TWO REMARKABLE NEW MALLOPHAGAN GENERA
FROM THE COLUMBIDAE.

By Theresa Clay, B.Sc., and Col. R. Meinertzhagen.

Hitherto the species of Ischnoceran Mallophaga found on the
columbidae have been confined to those genera in which the head
is circumfasciate. The first of these new genera, Soricella, resembles
Philopterus in the formation of the anterior margin of the clypeus
and in its general form. It is apparent, however, that in reality
the genus is much closer to Columbicola, and except for the anterior
margin of the head resembles a shortened and broadened species
of this latter genus. It is probable that Soricella has been derived
from Columbicola, the latter being of a more primitive type.

Soricella gen. nov.

Forehead as shown in Fig. 1a; hindhead with large rounded
temples. Male genitalia, thorax and abdomen with characters as in
Columbicola, the two latter being considerably shorter and broader.
The legs are comparatively large. Unlike the sluggish Philopterids,
members of this genus are fast movers.

Genotype Soricella streptopeliae sp. nov.

Soricella streptopeliae sp. n.

Head with characters as for genus (Fig. 1a). Prothorax rectangular in shape; meso-metathorax with rounded posterior margin
bearing a lateral clump of four dorsal hairs each side. Abdomen
somewhat elongated with posterior margin of the last segment
rounded, with small median emargination in the ♂ and bifid in the ♀.
Abdominal sclerites and chaetotaxy arranged as in Columbicola
columbica Linné. Genitalia of the ♂ with short basal plate, paramera
with internal margins flattened where approximated distally, endo-
merea short narrow rods.

Host: Streptopelia cinacea barbara Antin. from Uganda.
Holotype: ♂. Material examined: 3 ♂♂, 2 ♀♀.

Soricella streptopeliae capicola subsp. n.

This subspecies is separated from S. s. streptopeliae by having
the clypeus broader, with its sides more rounded; the internal band
of the clypeus does not pass so far posteriorly and the clypeal spines
are somewhat finer.

Host: Streptopelia capicola tropica Reichw. from Kenya.
Holotype: ♂. Material examined: 3 ♂♂, 2 ♀♀.
Fig. 1.—Foreheads of (a) Soricella streptopeliae; (b) Turturicola salimalii; (c) Columbicola columbae Linne.
Fig. 1.—Foreheads of (a) Soricella streptopeliae; (b) Tarturicola salimalii; (c) Columbicola columbae Linne.