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large subtriangular patch of bluish-grey pruinescence on each side at suture which connects with the pruinescence on pleura. Abdomen pale grey pruinose, basal tergite black, second and third each with a pair of very large black spots, which are narrowly separated in centre and cover disc except a triangular area on each side anteriorly, fourth tergite with two small black spots in centre anteriorly. Legs black. Wings clear. Calyptræ fuscous. Knobs of halteres pale yellow.

Eyes bare, separated by less than width of anterior ocellus; ocellar bristles parallel; parafacials invisible from side; cheeks linear; vibrissæ short and stout, the adjoining setulae very short and stubby; third antennal segment about twice as long as second; arista almost bare. Thorax with one pair of strong presutural acrostichals and a few weak hairs; three postsutural dorso-centrals; sternopleurals 1:2. Abdomen ovate; fifth sternite small, deeply incised in centre. Mid-tibia with one posterior bristle; hind femur with two preapical antero-ventral bristles; hind tibia with one antero-ventral and one antero-dorsal bristle.

*Female*.—Differs from the male in having the dorsum of thorax pruinose posteriorly, the abdominal spots larger, and the calyptræ white. Interfrontalia opaque black, orbits, face, and cheeks whitish pruinose. Thorax with one or two pairs of weak presutural acrostichals besides the one strong pair. In other respects as the male.

Length 2–3 mm.

*Type*, male, allotype, and three female paratypes, Stannary Hills, North Queensland, about 3000 feet, no date (*Dr. T. Bancroft*).

Named in honour of the collector.

#### SOUTH-AMERICAN SPECIES.

##### Subfamily ANTHOMYINÆ.

##### *Pegomyia pæciloptera*, sp. n.

*Male*.—Black, densely grey pruinose. Head black, orbits, face, and cheeks white pruinose, almost silvery; antennæ and palpi black. Thoracic dorsum with three broad, indefinitely margined brown vittæ. Abdomen with a moderately broad black dorso-central vitta; the larger bristles with a blackish dot at base of each. Legs yellowish brown, femora darker, tarsi black. Wings clear, with a black spot on each of the cross-veins, another over bases of second and third veins and of discal cell, one at apex of first

vein which extends from costa to second vein, a large one over apex of second vein, and a much less distinct one at apex of third vein. Calyptræ white. Halteres yellow.

Eyes separated by a little over width across posterior ocelli; arista pubescent; parafacial at base of antennæ as wide as third antennal segment, narrowed below. Post-humeral bristle duplicated; three or four pairs of weak acrostichals in front of suture; prealar very long. Abdomen depressed; hypopygium small. Fore tibia with one antero-dorsal and one posterior median bristle, apical posterior bristle long, straight; mid-tibia with one antero-dorsal, two postero-dorsal, and two posterior bristles; hind femur with a complete series of irregular antero-ventral bristles and some widely spaced postero-ventral bristles; hind tibia with two postero-dorsal, one antero-ventral, and three antero-dorsal bristles, the posterior surface bare. Costal thorn minute; wing pointed, third vein ending almost in tip.

Length 4–5 mm.

*Type* and paratype, La Plata City, Argentina, 10. vi. 1896 (*O. Thomas*).

This species bears a striking resemblance to *Hylemyia punctipennis*, Wiedemann, but may be separated from it by the shorter-haired arista, larger single spot on outer cross-vein, presence of only two postero-dorsal hind tibial bristles, and absence of posterior setulae on hind tibia.

#### L.—A Note on the Dipterous Subfamily Ditomyinæ, with Descriptions of new Recent and Fossil Forms. By F. W. EDWARDS.

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In a recently published paper\* Keilin has discussed in detail the larval morphology of three European genera formerly included in the Mycetophilidae, subfamily Mycetobiinæ, and has given very strong reasons for considering that *Mycetobia* is closely related to *Anisopus* (*Rhyphus*), while *Ditomyia* and *Symmerus* are widely different and quite unrelated either to *Mycetobia* or any other Mycetophilidae; he has even proposed the new family-name Ditomyiidae for these two genera, considering them to be more closely related to Bibionidae than to Mycetophilidae.

In regard to *Mycetobia*, I have been able to confirm†

\* Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. (9) iii. pp. 33–42, pls. ii–v. (Jan. 1919).

† *Ibid.* (8) xvii. pp. 198–116 (Jan. 1916).

from a study of the adults the conclusion which Keilin had already arrived at from a close examination of the larvae. At his suggestion I have re-examined the adult morphology of *Ditomyia* and *Symmerus*, in order to ascertain whether any characters exist which will mark off these genera sharply from all other Mycetophilidae. The search has in this instance proved almost fruitless: the points of resemblance between these genera and the Ceroplatinae are so numerous and important, and the distinctions between them and the Bibionidae so obvious, that it is difficult not to conclude that the two genera in question must remain within the Mycetophilidae. If the Ditomyiidae be recognised as a distinct family, adult morphology would indicate that at least the same rank should be accorded to Diadocidinae, Pachyneurinae, Bolitophilinae, and Ceroplatinae. This, Dr. Keilin assures me, would be unjustifiable in view of larval morphology.

The following appear to me to be the most important characters of the Ditomyinae:—(1) The rather long vein  $R_{2+3}$ . This is almost the only constant point of difference between the Ditomyinae and all other Mycetophilidae; it is only a relative character, and therefore can hardly be used by itself for family definition; (2) The vestigial subcosta, which in only one case reaches the costa. This provides the readiest distinction from the Ceroplatinae, and is rather a surprising feature considering the decidedly primitive nature of the rest of the venation; (3) The shape of the hypopleurae, which differ from those of most of the other subfamilies in being much less prominent, gently rounded, and not in the least produced backwards. The distinction from the Ceroplatinae in this respect is quite marked, from the Diadocidinae and Bolitophilinae less so. Another small point is (4), the tendency to the development of a strong bristle about the middle of the posterior side of the posterior side of the hind coxae, and of a tuft of strong bristles on each side of the mesonotum just in front of the wing-base. This, however, is not at all well marked in the European forms. It may also be noted (5) that there is a tendency to a strong emargination of the eyes and the development of a "bridge" similar to that of the Sciaridae, but there is no trace of this in the type-genus *Ditomyia*.

On this definition the genera *Arctoneura*, *Casa*, and *Nervijuncta*, placed by Johannsen in the Ceroplatinae, should be transferred to the Ditomyinae; but, on the other hand, *Palaeoplatyura*, which was placed by Johannsen in the Mycetobiinae, will go to the Ceroplatinae.

The known genera of the Ditomyinae may be separated by the following key:—

1. Radio-median cross-vein present; eyes entire, or only moderately emarginate, at any rate not nearly meeting; antennae flattened (Ditomyini) . . . . . 2.
- Radio-median cross-vein obliterated; eyes deeply emarginate above the antennae, with narrow dorsal strips which almost meet in the middle line (in both sexes); antennae slender, cylindrical (Nervijunctini) . . . . . 4.
2. Medio-cubital cross-vein vertical or even slightly outwardly oblique, joining  $Cu_1$  near the base;  $R_{2+3}$  nearly parallel with  $R_{1+5}$ , the base being strongly angulated or arched;  $M_{1+2}$  strongly curved at base,  $M_3$  being straight. . . . . *Centrocnemis*.
- Medio-cubital cross-vein inwardly oblique, in a line with the longer basal portion of  $Cu_1$ ;  $R_{2+3}$  more divergent from  $R_{1+5}$ , less arched at the base;  $M$  evenly forked . . . . . 3.
3. Eyes moderately emarginate;  $R_{2+3}$  not or scarcely longer than the second portion of  $Rs$  . . . . . *Symmerus*.
- Eyes entire;  $R_{2+3}$  much longer than the second portion of  $Rs$  . . . . . *Ditomyia*.
4. Fusion of  $M$  and  $Rs$  very short;  $m-cu$  outwardly oblique;  $R_{2+3}$  shorter than the second section of  $Rs$  . . . . . *Nervijuncta*.
- Fusion of  $M$  and  $Rs$  longer (when  $M$  is complete);  $m-cu$  vertical;  $R_{2+3}$  longer than the second section of  $Rs$  . . . . . 5.
5. Tip of wing truncate (in male only?); veins all well-marked; wings bearing scales in certain areas . . . . . *Arctoneura*.
- Tip of wing not truncate; parts of media and cubitus faint or absent; wings without scales. . . . . [*Arctoneura*, subgen. *Casa*].

*Centrocnemis* was sunk under *Symmerus* by Johannsen, but appears to me to be well-distinguished; it will include all the known Neotropical members of the subfamily, the Holarctic species all remaining in *Symmerus*.

*Centrocnemis fuscinervis*, sp. n.

*Head* dark grey; palpi blackish; antennae dark brown, the scape ochreous. *Thorax* grey, with an ochreous tinge; mesonotum with three separate black stripes, scutellum ochreous; pubescence yellowish, bristles dark brown.

Postnotum and hypopleure bare. *Abdomen* with the first segment blackish, posterior margin ochreous, clothed with long pale hair, without differentiated bristles (remainder of abdomen missing). *Legs* ochreous, tibiae and tarsi somewhat darker; posterior coxae dark; tibial spurs and spines black. Spines of front tibiae not longer than the diameter of the tibia, of middle tibiae longer, of hind tibiae about twice as long as the diameter. *Wings* hyaline; cross-veins, bases of  $R_s$ ,  $R_{2+3}$ , and  $M_{1+2}$ , and terminal portions of all the veins bordered with brown. Microtrichia absent; macrotrichia spread over nearly the whole surface,  $Sc$  reaching to about half the length of  $R$ , gradually fading out and not reaching the costa; basal section of  $R_s$  strongly curved, longer than  $r-m$ ;  $R_{2+3}$  about as long as  $R_s$ , its base almost vertical, sometimes a short stump at the bend; base of  $M_{1+2}$  a little proximal to that of  $R_{2+3}$ . Halteres ochreous.

Wing-length 5.2-6.5 mm.

TASMANIA: Mangalore, two specimens, 4. x. 1913 and 11. ix. 1914 (*A. White*). In the British Museum.

*Centrocnemis aculeata*, sp. n.

*Head* black, somewhat shining; palpi brownish; antennae missing. *Thorax* shining black; shoulders and lateral margins of mesonotum yellowish; pubescence and bristles yellowish; postnotum bare, hypopleure with one or two hairs. *Abdomen* orange; first segment and posterior margins of second, third, and fourth tergites black; most of seventh and eighth tergites brown; eighth segment large, much longer than the seventh. *Legs* with the coxae ochreous; femora ochreous, dark brown at the base, especially the hind pair; spines of front tibiae short, of middle tibiae long, nearly three times as long as the diameter of tibia, black; middle tibial spurs ochreous; hind tibiae and tarsi missing. *Wings* with a very slight yellowish tinge; tip somewhat darkened, the space between  $R_{2+3}$  and the costa more distinctly so. Microtrichia absent; macrotrichia present over the whole surface, except at the base.  $Sc$  very short, but reaching costa. Base of  $R_s$  straight, vertical, not longer than  $r-m$ ;  $R_{2+3}$  a little longer than  $R_s$ , strongly curved at the base. Halteres ochreous.

Length of body 6 mm.; wing 5.2 mm.

TASMANIA: Mount Wellington, 7. x. 1912 (*A. White*), 1 ♀. *Type* in the British Museum.

*Centrocnemis insolita* (Walker).

*Platygura insolita*, Walker, Trans. Linn. Soc. xvii, p. 335 (1856).

This differs from the two Tasmanian species described above in having distinct microtrichia as well as macrotrichia on the wing. The type-species (*C. stigmatica*, Philippi, also from Chile) may agree with *C. insolita* in this respect, but the other South American species in the British Museum (*C. bifasciata*, Williston) has no microtrichia.

†*Symmerus balticus*, sp. n., ♂.

Closely allied to *S. annulatus*, Winn., differing as follows:—Size rather smaller (body 6 mm.). Abdomen unbanded, the first five segments rather light brown, the next two blackish; hypopygium yellow, its structure similar to that of *S. annulatus*, but the anal lamellae rather longer and distinctly narrower (about 5.5 instead of 4.5 times as long as broad), the ninth sternite not clearly visible, but apparently without the two long horny points which occur in *S. annulatus*. Fork of media somewhat shorter than in *S. annulatus*, its base scarcely nearer the base of the wing than is the base of  $R_{2+3}$ .

*Type*, a single male in the British Museum (Geological Department), from the Baltic amber (Miocene) of East Prussia, labelled "No. 13628, Mus. Stantien & Becker. 405. Dr. Richard Klebs." Geol. Dept. no. In. 18679.

This is the first member of the subfamily which has been recorded in the fossil state, though it is probable that *Myctobia defectiva*, Loew MS., mentioned by Meunier (Ann. Soc. Sci. Bruxelles, xxviii. 1901, p. 89) as having no subcosta, may be a *Symmerus*, possibly even identical with *S. balticus*.

*Arctoneura (Casa) wakefeldi*, sp. n., ♀.

*Head*: vertex ochreous, a blackish spot behind each ocellus; ocelli almost in a straight line. Frons and face dark brown, the frons very small, owing to the antennae being inserted close below the narrow "bridge" of the eyes; the "bridge" is incomplete, the eyes being narrowly separated in the middle. Proboscis light brown, palpi darker brown. Antennae yellowish, the first thirteen flagellar joints with a blackish ring in the middle, the last two joints entirely dark. *Thorax* brownish, mesonotum with three dark reddish-brown

stripes, separated by narrower yellowish stripes, which curve outwards some distance behind the front margin and are there connected with elongate yellowish spots on the margin of the mesonotum just in front of the wing-base; the middle dark stripe is also divided by a narrow yellow line. Scutellum with four strong bristles. Pleuræ and postnotum bare. Abdomen dark brown, the hind margin of each segment narrowly pale ochreous; anal cerci yellow. First tergite with a group of four to six strong bristles at each side near the base. Legs ochreous, tibiæ and tarsi somewhat darker. Hind coxæ with several small bristles towards apex, two more near base, one longer and stronger one near the middle. Wings of normal shape, the tip not truncate; venation as in *A. hudsoni* (Marshall), except that  $R_{4+5}$  is not quite so strongly arched, and  $R_{2+3}$  is nearly straight, arched only at the base; costa scarcely extending beyond tip of  $R_{4+5}$ . No trace of scales can be seen, but macrotrichia are present over the greater part of the apical half of the wing, especially in the darkened areas. The stem of the median fork, the basal half of  $M_{1+2}$ , and the base of  $M_3$  are rather faint, the remainder of these veins well-marked, dark brown, as are all the remaining veins—except for a short yellowish portion at the tip of  $R_{2+3}$  and on the costa above it. A large dark brown spot over the base of  $Rs$ , and a smaller one round  $Cu_{1a}$ ; a dark fascia beyond the middle of the wing, darkest towards the costa, leaving a clear spot in the base of cell  $R_{2+3}$ , and a clear streak along base of vein  $M_{1+2}$ , but extending basally along  $Cu_1$  and apically along  $M_3$  and on each side of  $M_{1+2}$ . Some irregular dark clouds on the apical fourth of the wing. Halteres yellowish, base of knob dark.

Length of body 8 mm.; wing  $8 \times 2.8$  mm.

NEW ZEALAND: one female collected by C. M. Wakefield, 1880; no exact data, but probably from Canterbury. Type in the Oxford Museum.

The structure and coloration are both so very much like Marshall's description of *A. hudsoni* that I have very little hesitation in referring this insect to the genus *Arctoneura*, in spite of the striking difference in the shape of the wing. Possibly the truncated wing-tip of *A. hudsoni* may be a male character only, or Marshall may have described a deformed specimen. The absence of scales on the wings, the rather different wing-markings, and the ringed antennæ should suffice to distinguish *A. wakefieldi* from *A. hudsoni*, if either of the above suggestions should prove correct.

There is in some respects an even closer resemblance to *Casa tridens*, Hutton, which, according to Marshall's

description, differs from our species chiefly in the thoracic markings and in the absence of certain portions of the median vein.

Precisely the same portions of this vein are faint in *A. wakefieldi*, which can therefore be safely regarded as forming a complete connecting-link between the genera *Arctoneura* and *Casa*. These two genera should probably be united.

## II.—A Note on the Subfamily Bruchomyiinae (Diptera Nematocera). By F. W. EDWARDS.

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IN a recently published paper\* Alexander has described a remarkable new Tanyderid fly, to which he gives the name *Bruchomyia argentina*, erecting the new subfamily Bruchomyiinae for it, on account of the very wide divergence from the previously known members of the family Tanyderidae. The discovery of a fossil representative of this group in the amber collections in the British Museum is of no little interest, and it is therefore described below. The fossil form is obviously related to *Bruchomyia*, but differs too much from it to be placed in the same genus; it appears to be extremely similar to *Palæosycorax tertiarie*, Meunier (Misc. Ent. xiii. p. 50, 1905), and is certainly congeneric and just possibly conspecific with this insect, but the differences in the number of antennal joints, in the length of the subcosta, and in the male hypopygium seem to indicate a specific difference. Even if these differences prove to be only individual, the incompleteness of Meunier's description (he knew only the male) will justify the description of the specimens under my notice.

### PALÆOSYCORAX, Meunier.

Allied to *Bruchomyia*, Alexander, but differing (*inter alia*) in the 16-jointed antennæ, spurless tibiæ, presence of vein  $Sc_1$ , shorter  $R_2$ , and shorter and not undulated  $Cu_2$ .

#### *Palæosycorax molophilina*, sp. n.

Colour apparently uniformly brownish; pubescence of

\* "A new Subfamily of Tanyderid Flies (Diptera)," Ann. Ent. Soc. Amer. xiii. pp. 402-406, pl. xxxii. (Dec. 1920).