

A NEW SPECIES OF *ROPTRONIA*.

By WILLIAM H. ASHMEAD.

The following new species in the rare genus *Roptronia* Prov. was taken by Prof. H. Garman, of the State College of Kentucky, at Lexington, Ky., and after whom I take pleasure in naming the species.

The genus, as originally described, was placed by Abbé Provancher in the family *Braconidæ*, but was subsequently removed by him to the subfamily *Helorinæ* in the *Proctotrypidæ*. From the imperfect figure of the venation given by Provancher, and before I had seen a specimen for examination, I was inclined to doubt the correctness of this last view of the learned Abbé's, and placed the genus doubtfully among the aberrant group *Pachylommata* in the *Braconidæ*. Since that time, however, I have seen three representatives of the genus, and a careful study of these specimens convinces me that Provancher was correct in removing the genus to the *Helorinæ*. The venation is somewhat similar to the genus *Monomachus* Westw., and seems to afford a connecting link between this genus and the genus *Proctotrypes* Latr.

Monomachus should also be placed with the *Helorinæ*.

Roptronia garmani, n. sp.

♂.—Length 7.5 mm. Black; head and thorax rugoso-punctate, pubescent; front coxæ, except a spot at base beneath, trochanters, except spot above, tips of femora and anterior tibiæ and tarsi, spot at apex of middle coxæ, second joint of trochanters, tibiæ beneath and narrowly at base and apex and their tarsi, second joint of hind trochanters and basal one-third of hind tibiæ, pale ferruginous or pale yellowish; tegulæ and prothoracic tubercles ferruginous. Head transverse-quadrate, the temples as wide as the eyes; mandibles dull ferruginous, bidentate at apex, the upper tooth longer than the lower; maxillary palpi 5-jointed, labials 4-jointed, the last joint dark fuscous. Antennæ 14-jointed, filiform, tapering off at apex. Thorax, with the mesonotal furrows rather broad, distinct, slightly crenulate, especially posteriorly; metathorax rugose, rounded off posteriorly, the spiracles small oval. Abdomen with a long petiole, the petiole being fully as long as the hind femora, or slightly longer, shining, but fluted above, and somewhat rugose basally, smoother and punctate towards apex and beneath, pubescent, body of abdomen compressed, viewed from the side somewhat triangular, about as long as the petiole, highly polished, the first segment occupying fully two-thirds the whole length, the following segments short, subequal.

Hab.—Lexington, Ky. (Prof. H. Garman.)

Quite distinct from *R. pediculata* Prov. in its much larger size and in the color of legs and abdomen. In *R. pediculata* the abdomen is red, the hind legs black, &c.

I add below the description of another species discovered among the collection of *Braconidæ*, belonging to the American Entomological Society, now in my hands for examination and study.

Roptronia californica, n. sp.

♂.—Length 5.5 mm. Pale ferruginous; spot on vertex enclosing the ocelli and extending forward to base of antennæ, occipital foramen, clypeal spiracles, prothorax above anteriorly and beneath, mesopleura, metathorax and abdominal petiole, black; eyes brown; antennæ, except pedicel, brown, 14-jointed; legs pale brownish-yellow; wings hyaline, the stigma and veins brown.

This species structurally does not differ greatly from *R. garmani*, except in having the head, except vertex and face, the mesonotum and the scutellum, except at apex, smooth and almost impunctate; the mesopleura, except space beneath wings, are closely punctate, while the metathorax is rugose. The venation is almost identical in the two species, except in *californica*, the first abscissa of the radius is perpendicular and not longer than the width of the stigma, while in *garmani* it is oblique and more than twice longer than the width of the stigma. Another character not noted in the other two species is that the postscutellum is conically produced, viewed from the side its apex reaches an elevation above the disk of the scutellum.

Hab.—Southern California.

The three species now known in this genus may be tabulated as follows :

Head and thorax black, rugose; postscutellum normal.

Abdomen black; legs, except tips of anterior and middle femora and their tibiæ and tarsi, mostly black. ♂. Length 7.5 mm.

R. garmani Ashm.

Abdomen red; legs, except coxæ and hind legs which are black. rufous. ♀. Length 6.75 mm.....

Head, except spot on vertex and frons, mesonotum, scutellum and abdomen, except the petiole, pale ferruginous; postscutellum conically elevated; legs pale brownish-yellow. ♂. Length 5.5 mm.

R. californica Ashm.

—Mr. Howard presented the following :

ON SOME PARASITES OF COCCIDÆ, WITH DESCRIPTIONS
OF TWO NEW GENERA OF APHELININÆ.

By L. O. HOWARD.

It had been my intention to simply submit for publication the descriptions which follow, of two new genera of Aphelininæ,