

species being in the collections of the U.S. National Museum has led to a re-examination of them and the characters given show them to be abundantly distinct. In view of these characters, what Messrs. Swenk and Cockerell had under the name *ornatipes* is somewhat of a mystery.

Panurginus ornatipes Cresson.—Male type: Process of labrum emarginate; punctures covering clypeus; punctures of mesoscutum small, sparse, at median anterior margin the punctures more sparse than at sides; a yellow stripe exteriorly on middle tibiæ (hind tibiæ missing, but in a specimen from Paris, Texas, which is certainly conspecific with the type, the hind tibiæ have a similar stripe); wings yellowish and slightly dusky.

Panurginus nebrascensis Crawford.—Male type: Process of labrum rounded apically, punctures covering clypeus; punctures of mesocutum, large, close, at anterior ends of parapsidal furrows separated from each other by about the diameter of a puncture; punctures at median anterior margin of mesoscutum finer and crowded; middle and hind tibiæ completely annulate with black; wings dusky, more so apically.

Panurginus boylei Cockerell.—Male type: Process of labrum emarginate apically; clypeus with a median impunctured space which has a median depressed line; punctures of mesoscutum as large as in *nebrascensis* but not crowded along anterior median margin; middle and hind tibiæ completely annulate with black; wings slightly yellowish.

NOTE ON VANESSA CALIFORNICA AT PEACHLAND, B. C.
IN 1912.

BY J. B. WALLIS, WINNIPEG, MAN.

A somewhat remarkable visitation of *Vanessa californica* came to my notice when in Peachland, B. C., during July, 1912.

Almost immediately on my arrival I was questioned concerning a caterpillar (descriptions decidedly remarkable!) which had occurred in such numbers as to defoliate its food-plant, and had been compelled to migrate by thousands. I was also told of the appearance, in very large numbers, of a brown butterfly which was believed to be connected with the "worms."

In neither of my two previous visits (1907-9) had *californica* been seen, so I was quite at a loss to place a caterpillar whose food-plant was *Ceanothus* sp.

Next day the problem was solved. On going a mile or two into the hills, *californica* was found in very great numbers. There must have been many thousands of them, and in favored spots they almost filled the air. Being in a wagon, I made little effort to secure specimens, although five were taken at one almost aimless sweep of the net.

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Four days later I made a special trip after *californica*, but, with the exception of three deformed specimens, not one was seen, and during the remainder of my five-week stay not more than a dozen were noticed.

It would be interesting to know if a large influx of this beautiful butterfly was noted in any locality.

Practically every plant of *Ceanothus* was entirely defoliated, and the pupa cases were hanging everywhere. Nine were counted on a twig four inches long, eight on another five inches long, and so on; while some young pine trees about seven feet high looked to be well laden with strange fruit.

The percentage of parasitism appeared to be very small. I did no actual counting of large numbers, but estimated it was no greater than one per cent.

ON THE LARVA OF *PLEUROPRUCHA (DEPTALIA) INSULSARIA* GUEN.

BY LOUIS B. PROUT, LONDON, ENGLAND.

My esteemed correspondent, Dr. Eugenio Giacomelli, of La Rioja, Argentine Republic, recently sent me the description of the larva and pupa of a small Geometrid moth unknown to him, together with imago bred therefrom. Knowing how extremely little had yet been done with the early stages of the Neotropical *Geometridæ*, he naturally hoped that his discovery might prove entirely new. This is not actually the case, for the moth turns out to be the very widely distributed *Pleuroprucha insulsaria* Guen. (var. ? *asthenaria*, Walk.; compare my memoir on the Argentine *Geometridæ*, Trans. Ent. Soc., Lond., 1910, 215.) But as the larva is evidently very variable, and it seems likely that the Southern form constitutes a local race, it is well worth while to give a translation of Dr. Giacomelli's note on his larva. His account of the pupa, both as to its structure and its activity, agrees very exactly with Hulst's (Ent. Amer., 3, 175, 1887, erroneously as *Acidalia "insularia"*).

"Ground color delicate green, more intense dorsally, ventral region glaucous green; above on the central segments three small, crescent-shaped spots, yellow, paler than the ground; mediodorsal and lateral lines also paler. *Setæ* simple, not numerous, short, inconspicuous. Later it changes color as follows: The delicate green becomes glaucous, the longitudinal lines a dull vinous red, laterally and dorsally, between them some round dots of the same colour [the tubercles], bearing the short, simple hairs.

"The larva lives on *Prosopis* (*Mimosæ*) and *Acacia ripari* (*Mimosæ*). It pupated five days after I took it, so that it would appear that the change of colouring indicates that the transformation from caterpillar to chrysalis is near at hand."

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