

A LIST OF THE ODONATA OF BRITISH SOMALILAND AND
A DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF THE GENUS
ENALLAGMA.

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Few collections of Odonata having been made in British Somaliland, it has seemed to the author advisable to publish a list of the species which to her knowledge occur there.

Dr. A. Donaldson Smith, of Philadelphia, travelled through British Somaliland while on his expedition to Lake Rudolph, 1894-1895. P. P. Calvert has already listed all the species of Neuroptera obtained on this expedition (*Proc. Acad. Phila.*, 1899), but the present author includes in the following list the thirteen specimens of Odonata collected in Somaliland. Dr. Smith returned to Somaliland in 1899, and eight further specimens were obtained by him (*Entomologist*, 1901).

In the months of January and February of 1895 and 1897, Mrs. Lort-Phillips, while accompanying her husband on his shooting trips, made a collection of dragonflies in the region south of Berbera and in the Goolis Mountains. From this collection W. F. Kirby described three new species (*Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond.*, 1896). In the light of further knowledge and larger series from neighbouring African countries Dr. Ris found it best to re-include these in already known species. In all these cases the synonyms have been given in the following list. Kirby's types are in the British Museum collection.

A few odd insects have since been received by the British Museum from the area round Berbera. It was not, however, till 1929 that the next collection was made in Somaliland. In the months of August to December of that year Mr. C. L. Collenette made a representative collection while attached to the Anglo-Italian Boundary Commission. These insects, which were largely taken in the north-eastern region of the country, he has kindly presented to the British Museum.

A single ♀ *Oryzohomophus* sp., taken by Dr. Smith in Berbera, July, 1894, was described, but left without a specific name by Calvert. Four Agrionidae in the collection of Mrs. Lort-Phillips were left unnamed by Kirby; two females are without doubt general specimens of a *Pseudagrion* sp.; one female is *Ischnura senegalensis*, Ramb.; one male from Dobar, Goolis Mts., Jan. 1897 (without the last segments of the abdomen) seems otherwise to exactly resemble *Enallagma somalicum*, sp. n., of which three males were taken by Mr. Collenette at Marojeh, Nov. 1929. A male *Pseudagrion* sp., Buran, Sept. 1929, in Mr. Collenette's collection the author is unable to determine.

For the following localities occurring in the list, the exact positions and elevations are here enumerated:

Buran, 3000 ft., lat. 10° 13' N., long. 48° 47' E.

Marojeh, 2250 ft., lat. 10° 54' N., long. 48° 59' E.

Medishah, 5000 ft., lat. 10° 47' N., long. 47° 35' E.

Einad, 2000 ft., lat. 11° 02' N., long. 48° 55' E.

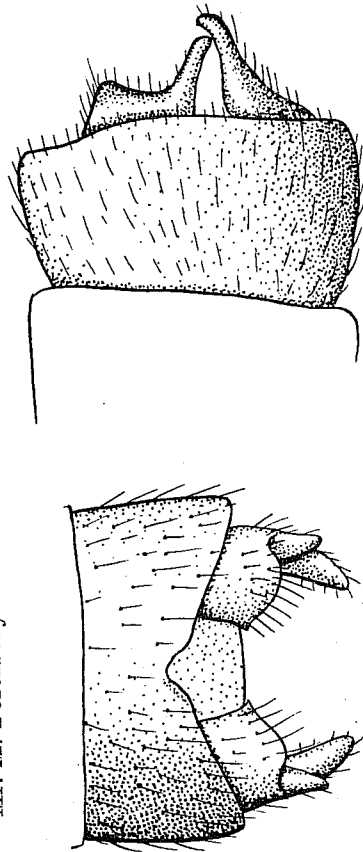
Shimba Beris, Surud Range, 6750 ft., lat. 10° 45' N., long. 47° 12' E.

Wadamago, 2500 ft., lat. 8° 55' N., long. 46° 16' E.

Plain north of Al Hills, 1500 ft., lat. 11° 10' N., long. 48° 50' E.

Lafarok or Lafarug, 30 miles south-west of Berbera.

The collectors will be referred to by the following initials: A.D.S., Dr. A. Donaldson Smith; L.L.P., Mrs. Lort-Phillips; C.L.C., Mr. C. L. Collenette; G.W.B., Mr. G. W. Bury; M.P.H., Mr. M. Portal Hyatt.



Enallagma somalicum, sp. nov. Anal appendages of male from above (left) and from the side.

LIBELLULIDAE.

(1) *Pantala flavescens*, Fabr.

3 ♂♂, 1 ♀, Dobar, Goolis Mts., Feb. 1895 (L.L.P.); 2 ♀♀, Dobar, Goolis Mts., Jan. 1897 (L.L.P.); 1 ♀, Bihen (L.L.P.); 6 "specimens," Bulhar, Jan. 1899 (A.D.S.); 1 ♂, 1000 ft., lat. 10° 15' N., long. 45° 10' E., Somaliland, Nov. 1928 (M.P.H.); 1 ♀, Wadamago, Aug. 1929 (C.L.C.); 5 ♂♂, 3 ♀♀, Buran, Sept.-Oct. 1929 (C.L.C.).

(2) *Trithemis arteriosa*, Burm.

2 ♂♂, Dobar, Goolis Mts., Feb. 1895 (L.L.P.); 1 ♂, Bichen, Feb. 1895 (L.L.P.); 1 ♂, Bihen Andola, Feb. 1895 (L.L.P.); 7 ♂♂, Saugamore, Feb. 1897 (L.L.P.); 1 ♂, Medishah, Sept. 1929 (C.L.C.); 10 ♂♂, 2 ♀♀, Buran, Sept.-Oct. 1929 (C.L.C.).

- (3) *Trithemis kirbyi ardens*, Gerst.
3 ♂♂, Saugamore, Feb. 1897 (*L.L.P.*); 1 ♂, Medishseh, Sept. 1929 (*C.L.C.*).
- (4) *Trithemis stictica*, Burm.
3 ♂♂, Medishseh, Sept. and Dec. 1929 (*C.L.C.*).
- (5) *Trithemis distantii distantii*, Kirby.
3 ♂♂, Medishseh, Sept. and Dec. 1929 (*C.L.C.*).

- (6) *Crocothemis erythraea*, Brullé. (= *Orithetrum lorti*, Kirby.)
3 ♂♂, 4 ♀♀, Berbera, July, 1894 (*A.D.S.*); 1 ♂, Lafarok, July, 1894 (*A.D.S.*); 1 ♀ (*O. lorti*, Kirby, type), Dobar, Goolis Mts., Feb. 1895 (*L.L.P.*); 2 "specimens," Bulhar, Jan. 1899 (*A.D.S.*); 4 ♂♂, 1 ♀, Buran, Sept.-Oct. 1929 (*C.L.C.*); 1 ♀, Marojeh, Nov. 1929 (*C.L.C.*).
- (7) *Orithetrum sabina*, Drury.
1 ♂, 1 ♀, Berbera, July, 1894 (*A.D.S.*); 1 ♂, Dobar, Goolis Mts., Jan. 1897 (*L.L.P.*); 1 ♀, Berbera, 1906 (*G.W.B.*); 1 ♀, 1000 ft., lat. 10° 15' N., long. 45° 10' E., Somaliland, Nov. 1928 (*M.P.H.*); 1 ♂, Berbera, Aug. 1929 (*C.L.C.*).

- (8) *Orithetrum chryso stigma chryso stigma*, Burm. (= *Orithetrum phillipsi*, Kirby.)
1 ♂ (*O. phillipsi*, Kirby, type), Dobar, Goolis Mts., Feb. 1895 (*L.L.P.*); 1 ♂, Einad, Nov. 1929 (*C.L.C.*); 2 ♂♂, Shimba Beris, Dec. 1929 (*C.L.C.*).

- (9) *Orithetrum taeniolatum*, Schneider. (= *Orithetrum brevistylum*, Kirby.)
1 ♂ (*O. brevistylum*, Kirby, type), Dobar, Goolis Mts., Feb. 1895 (*L.L.P.*); 4 ♂♂, Saugamore, Feb. 1897 (*L.L.P.*); 1 ♂, Buran, Sept. 1929 (*C.L.C.*).
- (10) *Orithetrum farinosum*, Först.
2 ♂♂, 1 ♀, Somaliland, 1906 (*G.W.B.*); 2 ♂♂, Medishseh, Sept. 1929 (*C.L.C.*); 2 ♂♂, Marojeh, Nov. 1929 (*C.L.C.*).

- (11) *Orithetrum brachiale*, Pal. de Beauvais.
1 ♂, Berbera, July, 1894 (*A.D.S.*); 1 ♂, Medishseh, Sept. 1929 (*C.L.C.*); 2 ♂♂, Buran, Sept. 1929 (*C.L.C.*).

AESCHNIDAE.

- (12) *Anax mauricianus*, Ramb.
1 ♂, Medishseh, Sept. 1929 (*C.L.C.*).

- (13) *Anax parthenope*, Selys.
5 ♂♂, Buran, Sept.-Oct. 1929 (*C.L.C.*).
- (14) *Hemianax ephippiger*, Burm.
1 ♀, Berbera, July, 1894 (*A.D.S.*); 2 ♂♂, Somaliland (*L.L.P.*); 1 ♀, Bichen, Somaliland, Feb. 1895 (*L.L.P.*); 1 ♂ (alive in spider's web), Plain N. of Al Hills, Dec. 1929 (*C.L.C.*).

AGRIONIDAE.

- (15) *Ischnura senegalensis*, Ramb.
1 ♀, Dobar, Goolis Mts., Feb. 1895 (*L.L.P.*); 1 ♂, Medishseh, Sept. 1929 (*C.L.C.*); 8 ♂♂, 11 ♀♀, Buran, Sept.-Oct. 1929 (*C.L.C.*).
- (16) *Proischnura (Emallagma) subfurcatum*, Selys.
1 ♂, 1 ♀, Medishseh, Sept. 1929 (*C.L.C.*).
- (17) *Emallagma somalicum*, sp. n.
3 ♂♂, Marojeh, Nov. 1929 (*C.L.C.*). See description below.
- (18) *Pseudagrion kersteni*, Gerst.
1 ♂, Medishseh, Sept. 1929 (*C.L.C.*).

Emallagma somalicum sp. n.

Male.—Abdomen 20 mm. Hind wing 13 mm.

Head.—Labium pale yellow; labrum brown; frons and clypeus bronze, a narrow black line dividing the clypeus from the labrum; epicranium and vertex black; subtriangular post-ocular spots blue, joined by a blue line, and separated from the pale yellow rear of the head by a fine black line. *Prothorax* pale yellow, a black line along the anterior border giving off two black stripes towards the posterior edge, each ending in a small black spot. *Synthorax*: Beneath pale yellow; sides pale blue; dorsum sky blue with three black stripes, the dorsal stripe half the width of the blue and divided down the centre by the orange-coloured carina, the ante-humeral stripes very narrow and tinged with orange on either side; a black spot on the second lateral suture. *Abdomen* sky blue, each segment with a touch of orange laterally at the joints, and the following marks in black: Segment 1 with the whole of the dorsum black; segment 2, a broad arrow-head at the apex, continuing towards the base in a narrow black stripe, widening out at the anterior edge of the segment; segments 3-6 each with the broad arrow-head at the apex; segment 7 with the dorsum black, widening out at the apex, leaving a narrow blue ring at the anterior and posterior edges; segments 8-9 are all blue; segment 10 has the dorsum black, the sides blue, and the under-side yellow. Tips of the anal appendages black. *Legs* pale yellow,

a black stripe along each femur and extending halfway along the tibia. Claws orange, with black tips. Wings hyaline. Seven post-nodals in the fore wing, 6 in the hind wing. Arc at or slightly beyond the outer ante-nodal. Pterostigma small, pale brown, the costal edge longer than the posterior edge.

Type ♂ and 2 ♂ paratypes, Marojej, 5. xi. 1929 (C.L.C.), in the British Museum collection.

E. somalicum resembles *E. cyathigerum* in having the same long-shaped inferior appendage, but is quite distinct so far as the superior appendage is concerned. This latter is elongated, in its lower portion, into a slender projection approaching the length of the inferior appendage, and is clearly seen from the side view. The very small dimensions of *E. somalicum*, causing a marked diminution in the number of cross-veins in the wings, is another clear point of distinction from *E. cyathigerum*.

THE FLYING POWER OF MELITAEA AURINIA.—With all due respect for the opinion of Mr. Parkinson-Curtis (and it appears to be an opinion based upon the fortuitous occurrence in his garden of a solitary male *aurinia*), I must still maintain that this butterfly is not "a sprightly insect capable of flying in the strong and gusty winds that blow across the Dorset Downs"—or any other downs! Argument as to what might have happened, or might not, is of little use in proving what has actually occurred. The insect in question might have flown over, or round, the five miles of water, or it might not—there is nothing to prove it did! There is no *must* about it! In fact the very reason of its occurrence in his garden (so near as five miles from the colony) may well have been those "strong and gusty winds." It was there *volens*! Blown by a dusty wind out of its course—a somewhat venturesome individual straying too far, and caught in a wind it was unable to cope with. This by the way has accounted for many "an unusual occurrence," and certainly the insect in Mr. Parkinson-Curtis' garden is of that nature. When he can assure me that *aurinia* visits his garden and those of his neighbours plentifully, I shall have to alter my opinion as to its power of flight, or at any rate its habit of flight. Repeated observations, for hours on end, have convinced me, as well as many others, that this insect rarely, if ever, makes long flights voluntarily—its general movements are of the *dolce far niente* type.—J. E. CAMPBELL-TAYLOR; Barclays Bank House, Pembroke Dock.

PHRYXUS LIVORNICA AND PARASCOTIA FULIGINARIA AT WELLINGTON COLLEGE.—I wish to record the capture by a friend of a specimen of *Phryxus livornica*, in Wellington College, on June 20th of this year. The moth, which is now in my possession, had flown into one of the dormitories, attracted by the light. On July 15th I took, myself, a specimen of *Parascotia fuliginaria* at rest in one of the cloisters.—F. S. ANDRUS; Hartley Court, Longfield, Kent.