

Notes on Mallophaga.—IV. By GORDON B. THOMPSON,
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ON THE SPECIES DESCRIBED BY MACALISTER
(1869, 1871).

In the course of investigating the whereabouts of the types of the species of Mallophaga I have tried to trace the types of three species described by Macalister. I am greatly indebted to Mr. A. W. Stelfox, of the National Museum of Ireland, for writing numerous letters to the relatives of the late Professor Macalister in an attempt to locate his types. Unfortunately we have been unable to trace them, and they must be regarded for the present as lost.

Both Kellogg (1908) and Harrison (1916), in their lists of the species of Mallophaga, appear to have overlooked one of the two papers written by Macalister, in which he described two species. The following bibliography and synonymy of Macalister's species are given in order that they may present no difficulties in the future.

Macrogyropus dicotylis (Macalister) (1869).

Gyropus dicotylis Macalister, Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond. 1869, pp. 420–23, fig. ; and Quart. J. Micr. Sci. 1869, n.s. ix. p. 420.

Gyropus dicotylis Giebel, Ins. Epiz. 1874, p. 247.

Gyropus dicotylis Piaget, Les Pédiculines, 1880, p. 614.

Gyropus dicotylis Kellogg, Genera Insect. 1908, p. 42.

Gyropus dicotylis Neumann, Bull. Soc. Zool. Fr. 1912, xxxvii. pp. 227–228.

Gyropus dicotylis Harrison, Parasitology, 1916, ix. p. 31.

Macrogyropus dicotylis Ewing, Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus. 1924, lxiii. Art. 20, pp. 25 and 41.

This species was described by Macalister from specimens collected from the skin of a Collared Peccary (*Pecari angulatus* (Cope)) [*Dicotyles torquatus*], which died in the Zoological Gardens, Dublin. *Pecari angulatus* (Cope) ranges from the Southern United States, in forest areas, to Northern Patagonia. The description is quite good and there can be little doubt that it is a good species. Subsequent authors recognized the species, but, having no specimens, gave only translations of the original description. Neumann (1912), although he made no comment on the species in his paper on the genus *Gyropus*, included it in his key. Ewing (1924) erected the genus

Macrogypopus, with a new species, *M. dentatus* Ewing, as genotype, to include *Gypopus dicotylis* Macalister. Ewing's species was also described from specimens off a Peccary (*Pecari angulatus crusuigrum* (Bangs)). He made no further comment on Macalister's species, but included it in a key, separating it from his own species, *M. dentatus*, by its greater size and the presence of a prominent thumb-like process on the inner distal aspect of the tibia.

There are specimens of *M. dicotylis* (Macalister) in the British Museum collection taken off *Pecari angulatus*, British Guiana, Tasororo, xii. 1918 (*G. E. Bodkin*). The species is very large, and is as yet the largest known species of the family Gyropidæ. It can, therefore, be easily recognized.

Lipeurus phœnicopteri Macalister (1871).

Quart. J. Micr. Sci. n.s. xi. pp. 163-164, figs.

The original description and notes run as follows:— (p. 163) "This was obtained from the body of a fine female flamingo (p. 164) (*Phœnicopterus ruber* Temminck) which had been but a short time living in the gardens. I could only find a single individual of the parasite, a female, although I examined the surface carefully. By its elongate body, its absence of trabeculæ, long legs, obtusely setaceous antennæ, and posterior notch, it is plainly a *Lipeurus*, and belongs to the section of the genus characterised by the possession of an elongated head. Its specific characters may be summarised thus:— Glistening white; depressed head; elongated triangular labrum, covered with rows of depressed, rounded, or lenticular depressions, arranged quincuncially in seven or eight series; posterior clypeus with two lateral depressed lines, concave internally; antennæ with the second joint longest; prothorax quadrilateral; first pair of legs short, with a wart-like black dot at the posterior part of the extremity of the femur; abdomen margined with irregular pigment masses, in the form of a slightly sinuated and occasionally interrupted line, the last segment being immaculate and notched. The specimen being a female has simple antennary joints, the fifth being very short and obtuse. The length of the entire insect is a line and a half, and its greatest breadth is about the one-eighth of this.

“ The only other flamingo parasite that I am acquainted with is the *Lipeurus subsignatus* of Nitzsch from the *Phaenicopterus antiquorum* Temm., referred to by Giebel in his *Zeit. f. d. Ges. Natur.* xxviii. p. 384; but this has not got the dotted labrum nor the sinuated abdominal marginal pigment-line. It differs from the *L. squalidus* of the duck in these respects also, and in not having the regular quadrilateral markings on the side of the abdomen.”

It appears to be almost definitely the same as *Esthiopterum ardea* (Linn.), the type-host of which is *Ardea cinerea cinerea* Linn.

Colpocephalum marginatum Macalister (1871).

Quart. J. Micr. Sci. n.s. xi. pp. 164-165, fig.

The original description and notes run as follows:— (p. 164) “ This specimen was obtained from the feathers of the *Ardea comata* * of the South of Europe, and it seems to me to come close to *C. importunum*, Nitzsch, of the *Ardea cinerea*; to *C. nyctarde* Denny, of the *Nycticorax ardeola*; and to *C. vittatum*, Rudow, of the *Ardea ralloides* (*Zeit. f. d. Ges. Nat.* xxvii. p. 469).

“ My specimens are 1-11th of an inch long, of a deep chestnut-brown colour, smooth on the surface, and much darker along the margin than in the middle. Head large, flat; anterior margin of labrum plane, posterior border of occiput concave, temporal lobes large rounded, lateral margin of clypeus deeply sinuated, orbital sinus deep and acute, antennæ small, obscure, clypeus with two dark sepia-brown (p. 165) patches in front of the eye, and with three rounded umber spots at the sides and centre of the anterior border; two light brown lines extend, one on each side, from the lateral notch to the base of the occiput; prothorax subrhomboidal, with a transverse line from angle to angle; mesothorax very short, metathorax not so wide as head; abdomen elliptical, longer in proportion than that in *C. nyctarde*, and not at all claviform, as in *C. importunum*, much paler in the centre than at the side, last segment of the abdomen fringed densely with short close hairs, in a continuous series along the posterior margin, lateral border of the abdomen exhibiting indentations between the somites; femora oval, tibiæ clavate, second joint of the tarsus much longer than the first; the last joint

* *Ardea comata* = *Ardea ralloides* Scopoli.

of the hindermost leg a little longer than that of the middle, and that a little longer than the corresponding segment of the anterior pair. It differs from *C. vittatum* in its more elliptic abdomen and its darker margins."

This species seems to be identical with Rudow's *Colpocephalum vittatum*, which was described from specimens taken off the same host, *Ardea ralloides* Scopoli.

ANCISTRONA PROCELLARIAE WESTWOOD, 1874.

Westwood's description of this species was based on two specimens, both females. One specimen is in the British Museum collection, mounted in balsam, and labelled by C. O. Waterhouse "*Ancistrona procellariæ* Westwood (type), from *Procellaria capensis*, Oct. 15, 1861, R. Brown"; the other is in the Hope Department of the University Museum, Oxford. Through the courtesy of Professor G. D. Hale Carpenter I have been able to examine the latter specimen. It is a dry, pinned specimen bearing a label with "Type" and the reference to the original description on it. These two specimens are unquestionably the same species.

Ancistrona vagelli (Fabricius), 1787.

Pediculus vagelli Fabricius, Mant. Ins. p. 369.

Ancistrona procellariæ Westwood, Thes. Ent. Oxon. 1874, p. 197, pl. xxxvii. fig. 4, a, b, c, d.

Ancistrona gigas Piaget, Tijdschr. Ent. xxvi. 1883, p. 152, pl. ix. fig. 1.

Ancistrona gigas Piaget, Les Pédiculines, Suppl. 1885, pp. 117-119, pl. xii. fig. 8.

Ancistrona gigas Kellogg, New Mallophaga, i. 1896, pp. 150-151, pl. xiii. figs. 1 & 2.

Ancistrona vagelli Harrison, Parasitology, ix. 1916, p. 63.

The above synonymy is according to Harrison (1916). *Pediculus vagelli* Fabricius was described by its author from *Procellaria glacialis*. Fabricius' description is very brief (see below), but the little that can be made of it, and especially the reference to size, convince me that it was this cosmopolitan parasite of petrels which he had before him. Certainly the description will not apply to any other of the petrel parasites. I am, therefore, in agreement with Harrison in reducing *procellariæ* Westwood and *gigas* Piaget to synonyms of *vagelli* Fabricius.

I have been unable to find Piaget's type material of *gigas*; it is neither in the part of his collection now at the British Museum nor is it in the part of his collection at the Leiden Museum, Holland. He apparently had only a single female.

The males of this species appear to be much rarer than the females.

The original description of Fabricius's *vagelli* is as follows:—"P. ovatus pallidus, thorace lineis duabus fuscis. Habitat in *Procellaria glacialis* Dom. Mohr. Magnus, ovatus totus pallidus, thorace solo lineis duabus postice cœuntibus nigris."

The type-host of *Ancistrona vagelli* (Fabricius) is *Fulmarus glacialis glacialis* (Linn.).

REFERENCES.

- HARRISON. 1916. 'Parasitology,' ix. pp. 1-156.
KELLOGG. 1908. 'Genera Insectorum: Mallophaga,' Brussels.