

the bark but not the year later. He referred to a peculiar form found in the winter time under the bark of dead orange trees in all stages of existence. Mr. Heidemann thinks that the *Aradidæ* feed on fungi. Mr. Schwarz stated that, in his experience, the family may be divided into two classes, according to food habits, the one appearing to feed upon a blackish mould under the bark, while others live outside of the bark of dead trees, upon a whitish fungus. Mr. Caudell stated that in Oklahoma he had found the same species two years in succession on a burned red-oak tree.

—The second paper of the evening, by Dr. Dyar, was entitled "A New Species of *Bertholdia*," the description being accompanied by the exhibition of specimens of the new form, *B. soror*, and also of three allied species.

A NEW SPECIES OF BERTHOLDIA.

By HARRISON G. DYAR.

Bertholdia soror n. sp.

Head brown, orbits crimson, palpi white, crimson above; thorax russet brown with a few red scales, edges of tegulæ grayish; abdomen crimson above, white below, with lateral black dots; legs white, knees gray, fore femora red above. Fore wings lilacine gray, the basal half irregularly suffused with light ochereous brown; an oval white spot on the middle of vein 1; subapical hyaline area shaped as in *philotera*, faintly edged with reddish, but without a black border and the dots on the veins 5 and 6 are faint and gray. Hind wings white, semihyaline, inner margin pink. Expanse 32-34 mm; one male, two females; Venezuela (Hrdlicka). U. S. Nat. Museum, type no. 4252.

Synopsis of Species.

Hind wings smoky gray, darkest on the outer edge.

Fore wing brown; hyaline space dentate, its upper portion retracted; dot on vein 1 yellow..... *philotera* Druce.

Hind wings nearly hyaline, a narrow gray terminal line.

Fore wing gray; hyaline space dentate, its upper portion not retracted; dot on vein 1 yellow.... *specularis* H.—S.

Hind wings white without gray border, but rarely a touch of gray on the veins in the female.

Tegulæ not white bordered.

Hyaline patch dentate.

Spot on vein 1 yellow or absent... *schausiana* Dyar.

Spot on vein 1 white..... *soror* Dyar.

Hyaline patch not dentate, prolonged below toward the enlarged yellow dots..... *trigona* Grote.

Tegulæ white bordered, forming a white spot in the middle of the collar.

Fore wing with purple discal area and white submarginal line..... *albipuncta* Schaus.

As it seemed from the description that the species of this genus were distinguished largely by color, discussion followed in regard to the taxonomic value of color. Dr. Gill spoke of the great variation in the value of color in different groups of animals. In birds, for example, the color seems to be very constant, while in certain mammals it is very variable in the same species, although the modern school of mammalogists are coming to use color variations as specific. With shells there is great color variation. Dr. Dyar said that in some groups of moths the color was variable within specific limits. Mr. Schwarz said that in beetles the value of color differed in different groups. In the Cicindelidæ there is considerable variation, but it follows a definite law as pointed out by Dr. Horn. In the Coccinellidæ and Chrysomelidæ, many species are very variable, but there the law of variation is obscure, while occasionally species may occur which are perfectly constant in color. Mr. Ashmead said that the wing pattern is of considerable importance in the classification of the parasitic Hymenoptera. In such genera as *Perissopterus*, *Decatoma*, *Cerapterocerus*, *Eusemion*, *Chiropachys*, *Habrolepis*, and many others, the color pattern of the wing is of generic value. Dr. Gill said that most naturalists refused to use color in a generic sense, but some, like Seebohm in the Turdidæ, have used it extensively. Mr. Ashmead spoke of the eggs of birds as possessing specific characters. Dr. Gill said that the characters used by oologists were of little value.

Mr. Ashmead said that the eggs of insects frequently possess valuable characters, even of family rank, such as those of the Pentatomidæ and certain groups of Lepidoptera. Mr. Schwarz referred to Rupertsberger's rare work on the classification of insects from the eggs, and Dr. Dyar referred to Chapman's work on the eggs of Lepidoptera.

—The third paper of the evening was by Mr. Schwarz, entitled :

ON THE INSECT FAUNA OF THE MISTLETOE.

By E. A. SCHWARZ.¹

Kaltenbach mentions four species of insects living upon *Viscum album* in Europe, viz., *Psylla visci* Curt. (*exophila* Frfd.), *Aspidiotus visci* Frfd., and two Cerambycid beetles of the genus *Pogonocherus*. The latter, however, have been bred