

—Mr. Caudell presented for publication the following paper :

**THE SYNONYMY OF *ÆDIPODA CINCTA* THOMAS.**

By A. N. CAUDELL.

In 1870,\* Thomas described his *Ædipoda cincta*, and a curious condition has followed, for we now have two species based on that one description—*Mestobregma cinctum* and *Trimerotropis cincta*. It is obvious that one must be changed, as two specific names cannot properly be based on one description.

Six years after making the original description Thomas referred his species with doubt to the genus *Mestobregma*,† and four years later treated of it under that genus ‡ But at that time the genera were not clearly defined and the characters used by Thomas as of generic value were inadequate for the separation of the two insects under discussion. In 1884,§ Saussure located Thomas' species, from his description, in the genus *Trimerotropis*.|| A careful study of Thomas' descriptions shows that they apply much better to a species of *Trimerotropis* than to a member of the genus *Mestobregma*. While many of the characters given apply equally well to either, certain ones apply only to *Trimerotropis*. Such are the following: Disk of the posterior lobe of the pronotum nearly flat and with the posterior angle greater than a right angle; median carina of the thorax only a raised line; posterior femora not reaching the tip of the abdomen in the female. No character mentioned in the description is inapplicable to a member of the genus *Trimerotropis*, and the type mentioned by McNeill¶ belongs to that genus. Taken all together, it seems well to consider *Trimerotropis cincta* to be the species eligibly based on Thomas' original description. This being accepted, it leaves the insect now known as *Mestobregma cinctum* to be dealt with. As a new specific name seems inevitable, I propose the name *thomasi*. The synonymy of the two species will thus stand as follows:

1. ***Trimerotropis cincta* Thomas.**

*Ædipoda cincta* Thomas.

*Mestobregma cinctum* Thomas (not Bruner, Scudder, etc.).

2. ***Mestobregma thomasi* Caudell.**

*Mestobregma cinctum* Bruner, Scudder, etc. (not Thomas).

\* Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci., Phila., pp 80-81, 1870.

† Bull. Ill. Mus. Nat. Hist., 1, p. 65, 1876.

‡ Rept. Ent. Ill., ix. pp. 90, 95, 113-114, 1880.

§ Prodr. *Ædip.*, pp. 171-172, 1884.

|| The insect Saussure had before him, however, was not Thomas' species, but one described some years previous by Scudder as *Trimerotropis vinculata*.

¶ Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., xxiii, pp. 414-415, 1901.