

THE
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CONDUCTED BY

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“ Nature is ever making signs to us, she is ever whispering to us the beginnings of her secrets ; the scientific man must be ever on the watch, ready at once to lay hold of Nature's hint however small, to listen to her whisper however low.”

Michael Foster.

LONDON :

GURNEY & JACKSON (MR. VAN VOORST'S SUCCESSORS),
1, PATERNOSTER ROW.

1899.

been enabled to inspect his specimens of *L. ngirifrons* (a ♂ and ♀ in bad condition), and I have much pleasure in stating that the identification is undoubtedly correct. This is, perhaps, not surprising, since Mr. Dale informs me that they were named by the late A. H. Haliday.

Next to *Loxocera nigrifrons*, Macq., and *L. fulviventris*, Mg., the least common British species (so far as it is possible to judge from the present state of the Museum collection) appears to be *L. sylvatica*, Mg., of which we possess eight examples, all taken at various localities in S. Devon (Bickleigh Vale, Shaugh Bridge, Ivybridge, and Plymbridge), on dates ranging from April 20th to May 19th (collected and presented by Lieut.-Col. Yerbury).

The commonest British species of *Loxocera* is *L. albisetata*, Schrk., which in size ranks next to *L. aristata*, Pz. In this species the abdomen of both sexes is cylindrical, since, except at the extreme tip (the actual ovipositor), that of the ♀ is not laterally compressed, as it is in *L. aristata*. Of *L. albisetata* the Museum possesses some two dozen specimens, taken at various localities in the Western, Southern, and Eastern (Wicken Fen, Cambridgeshire) counties of England, on dates ranging from June 26th to September 23rd (Lieut.-Col. Yerbury; A. Piffard; E. E. Green).

A search through the volumes of the "Zoological Record" shows that since the date of Schiner's Catalogue (1864) only three European species of *Loxocera* have been described, viz.:—*maculata*, Rond. (Bull. Soc. Ent. Ital., viii, 1876, p. 193), from Italy; *marginata*, Rond. (*loc. cit.*, p. 194), from the Apennines; and *atriceps*, Bigot (Bull. Soc. Ent. Fr. (6), vi, 1886, p. lxxxv), from Chapuy, near Mt. Blanc. Whether any of these are synonymous of the five species previously described and tabulated above, or whether any or all of them will eventually prove to be members of the British fauna, are matters for future investigation.

British Museum (Natural History),
Cromwell Road, London, S.W.:
January 21st, 1899.

TWO SPECIES OF *EPHEMERIDÆ* NEW TO BRITAIN.

BY C. A. BRIGGS, F.E.S.

During the stay of Messrs. King, Porritt and myself at Camghouran—as Camachgouran is now spelt—from June 7th to 21st last year, I collected specimens of such of the *Ephemeridæ* as came in my way, but, owing probably to the very cold weather shortly before our visit, they were not so numerous as I had hoped. We were in fact too early for the majority of species.

I have recently submitted my specimens to the Rev. A. E. Eaton who has most kindly not only named them for me but furnished me

with notes, some of which I have embodied in this paper. Among the seven species represented two prove to be new to the British list.

(1.) *Leptophlebia Meyeri*, Etn., which had previously been known only from Switzerland and the Netherlands was described from Swiss specimens of the ♂ in 1884 [cf. Eaton: "Revisional Monograph of the *Ephemeridæ*." Trans. Linn. Soc. Lond. (2) Zool., vol. iii, pp. 95 and 320, pl. xi, 17a.]

The fore-wings of the subimago are uniformly light grey; hind-wings impure yellowish-white.

Mr. Eaton says that the paleness of the hind-wings of the subimago suggests that *L. Meyeri* may possibly prove to be identical with the Linnean *Ephemera respertina*, a species to be re-discovered in its original locality.

I found the species on the moor above the Black Wood near a little lochan called Rusg-a-Bhiora, which is marked on the Ordnance Map and also on the map in the "Entomologist," vol. xvii, p. 145. This lochan is 1,226 feet above sea level, Loch Rannoch itself being only 668 feet. They were not flying over the lochan itself, but fluttering over the boggy moor immediately about it, and as I walked along they rose in countless swarms. I secured a good representative series as I saw it was a species I had not met with before, but regret that my acquaintance with the *Ephemeridæ* was not sufficient to enable me more fully to appreciate its interest.

(2.) *Ameletus inopinatus*, Etn., both genus and species new to Britain.

This species, of which single examples were discovered by Mr. McLachlan in 1885 in the Schwarzwald and in 1883 in the Vosges, was described by Mr. Eaton in the "Revisional Monograph," p. 307, pl. lxv, 13 (♂ genitalia) [1887]. *Ameletus* belongs to the third group of the *Ephemeridæ*, its place in our list being before *Siphlurus*.

On the afternoon of the 8th June I beat a solitary specimen of the ♂ imago from a bush on the shore of Loch Rannoch just where the Dall burn falls into the Loch.

The other species of *Ephemeridæ* taken during our stay will be mentioned by Mr. King in a paper on the Neuropterous results of our visit.

Rock House, Lynmouth :
February 13th, 1899.

Precocity of Gracilaria syringella, Fab., or hibernation?—The question is suggested by my seeing a moth of this species that came in at a window of my house this morning about 10 a.m., when the out-door temperature was 54° F. in the shade. The specimen was in good condition.—A. E. EATON, Woodlands, Seaton, Devon : February 14th, 1899.