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UNMOTHERLY APHIDS.

On October 26th the members mentioned noticed the oviparous females of *Siphonophora tiliæ* descending the trunk of a large Tulip tree in the grounds of the Department of Agriculture in considerable numbers. High up on the trunk of the tree a cast skin of *Cicada pruinosæ* was noticed upon which the plant-lice were observed to be crawling in considerable numbers. Upon removing the pupa-skin from the tree it was found to be stocked with the eggs of the *Siphonophora*. The legs were fairly lined with rows of the eggs. The conclusion drawn was that through the faulty instinct of the mother Aphids these eggs, or at least the young hatching from them, would probably perish through the pupa-shell being dislodged during the winter.

In the discussion of this paper Mr. Schwarz said that he dissented entirely from the conclusions arrived at by the authors of the paper, and remarked that it is a well known fact that by far the largest portion of the winter eggs of Aphids laid on the trunks or branches of trees are washed off and destroyed during winter and early spring by the rains or water from melting snow running down the bark. It appeared to him that the eggs laid on the dry pupa-skin of Cicadas are protected from these accidents, and since the Cicada skins so far as they do not drop soon after the hatching of the Cicadas usually remain attached to a tree for a year or longer, it would seem that these Aphid eggs had a greater chance to survive than those laid on the bark.

Mr. Banks read the following paper :

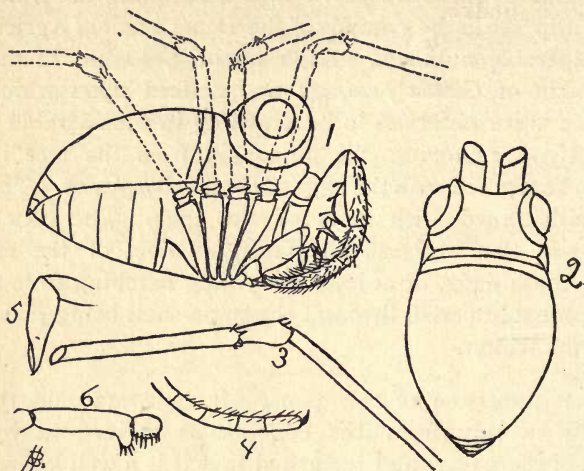
A NEW GENUS OF PHALANGIIDÆ.

BY NATHAN BANKS.

While collecting in some woods near the seashore on Long Island, N. Y., in July, 1890, I found under several rotten logs a very curious Phalangid. It was exceedingly difficult to capture, as it ran with amazing swiftness when the log was overturned. I succeeded in capturing several specimens ; in nearly all cases, however, the legs dropped off.

The principal peculiarity of the animal is the enormous size of the eyes and eye-tubercle. I know of no genus of *Phalangidia* that has such large eyes. It is a true Phalangid, and be-

longs to the sub-family Phalangiidæ. The principal characters may be seen in the following description of the genus and species :



Caddo agilis.—1, side view ; 2, dorsal view ; 3, part of leg ; 4, end of tarsus ; 5, mandible ; 6, part of palpus.

*Caddo** nov. gen.

One claw to each tarsus ; palpal claw present ; fifth joint of palpi longer than the fourth ; three large spines on lower part of the second joint ; front margin of cephalothorax without spines ; ocular tubercle covering the greater part of cephalothorax, wider than long, smooth, with a broad median furrow ; eyes very large at each side of ocular tubercle ; body soft and smooth, no apparent segmentation to dorsum of abdomen except at tip ; feet slender ; venter apparently of seven segments.

Caddo agilis nov. sp.

Length, 1.3 mm. ; width of abdomen, 9 mm. ; width of ocelliferous tubercle, 75 μ m. ; color, light brownish, lighter beneath, ocelliferous tubercle yellowish, eyes surrounded by black rings, palpi pale testaceous, coxæ yellowish, legs brown, lighter toward the tips ; abdomen purplish brown, with small, lighter patches.

Palpi with many stiff bristles on joints 3, 4, and 5 ; a few on joints 1 and 2 ; tip of joint 2 with a projection internally, at the end of which are several stiff bristles ; several bristles at tip of femora and two near tip of patellæ ; tarsi hairy, one transverse suture near base of abdomen, three near the tip of abdomen, tarsi 18-jointed, basal joints longest.

*An ancient Indian Tribe.

Dr. Gill, referring to the fact that Mr. Banks had taken an ancient Indian tribal name for his new genus, urged the advisability of employing names, where possible, referable to, or descriptive of, some peculiarity of the animal, rather than Indian or other irrelevant terms, or manufactured, or as they are commonly called, "nonsense" names.

Dr. Stiles urged that the rules recently promulgated by the International Congress of Zoologists at Paris be adhered to, and stated that the general zoologist has rights in the laws of nomenclature above the specialist, and the latter should yield to the former and adopt for his special and limited branch the general rules deemed best for the entire zoological or biological field.

Dr. Fox said that the code would not hold with the ornithologists of Great Britain and the United States, who have their own rules, in which the name of a species served the purpose of a mere number and need necessarily have no significance, either as to origin or meaning. The subject was discussed further at considerable length by the persons already mentioned and others, and finally, on motion of Dr. Stiles, a committee was appointed to bring up for future discussion and action by the Society the code of rules adopted by the Paris Congress.

Dr. Marx presented some remarks on the geographical distribution of spiders, in which he said that the Drassidæ, formerly supposed to be boreal in habitat are now found to occur in the tropics in abundance, and that as a matter of fact we have not a single family that is exclusively northern in range. In the Attidæ, however, certain genera may prove to be altogether boreal, but the family is not sufficiently worked up to admit a positive statement in this regard.

DECEMBER 3RD, 1891.

President Marx in the chair. Sixteen members present.

Under the head of short notes Mr. Howard said that Mr. Lugger, on page 61 of Volume I of the Proceedings of this Society, records *Mantis (Stagmomantis) carolina* as found on Smithsonian grounds November 11, 1886, and stated that as