XIV.—A Contribution towards the Insect Fauna of French Oceania.—Part II. By L. Evelyn Cheesman, F.Z.S., F.E.S.

The material for this paper forms part of the St. George Collection made upon two groups of islands in the South Pacific: namely, the Tuamotus and the Marquesas; also of my own collection from three islands of the Society group.

For the work which I have personally done on this material in the following paper and in Part I. (Trans. Ent. Soc. p. 147, 1927), and in papers published elsewhere, I have gratefully to acknowledge the aid of a research grant from the Royal Society.

DERMAPTERA.


Numerous among coconut-shells and rubbish on the coast; also in the valleys on the under surface of "taro" leaves.


2. Chaelisoche sp.

Society Is.: Tahiti, sea-level, 1 ♂; Lake Vaihiria, 1 ♀, in a tree-hole among rotting leaves. (One ♀ taken on Hiva-oa, Marquesas Is., is possibly a variety of this species.)

3. Sparattina (Sponghora) nigrovufa, Burr, Termes, Fuzet. xxv. p. 4, pl. xx. fig. 3 (1902) (New Guinea).

Society Is.: Raiatea, Valley Vaiurumai, 5 ♂, 4 ♀. Numbers in flight apparently disturbed by the recent cutting of low scrub in a vanilla plantation.


This small species is widely distributed throughout tropical and sub-tropical regions.

“This species I have found in Hawaiian Islands abundantly on plants imported from Samoa.”—R. C. L. Perkins.


Marquesas Is.: Nuka-hiva, 5 ♀, ♀; Hiva-oa, 1 ♂ (1 ♂ var.); Fatu-hiva, 1 ♀, Jan. 1925 (St. George Exp.). Society Is.: Tahiti, Lake Vaihira, 2 ♀ ♀, in a tree-hole with rotting leaves (one ♀ with immaculate femora); Vallée de la Mission, 2 ♀ ♀. Common under stones on all these islands.


Tahiti, Papeno Valley, March 1925 (L. E. C.).


Taken in a nest with eggs in a crack of a tree, Vallée de Ste. Amélie at 3000 ft.

My thanks are due to Dr. R. C. L. Perkins for kindly naming some of these species.

Insect Fauna of French Oceania.

HYMENOPTERA (ACULEATA).

APOIDEA.

Megachilidae.


Tuamotu Arch.: Napuka, 1 ♂, Feb. 1925 (St. George Exp.). Society Is.: Raiatea, 1 ♂; Bora Bora, 2 ♂, 1 ♀, June 1925 (L. E. C.).

Not numerous. All specimens from the Society Is. were taken on the blossoms of a trailing bean near the shore.


Specimens from Tahiti were compared with the type (♀) from the Saunders Collection in the Hope Museum at Oxford.

In 1908, Kohl (Denk. Akad. Wiss. Wien, Bd. lxxxi. p. 308) added the following emendations to the original description:—Die Gesichtstuberkeil ist ganz gut ausgebildet, darum trifft der Ausdruck ‘fronte subtuberculata’ nicht zu. —Die Behaarung des Prothorax ist grossenteils weiss, ebenso sind es Stellen auf dem Mittelsegment und neben dem Schildchen, und daher ist der Thorax nicht streng ‘nigriganti pilosus’ zu nennen. Schwarzlich ist vorzüglich die Behaarung der Thoraxseiten und des Brust.”

Marquesas Is., Nuku-hiva, 1 ♂, 1 ♀; Hiva-oa, 3 ♀, Jan. 1925 (St. George Exp.). Society Is.: Tahiti, Papete, 2 ♀, 8. iii. 25; Papeno, 2 ♀, 15. iv. 25; Taravao, 1 ♀, 9. vii. 25; Raiatea, 1 ♀, 10. v. 25; Bora Bora, 1 ♀, 2 ♀, 10. vi. 25 (L. E. C.). Specimens in the B.M. from Fiji, Samoa, Rarotonga.

Numerous on all the islands. The “hu-hu” (Tahitian); nests in door-posts, beams, etc.

SPHECOIDEA.

Sphagidae.


Marquesas Is.: Nuku-hiva, Fatu-hiva, Hiva-oa, 3 ♂ ♂, 12♂.