

EPHEMERIDÆ TAKEN BY MR. McLACHLAN IN THE DISTRICT OF
THE LAC DE JOUX (SWISS JURA) IN 1898.

BY THE REV. A. E. EATON, M.A., F.E.S.

[The insects noticed below were taken during a stay in a little-known corner of the Canton Vaud from July 25th to August 10th. No systematic search for *Ephemeridæ* was attempted. Some general notes on the district will be given later when dealing with another group.—R. McLACHLAN].

EPHEMERELLA *IGNITA*, Poda.—2 ♀ im., rather small.

CÆNIS *DIMIDIATA*, Steph.—6 examples, not all adult. Abundant at Lac Brenet.

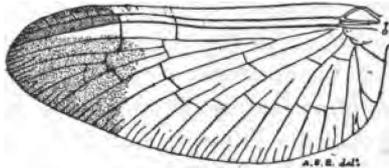
BAËTIS *RHODANI*, Pict.—1 ♀ im.

BAËTIS sp.—?.—1 ♀ im., fragmentary.

BAËTIS *NUBECULARIS*, *sp. nov.*

1 ♂ im., defective in legs and setæ.

Imago (dried) ♂. Thorax above pitch-black; at the sides browner and varied with a lighter colour. Abdomen pitch-brown; after the 6th segment opaque, but anteriorly translucent with narrowly opaque joinings. Setæ whitish sepia-grey, the joinings from certain standpoints simply opaque or else darker grey. Fore-leg pitch-brown; the femur towards its lower edge lighter or translucent. Wings vitreous; the fore-wing (as shown in the annexed figure) tinted for some distance at the apex with light pitch-grey, and this more distinctly in the pterostigmatic region, and the adjoining portion of the submarginal area, than elsewhere; the stronger neuration piceous or bistre-brown, the two exterior ranks of cross veinlets anterior to the præbrachial nervure being of the darker tint. Length of wing, 7.10 mm.



Hab.: Source de l'Orbe, Canton Vaud; 1 ♂ im., August 2nd, 1898 (*McLachlan*). The clouding of the wing is analogous to what is seen in the North American *Blasturus nebulosus*, but is less rounded. In being particoloured the wing differs from that of all other known European species of the genus.

EPEORUS *ASSIMILIS*, Etn.—19 ♂ im. Absolutely swarmed along the road between the Source de l'Orbe and the town of Vallorbe on the afternoon of August 3rd, during a succession of violent thunderstorms.

RHITHROGENA *SEMICOLORATA*, Curt.—3 ♂, 1 ♀ im. One ♂ has the wings hardly at all tinted; another ♂ exhibits typical colouration, and is matched by the ♀; the third ♂ is of the variety described as "*Variation I*" (the *semicolorata* of Pictet, not of Curtis) in *Trans. Linn. Soc. London*, ser. 2, Zool., vol. iii, p. 257.

RHITHROGENA *AURANTIACA*, Burm.—1 ♂ im.

ECDYURUS HELVETICUS, Etn.—3 ♂ and 3 ♀ im., in company with *Epeorus assimilis*.

ECDYURUS VENOSUS, F.—1 ♂ im., and perhaps 1 ♂ and 2 ♀ subim. Lac de Joux.

ECDYURUS FLUMINUM, Pict.—1 ♂ subim. Lac de Joux.

ECDYURUS LATERALIS, Curt.—1 ♀ im.

Seaton, Devon :

September 23rd, 1898.

HOMALOTA (RHOPLOCERA) CLAVIGERA, SCRIBA (*CLAVICORNIS* EPP.): AN ADDITION TO THE LIST OF BRITISH *STAPHYLINIDÆ*.

BY G. C. CHAMPION, F.Z.S.

Some months ago Mr. E. G. Elliman, of Chesham, sent me a specimen of a peculiar *Homalota* for examination, and as the species was quite unknown to me, I suggested that he should try and obtain more of it. This he has now succeeded in doing, five examples in all having been found by him at Tring, in rotten leaves, lying in a ditch, at the base of one of the southern slopes of the Chiltern Hills. The insect proves to be referable to *H. clavigera*, Scriba (Stett. ent. Zeit., 1859, p. 414), subsequently described by Eppelsheim (Deutsche ent. Zeitschr., 1878, p. 40) as a *Gyrophæna*, under the name of *G. clavicornis*, a widely distributed species on the continent, occurring rarely in France (Mareil-Marly, near Paris), Germany, Austria, Hungary, Italy, Transsylvania, the Caucasus, &c. Its principal characters are sufficiently expressed in Scriba's diagnosis: "Nigra, nitida, minus dense griseo-pubescentis, antennis validis apicem versus valde incrassatis, antennarum basi pedibusque testaceis, thorace transversim subquadrato, æquali, abdomine supra segmentis anterioribus parce subtiliter punctatis, posterioribus lævigatis." It may also be noted that the head is much narrower than the thorax, and the thorax narrower than the elytra, so that the body appears to be widened from the head downwards, the general shape being very like that of *Gyrophæna strictula*, Er. (as noted by Eppelsheim), except that it is much narrower. The head is small and somewhat rounded, subparallel immediately behind the eyes, and has a shallow longitudinal depression or groove down the centre. The antennæ are very short, not reaching the base of the thorax, and strongly incrassate, joints 4—10 becoming more and more transverse, 11 about as long as 9 and 10 united. The abdomen is comparatively broad and parallel-sided. Some of the specimens have the head more distinctly channelled, and these are probably

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“ We ought to attach more importance to observed facts than to theories, and to believe in theories then only when they agree with the facts.”—*Aristotle*.

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