

## RECENT ENTOMOLOGICAL LITERATURE.

GENERA INSECTORUM: CHIRONOMIDÆ. BY DR. J. J. KIEFFER.

The forty-second part of Wytsman's *Genera Insectorum*, written by Dr. J. J. Kieffer, which has just appeared, deals with the Chironomidæ. While there are no startling innovations in classification, the author has erected several new genera by division of some of the older ones. The family is divided into five subfamilies; the Clunioninæ, Tanypinæ, Chironominæ, Ceratopogoninæ, and Stenoxeninæ. The second, third and fourth subfamilies correspond approximately to Meigen's genera, Tanypus, Chironomus, and Ceratopogon. The position of *Diamesa* among the Tanypinæ may be questioned, for both larval and imaginal characters point to a much closer relationship to *Orthocladius* and *Thalassomyia* among the Chironominæ. The family Stenoxenidæ is here reduced to subfamily rank under the Chironomidæ, thus following Aldrich. *Wulpiella* is made a synonym of *Metriocnemus*; four subgenera are erected under *Orthocladius*; *Diamesa* is broken up into two genera, *Prodiamesa* and *Diamesa*, the latter with two subgenera; *Psilotanypus* is separated from *Procladius*; *Protanypus* from *Anatopynia*, and *Trichotanypus* from *Tanypus*. In the subfamily Ceratopogoninæ, *Heteromyia* and *Serromyia* have been raised to generic rank, while *Ceratopogon*, *Bezzia*, and *Palpomyia* each have two or three subgenera under them.

Considering the extent of the work, very few errors of either omission or commission can be found. The following, of interest to American readers, may be noted. *Orthocladius fugax* cannot belong to the subgenus *Dactylocladius* since it is said to have hairy eyes; *Diamesa nivoriunda* Fitch (p. 36) should be omitted (See Bul. N. Y. State Museum No. 86, p. 274, line 15); *Tanypus steinenii* Gercke is not North American; *Culicoides scutellatus* Meigen is classed with both *Culicoides* and *Ceratopogon*; *Bezzia venustula* is listed with both *Ceratolophus* and *Bezzia*; *Ceratolophus pictus* seems to be omitted; and *Thalassomyia fusca* (No. 3, p. 14) should be omitted; it is the same as *Th. obscura* and the name is due to a *lapsus memorie* on the part of its author. The name *Ceratolophus* is preoccupied and should be changed. The four plates which show figures of wings and other details of structure are excellent, in many cases better than the originals from which they are copied.

The paper is a noteworthy contribution to the study of the Chironomidæ, and the author, Dr. Kieffer, is to be congratulated upon its excellent arrangement and fine appearance.

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