

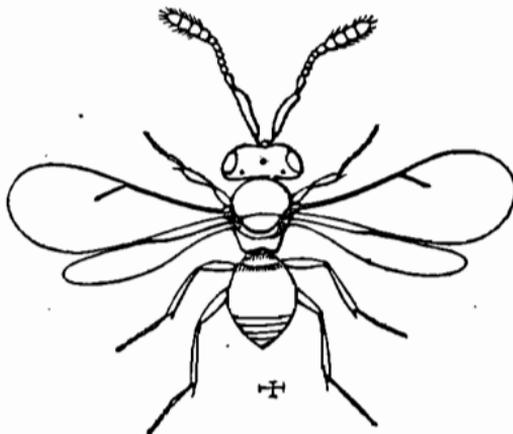
against each other (as is also the case in *Cynips Tericola*), forming altogether a brown mass, on the extreme of which the outline of each separate gall is readily to be perceived. When recent this gall is said to be succulent, but when dry its section exhibits a reddish mass of cells, divided from each other by their septa. Harting states these galls have but one cell, but on investigation I find that the smaller or pea-sized specimens possess from one to three cells, and the larger or cherry-sized galls from three to five, or in some instances as many as nine; these larger cells are oval, measuring seven millimetres in their longest, by six millimetres in their shortest, diameter, and are enclosed in a pale yellow, softish, thinly-walled capsule, which is throughout firmly united with the substance of the gall.—*G. L. Mayr.*

The existence of *Biorhiza aptera*, whose gall has been often found on the roots of oak-trees in the south of England, is liable to be shortened by the introduction of the germ of a new life within it, as it is not secure from *Callimome Roboris*, one of the gorgeous *Chalcidæ*, or metallic-coloured flies, of which much must be said afterwards.—*Francis Walker.*

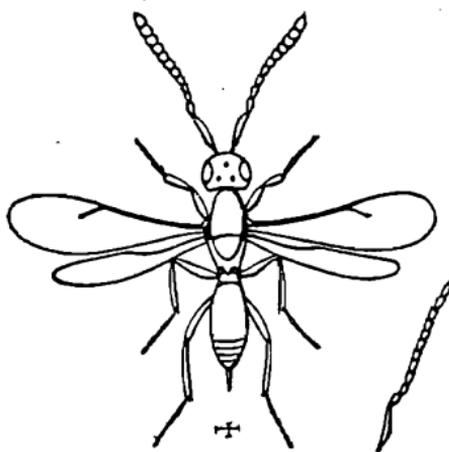
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*Notes on the Oxyura.*—Family 2. *Scelionidæ.*

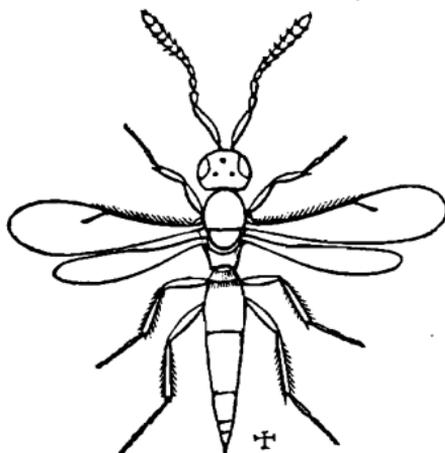
By FRANCIS WALKER, Esq.



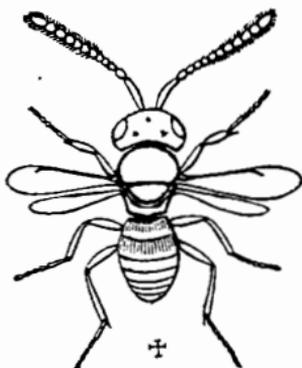
*TELENOMUS BRACHIALIS.*



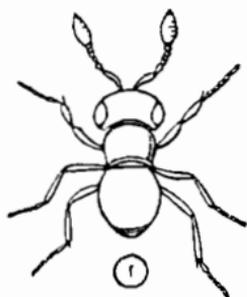
TELENOMUS LARICIS.



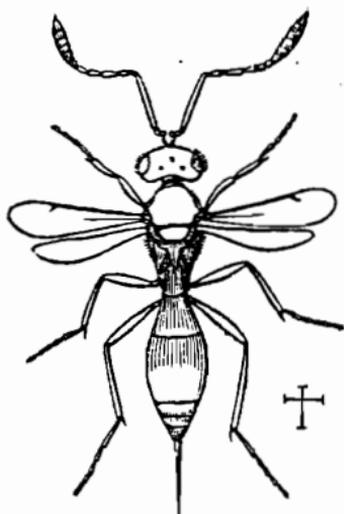
TELENOMUS OTHUS.



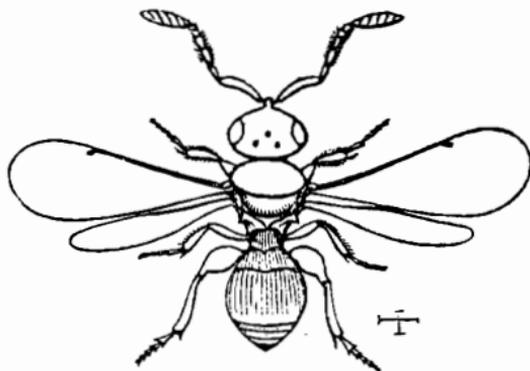
GRYON MISELLUS.



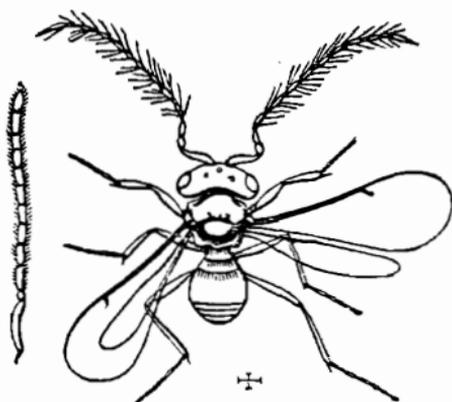
BÆUS SEMINULUM.



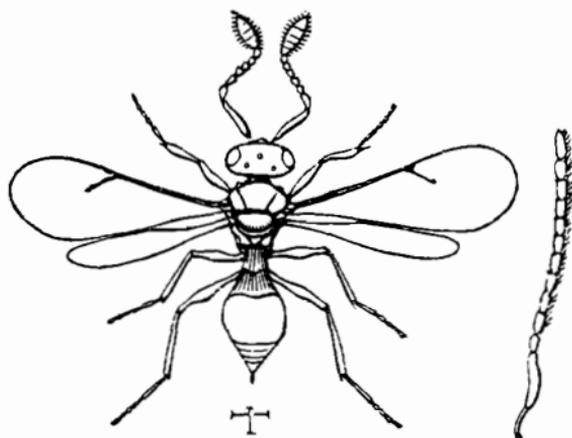
PROSACANTHA VARICORNIS.



TELEAS CLAVICORNIS.



XENOMERUS ERGENNA.



THORON FORNICATUS.

IN anticipation of preparing some notes on the distribution and characters of the generally parasitic Hymenoptera, the translation of the classification of the families, which are distinguished by their comparatively small size and simple structure, is here continued. The Ichneumonids, Braconids, Cynipids, are deferred, and a Synopsis of the European genera of Chalcids has appeared in the "Notes

on Chalcidiæ." The remaining families, of which the Mymaridæ and Platygasteridæ have already been noticed, are interesting on account of their indicating various beginnings of the Hymenopterous race, and from their being individually and collectively, as it were, a life set above a life, or being part of a double existence going on in a single outer form, the increase of one being by the decrease of the other, exhibiting or suggesting the same process in continually higher degrees. The Scelionidæ are nearly allied to the Platygasteridæ, but excel them and the Mymaridæ in the development of the wings, of which the vein or bone has much resemblance to that of the Chalcidiæ; they are also distinguished from the Platygasteridæ by the structure of the antennæ, and have a greater variety in size and in form. The little Telenomi are parasitic on eggs of Lepidoptera and of Hemiptera, and the more diminutive Bæus occurs on windows, where Mymaridæ may often be secured by means of a brush and a bottle. Thoron may be found on banks of ponds, and occasionally take to the water. Scelio and Sparasion are widely different from the two preceding genera. The Ceraphronidæ are also in some of their forms of very minute size; one kind may be considered as an injurious insect, being, like Asaphes and Coryna, a devourer of the beneficial Aphidii. There do not appear to be any links between them and the other families. The slow movements of the Diapridæ are very unlike the quickness in running or in jumping of the two preceding families; the males are distinguished by their elegant antennæ, and the species, like the Belytidæ, dwell chiefly in woods, where they are parasites on wood-eating or on fungus-eating Coleoptera or Diptera. Platymischus inhabits the sea-shore, where it is of frequent occurrence in the South and West of England, and is probably parasitic on some sea-weed insect. In the Belytidæ and in the Proctotrupidæ the fly begins to rise above the more rudimentary structure, which distinguishes the preceding families. A Proctotrupes has been observed to be parasitic on *Orchesia micans* and on *Lithobius*. The Heloridæ, like the Proctotrupidæ, indicate a passage to the higher tribes, but there is no occasion here to mention particulars of this transition. In the Embolemidæ there is a still nearer approach to aculeate Hymenoptera, which include part of the Bethylidæ.

## SCELIONIDÆ.

- A. Club of the antennæ not jointed.
- a. Wings developed. - - - THORON.
- b. Wings none or rudimentary.
- \* No scutellum. - - - BEUS.
- \*\* Scutellum developed. - - - ACOLUS.
- B. Club of the antennæ jointed.
- a. Subcostal vein shortened, not joining the costa. - - - BEONEURA.
- b. Subcostal vein not shortened, joining the costa.
- \* Marginal branch very long, at least four or five times as long as the stigmatic branch.
- † Scutum with two sharply-defined complete furrows. Antennæ of the male long, verticillate; of the female clavate. - XENOMERUS.
- †† Scutum without such furrows. Antennæ of the male not verticillate.
- ‡ Hind tarsi thick. Middle tibiæ with feeble spines. - TELEAS.
- †† Hind tarsi not thick. Middle tibiæ without spines. - PROSACANTHA.
- \*\* Marginal branch very short, mostly shorter than the stigmatic branch.
- † First abdominal segment narrow.
- ‡ Second abdominal segment the largest. - TELENOMUS.
- †† Third abdominal segment the largest.
- § Furrows of the parapsides very distinct. Wings with no postmarginal branch. ANTERIS.
- §§ Furrows of the parapsides not apparent. Wings with a long postmarginal branch. - BARYCONUS.
- †† First abdominal segment broad.
- ‡ Front with a sharply-defined border. - SPARASION.
- †† Front with no such border.
- § Postmarginal branch much developed, longer than the stigmatic branch.
- × Postscutellum with some spines. - TRIMORUS.
- ×× Postscutellum with no spine.
- Δ Antennæ filiform in the female. - APEGUS.
- ΔΔ Antennæ clavate in the female, filiform in the male.
- + Marginal branch punctiform. Last joint of the club of the antennæ twice as long as the preceding joint. - GRON.

- + + Marginal branch half as long as the shaft of the stigmatic branch. Last joint of the club of the antennæ little longer than the preceding joint. Body short, contracted. HADRONOTUS.  
 §§ Postmarginal branch wanting, or shorter than the stigmatic branch.  
 × Postmarginal branch wholly wanting. - SCELIO.  
 × × Postmarginal branch much shorter than the stigmatic branch. - - - IDRIS.

## SPARASION.

- A. Flagellum of the antennæ with horizontal hairs. - - - frontale, *Latr.*  
 B. Flagellum with hairs not horizontal.  
 a. Head slight. Mesothorax æneous-green. - ænescens, *Foerst.*  
 b. Head and mesothorax black. - - - lepidum, *Foerst.*

The genus *Trimorus* is established on *Gryon Nanna* and on *G. Phlias*; *Apegus leptocerus* is mentioned as the type of the genus *Apegus*, but no description is given. In like manner *Hadronotus laticeps* and *H. stygirus* are merely mentioned as the representatives of that genus, but are not described. A short description is given of *Scelio fulvipes*, found near Aachen; *Idris flavicornis* is cited as the only species of that genus, but is not described.

FRANCIS WALKER.

*A List of Macro-Lepidoptera taken in Alderney.*

By. W. A. LUFF.

THE following, with one or two exceptions, were taken from the 23rd to the 30th of June, 1873:—

*Melitæa Cinxia*.—Rather plentiful, but only in one locality, in a valley on the west coast of the island; they had, however, been out some time, and were nearly all much worn.

*Vanessa Urticæ*.—Saw one specimen.

*Pyrameis Atalanta*.—Plenty of hybernated specimens.

*P. Cardui*.—One.

*Pyrarga Megæra*.—Two specimens, one with a bipupilled eye-spot. I may here say that this variety is not at all uncommon in Guernsey and Sark.