

XXIV.—PRELIMINARY DESCRIPTIONS OF
THREE NEW NYCTERIBIIDÆ
FROM INDIA

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From the collection of the Indian Museum I recently examined three *Nycteribiidæ* which I considered to be new. But one of these species has already been mentioned in literature. Rondani gives in the *Ann. Mus. Genova* (1878), vol. xii, a short description of a parasite of the bat *Rhinolophus euryotis*, Temm., from Amboina, which he considered to be *Nycteribia jenynsii*, Westw. In my dissertation "Über die Nycteribiiden, Fledermausparasiten aus der gruppe der pupiparen Dipteren" (*Arch. Naturges.*, vol. lxvii, p. II, 1901), I have demonstrated that *N. jenynsii*, Westw., is a *Penicillidia*, Kol. I had examined Rondani's very badly-preserved specimen, and provisionally determined it as *N. minuta*, Wulp. This latter name, as I have since learned, is a mere synonym of *Cyclopodia ferrarii*, Rond., and I am now very pleased at having before me a good specimen of the parasite of *Rhinolophus euryotis*, Temm., also from Amboina.

I give here a short description of it under the name *Nycteribia (Acrocholidia) phthisica*, sp. nov., together with short descriptions of the two other new species. The detailed descriptions of these will be published in a larger monograph on this family, which I have in preparation. It would be of the greatest interest to examine more species from India of this extraordinary family, especially with good notes on the species of bats which harbour them. There are but very few known from East India, and there is a wide gap between the better known regions of the Sunda Archipelago and the African coasts, with Madagascar. We must expect some very interesting discoveries from the intermediate regions.

Nycteribia (Acrocholidia) phthisica, sp. nov., ♀

Head and thorax without characteristics, the breast being almost twice as long as broad, being thus long and narrow (phthisic!). The lateral quarters of the basal tergite are bare, the middle bristly. In the middle of the dorsum is an irregular horizontal row of longer bristles; above the anal segment, a more chitinized rectangular shield, which bears three very long bristles on each of its rounded hind corners. The basal sternite has a linear hind margin, with a ctenidium of fine spines. Before the anal segment lie two band-like segments with wavy hind margins, the former of which has two pairs of bristles on each side of the middle line, and three on each side at the end; the posterior has but two separate bristles on each side of the middle, and but two

on each side at the end. The plate above the genital opening bears a group of three bristles on the side lobes, and a single one a short distance before these. Long. corp. 2·3—2·4 mm.

Basilis bathybothyra, sp. nov., ♂

Calcutta, 6th April 1905.¹ Head without characteristics. The thorax has conspicuous deep grooves above the halteres; the breastplate is somewhat broader than long. The second tergite has a broad middle lobe slightly produced backwards. All the tergites bear on the hind margins, scattered rows of thin, moderately long bristles; on the fourth, fifth and sixth tergite groups of bristles of double length occur which beset the margin a short distance each side from the middle. The basal sternite is large and long, its ctenidium having short, thin teeth; the succeeding sternites are very short, except the fourth and fifth which are slightly longer. The hind margins of these are slightly wavy in the middle, and bear there a little group of very short, black spines, or spine-like knobs. The following ones are thin, slightly curved, beset with bristles.

Cyclopodia amiculata, sp. nov., ♀

Calcutta, on *Taphozous longimanus*. This is the most slender *Cyclopodia* I have seen, its length being 2·1 mm.; the single legs 3 mm.: the latter are thin, especially the femora, by which this species differs from the two other *Cyclopodiæ*. The abdomen is very singularly shaped. Besides a basal tergite, it shows but two broad and long tergites, and an anal segment. The posterior tergite bears on its anterior half a pair of very pistilliform styles, with bristly tips, as in the ♀ of *Nyct. (Stylidia) biarticulata*, Herm. The hind margin has, in the middle, a deep triangular notch, on the inner margins of which are a few bristles. The basal sternite bears a very dense linear ctenidium of fine spines; the ends of all the following segments are well marked by rows of bristles, the remaining surface (except in the second sternite) being bare

¹ [On *Vespertilio muricola*.—ED.]