

VIII. NOTES ON SOME SPECIES OF CHALCIDOIDEA IN
THE CARNEGIE MUSEUM.

BY HUGO KAHL.

The question of the identity and location of the type of the genus *Pentasmicra* Ashmead having been raised in a letter written by Mr. A. B. Gahan, of the United States National Museum, to Dr. W. J. Holland, the latter requested me to investigate the subject.

I discover that there is only one specimen labeled *Pentasmicra* in the collection upon which Ashmead founded his memoir upon the *Chalcidoidea* published by the Carnegie Museum (*Memoirs Carnegie Museum*, Vol. 1, 1904, pp. 225-551). On page 252 Ashmead states that the type of his new genus is "*P. brasiliensis* Ashmead." The single individual assigned to the genus *Pentasmicra* in the collection unfortunately bears no specific name on the label. It, however, agrees in the main with the diagnosis of the genus given on pages 252 and 455 by Ashmead. It can not possibly be referred to any of Walker's species of the genus *Smicra* (*Smiera*) referred by Ashmead to his new genus. It differs in size, as well as in its other features, from the insects named by Walker. There seems to be but one conclusion possible, and that is that Ashmead carelessly neglected to write the specific name upon the label, and that the specimen bearing the generic name in his own handwriting must be regarded as the type of the genus which he has erected in his work. If there were any other individuals of the genus in the collection, we would be left in doubt, but this unique specimen, bearing Ashmead's generic name, must be chosen as the *lectotype* and the specific name *brasiliensis*, which he gave it in his paper, should be supplied.

As Ashmead's description is generic, and he has failed to give in his work a close description of the insect, I supply the deficiency.

***Pentasmicra brasiliensis* Ashmead.**

Pentasmicra brasiliensis Ashmead, Type, ♀. Length of body from front of head to the apex of the abdomen 6 mm. Color yellow. Occiput along the foramen with a transverse, black band, which is

very narrow at its middle and greatly expanded laterally. Scape of the antennæ yellow, bordered on the inner side with a black line; the flagellum below and the entire pedicel rufous; the rest of the flagellum above dusky brown, this color being more intense on the apical half. The distance between a posterior ocellus and the eye is distinctly less than the width of the ocellus. The left mandible is plainly bidentate; the dentition dark brown. The right mandible is concealed, but with the sides of its dark-brown apex seen in an oblique light at first glance presents the appearance of a third tooth, which may have misled Ashmead, as it at first misled me, until I examined the mandible of the opposite side. The middle lobe of mesonotum has a transverse black stripe, occupying a little more than one-third of the anterior margin, and two longitudinal outwardly curved, blackish lines, connected with the lateral ends of the antero-marginal stripe, and connected with each other at the posterior third of this lobe; thus the antero-marginal stripe and the two curved lines form together a circle, and from the posterior end of this circle extends apparently a blackish line to the posterior margin of the lobe. The pin has unfortunately been thrust through the body behind the circular mark, and this extended line can not be distinctly defined. Scapula with its anterior margin and a short longitudinal stripe near its inner margin blackish. Axilla with the inner corners black, this color extending narrowly across the anterior margin of the scutellum. Scutellum with a blackish, reverted T-mark, the stem of which, very narrow and pointed, reaches the anterior border; its rather short cross-line, pointed at each end, rests on the posterior fifth of the scutellum. The scutellum ends in a small slightly concave plate, the distal margin of which is gently emarginate, and its lateral, semitranslucent corners only slightly produced. The breast between the anterior and middle pairs of legs black, and this color extends dorsad along the anterior margin of episternum; the ventral portion of metathorax between the posterior pair of legs black. The posterior coxæ above with the apical socket black; the posterior femora each on inner side at base near dorsal margin with a short, longitudinal, blackish-brown stripe; they are armed along the externo-ventral edge with five strong teeth, which have their apical halves black; the distance between the two large basal teeth of both the femora is about twice as great as the distance between the other large teeth; the right femur has an additional,

sharply pointed, sixth tooth, small, but distinct, and situated midway between the two large basal teeth; on the left femur is seen an extremely minute, black tubercle between the two large basal teeth and immediately distad of the apical tooth a short, blunt, black tubercle; the two large basal teeth are acute, the third less so, and the fourth and fifth are blunt at apex; the posterior tibiae narrowly bordered with black along the externo-ventral edge, and along the middle of the dorsal edge there is an oblong reddish-brown spot; tarsi with the extreme apex dark brown. Abdomen conical, its extreme apex black, reaching almost as far distad as the apices of the posterior femora, its petiole short, only as long as wide. Wings hyaline with brown veins, the marginal and post-marginal veins of nearly equal length, each about four times longer than the stigmal vein.

It is worthy of note that Ashmead says that the "eyes are large, occupying nearly the whole sides of the head," but in the specimen they are not more prominent and enlarged than in "*?Hexasmicra trinidadensis*" Ashmead, "*?Hexasmicra brasiliensis*" Ashmead, and Ashmead's species of the genus *Spilochalcis*. Ashmead did not take into consideration the irregularity in the dentition of the posterior femora of the specimen here treated when naming it *Pentasmicra*. He also places *Smicra cerina* Walker in *Pentasmicra*. Walker in his table does place it with those with five strong teeth on the hind femora, but in his description of *S. cerina* he writes: "hind-femora armed with six teeth, five of which are large."

Genus **Hexasmicra** etc.

When Ashmead (p. 252) erected the genus *Hexasmicra*, he chose as the type species *Smicra* (*Smiera*) *transversa* Walker, and on page 455 he referred with doubt to *Hexasmicra* two new species, *?Hexasmicra trinidadensis* Ashmead and *?Hexasmicra brasiliensis* Ashmead, each represented by a single specimen. The former is labeled by Ashmead "*Xanthosmicra trinidadensis* Ashm. type." *Hexasmicra brasiliensis* is so labeled, but without a question-mark and without "Type" written on the label. This seems to show that Ashmead was not quite satisfied with the generic position of the two species, and intended probably to remove them from association with Walker's dark, robust, and large species. Both of these two species of Ash-

mead are generically identical, and should they finally be removed from *Hexasmicra*, it would be proper to retain Ashmead's manuscript name *Xanthosmicra* with his *trinidadensis* as the type species. Both species differ from *Hexasmicra transversa* Walker in having the petiole long (pp. 454-455), the posterior femora abruptly widened from base, and the distance between a posterior ocellus and the eye scarcely as wide as the width of the ocellus. In *brasiliensis* the distance is distinctly less. In *H. transversa* Walker the petiole is not longer than wide (pp. 252 and 454); the posterior femora are gradually (not abruptly) widened from base; and the distance between a posterior ocellus and the eye is distinctly greater than the width of the ocellus. In *H. trinidadensis* the left mandible is bidentate (the right one is concealed). In *H. brasiliensis* the dentition can not be studied without relaxing the specimen. The types of both of these species have the femoral teeth black in their apical half. The two are closely related to the type of *Heptasmicra quadrimaculata* Ashmead (p. 453), which, in fact, is generically separated from them only by having a seventh, small femoral tooth between the two large basal teeth.

Leucospis enderleini Ashmead.

Leucospis enderleini Ashmead (*Memoirs Carnegie Museum*, Vol. I, p. 405, Plate XXXI, Fig. 1).—As Ashmead's description and figure do not agree, Mr. J. C. Crawford, of the United States National Museum, asked the writer some years ago to examine the type of *enderleini*; the writer did not find any specimen in the Carnegie Museum labeled *Leucospis enderleini*, but one female labeled "*Leucospis schlettereri* Ashm. type," and, as no species so named was described by Ashmead, the writer examined the one labeled *schlettereri* and found it to perfectly agree with the description of *enderleini*. There is not the slightest doubt that the specimen labeled *L. schlettereri* is the type of *L. enderleini*, and the length of the ovipositor is as described by Ashmead, but the figure is incorrect. Dr. Schletterer wrote extensively on *Leucospis*, and Ashmead was evidently thinking of Schletterer and wrote that name on the label instead of *enderleini*. This happened at a time when the great hymenopterist felt the effect of failing health. The writer has attached a corrected note to the specimen below Ashmead's label for the guidance for future students.