

ADDITIONS TO THE OHIO LIST
OF ROBBER FLIES. II.
(DIPTERA:ASILIDAE)

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There were 65 species of Asilidae recorded from Ohio in my "Preliminary List of the Robber Flies of Ohio" (Ohio State Museum Science Bulletin, Vol. I, No. 2, November 1, 1931). During the season of 1932 and 1931, five species were added, bringing the total to 70 (Ohio Journal of Science, Vol. XXXIII, No. 3, May, 1933, p. 204). During the summer of 1933, Mr. E. S. Thomas, Curator of Natural History of the Ohio State Museum, and Mr. Charles F. Walker, Assistant Curator, continued their active collecting, with the result that the Ohio Asilid material in the Museum of four years ago has been increased about five-fold. Some very interesting records have been obtained. Among them were two additional records for the state.

71. *Atmosia rufipes* Macquart. McArthur, Ohio, July 11, 1933 (E. S. Thomas).
72. *Asilus piceus* Hine. Holland, Lucas County, August 11-13, 1933 (E. S. Thomas). A rare species hitherto recorded only from New England.

Other records of interest were two specimens of *Lampria bicolor* (Wiedemann) taken by E. S. Thomas at "Neotoma," Hocking County, July 3-4, 1933; two specimens of *Leptogaster brevicornis* Loew taken at the same locality, July 3-9, 1933; a series of six *Proctacanthus milbertii* Macquart, Holland, Lucas County, August 11-13, 1933 (L. W. Campbell, R. Conant, and E. S. Thomas); and a specimen of *Promachus hinei* Bromley taken in Salem, Champaign County, July 27, 1933, by Charles F. Walker.

Most interesting of all was the capture by Mr. Charles F. Walker at the State Game Farm, Salem, Champaign County, of two specimens of the extremely rare *Dasylechia atrox* Williston; one on August 2, and one on August 29, 1933. I am quoting Mr. Walker's observations on this remarkable insect. "In both instances, the flies first attracted attention by their loud droning flight as they circled about my head. In one

case, we were working around a new wooden shed, and my first thought was that the insect was a carpenter bee attracted by this fresh wood. Their appearance was very suggestive indeed of these bees until they came to rest, in one case on an electric line; in the other, on a chicken-wire cover to a partridge pen. They were unsuspecting and sluggish, in one case easily allowing capture by hand, and the other—the one on the electric wire out of reach—was easily secured with a net. The location was an open pastured oak-hickory-maple woodland on a gravelly moraine." Both were males. This makes the fourth Ohio record of this species (all from the Western part of the state). There are scarcely more than a dozen records of this species.

This calls to mind an account of the capture of one of these rare flies, related to me by the late C. W. Johnson, Curator of Insects of the Boston Society of Natural History. In this case, the fly persistently flew about the head of a pedestrian in a city park of Philadelphia, Pa., until it was captured.

Mr. H. J. Reinhard, Entomologist of the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, during July collected extensively at Amherst, Lorain Co., Ohio, securing among a large series of *Leptogaster*s, two species hitherto unrecorded from the state. These additions bring the Ohio Asilid list to 74 species.

73. *Leptogaster atridorsalis* Back. Amherst, July, 1933 (H. J. Reinhard).

74. *Leptogaster (Pilonyx) annulatus* Say. Amherst, July, 1933 (H. J. Reinhard).

Historical Geology.

This text departs from the time honored system of period by period discussion of Geologic history. It is divided into two major parts; the first 80 pages taking up the "Principles of Stratigraphy" and the remainder of the book concerning "Geologic Provinces." Under the caption "Geologic Provinces" are considered the following localities: the Grand Canyon Region, Niagara Falls, the Appalachians, the Northwest Highlands of Scotland, the Alps, and Yellowstone Park and the Big Horn Basin Region. The plates are either uncolored geologic maps or block diagrams of the regions discussed. The figures which are line cuts include numerous small maps illustrating various stages in the geologic history of the regions concerned. The reviewer is not as yet prepared to say whether he is in favor of this new manner of presentation of Historical Geology, although he admits that the old manner of presentation is far from perfect. The question arises, is it preferred to give the student the complete history of a Continent or is it better to explain the local history of selected parts? Certainly from the latter standpoint this text is excellent. We would be inclined to say that it is the type of text for the passing student and not so much for the student who is mainly interested in advanced Geology.—WILLARD BERRY.

The Principles of Historical Geology from the Regional Point of View, by Richard M. Field. xii+284 pp. Princeton, the University Press, 1933.