteriorly. The ventral surface of the head, thorax and abdomen is yellow, with a streak of leaden grey directed obliquely forwards and inwards in front of the insertion of each leg of the 2nd pair. The ventral surface of the limbs is dark, except that the base of the femora of the anterior legs is tinged with yellow. The eyes, antennae and rostrum are black.

Only the wingless form of the following species has hitherto been described:—

Perittopus rufus, Dist.

The apterous form of this species was originally described from the Siamese Malay States and Tenasserim (*Faun. Brit. Ind.*—Rhynchota, ii, p. 175, fig. 128). I found this form not uncommon in March, 1908, on the surface of pools in jungle streamlets flowing down the western slopes of the Dawna Hills near Kawka-reik in the interior of the Amherst district (Tenasserim) at altitudes of from 2,000 to 3,000 feet, and Mr. C. G. Rogers, I.F.S., has recently (Jan., 1911) taken a winged specimen on a small tributary of the Rangoon River, in Pegu.

The winged form has a pronotum resembling that of *Microvelia*, the postero-lateral angles being subprominent and the posterior part extensive and produced to a point at the extremity. The hemelytra reach the end of the body and are of an intense black colour. The membrane, which is of relatively great extent, is opaque and has a matt surface devoid of hairs, but the rest of the hemelytron is translucent and minutely and sparsely pilose. The veins are not prominent.

N. ANNANDALE.