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6258 well-matured larvæ were counted from the interior of a single ♀.

Hab. On an unknown tree, Zomba, Central Africa. Collected by H.B.M. Commissioner A. Sharpe, C.B., 1900.

This remarkable species is quite a giant among the Coccidæ, being one of the largest species known to me.

The strength of the rostral apparatus must also be very great, as I found it impossible to separate the insect intact from the fragment of bark to which it was attached (see Pl. LIX. fig. 3) without previous immersion in caustic potash.

The curious secretory flap or valve which covers the large ventral opening is, I believe, a unique feature. I also found a very large and apparently pouch-shaped piece of epidermis in the interior of the body, which I have little doubt in some way intussuscepted the abdomen and formed a receptacle for the ova and subsequently for the larvæ, which undoubtedly mature within the body of the parent. Mr. Claude Fuller (Trans. Ent. Soc. Lond. 1899, pt. iv. p. 436, pl. xv. fig. 1 a) calls attention to the existence in the genus *Callipappus* of a remarkable receptacle in the interior of the body of the adult ♀; he says (*l. c.*) there is a "complete intussusception of several of the abdominal segments of the mature ♀'s in the form of a marsupium in which the eggs are laid and incubated." And, further (p. 437), that the sexual orifice and anus are situated at the back of the pouch. In *Callipappus* the mouth-parts in the ♀ are entirely absent, and the larval antennæ are 6-jointed, which entirely precludes my placing the insect in that genus. Of the family Monophlebidæ, to which this insect undoubtedly belongs, the characters of the genus *Walkeriana* agree better than any other, but the abnormal characters set forth may be considered of generic importance. In view of this, I at one time thought the insect might form the type of a new genus under the name of *Aspidoproctus*; but in the absence of Mr. E. E. Green's description of his Ceylonese species, I have decided for the present to regard the characters as specific.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE LIX.

Walkeriana pertinax.

- Fig. 1 Adult ♀, actual size, dorsal.
- 2. " actual size, profile.
- 3. " actual size, ventral; with fragment of bark attached to rostrum. Secretory valve also shown *in situ*, immediately below the insertion of the posterior legs.
- 4. " Portion of ventral epidermis containing ventral opening, which in life is covered by a secretory flap, or valve, extending approximately to the dotted line: *a, a*, glands which secrete the covering; *b*, posterior leg.
- 5 & 5 a. Adult ♀, antennæ.
- 6. Larva, dorsal, enlarged.
- 7. " ventral, enlarged.
- 8 & 8 a. " antennæ.
- 9. " tarsus and claw.

Lado, Sudan
West bank of Nile
S. 2 N., 31 41 E

December 18, 1900.

Dr. ALBERT GÜNTHER, F.R.S., V.P., in the Chair.

The Secretary read the following report on the additions to the Society's Menagerie during the month of November 1900:—

The total number of registered additions to the Society's Menagerie during the month of November was 143, of which 41 were by presentation, 8 by purchase, 84 were received on deposit, and 10 were born in the Menagerie. The total number of departures during the same period, by death and removals, was 138.

Mr. Sclater stated that he had much admired the fine collection of heads of Antelopes and other animals exhibited by Major A. St. Hill Gibbons at the Meeting of the Royal Geographical Society on the 10th inst., when Major Gibbons gave an account of his remarkable journey across Africa. Major Gibbons had kindly sent three of these specimens of special interest to be laid before the Society's Meeting to-night. The first of these was the skull and horns of the Square-mouthed Rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros simus*?) shot by Major Gibbons near Lado on the Upper Nile, about 5° N. lat., as already recorded by Mr. Thomas in 'Nature' (vol. lxxi. p. 599, Oct. 18, 1900). This discovery, as Mr. Thomas had already pointed out, was of very great interest, as no authentic evidence of the existence of the square-mouthed form of Rhinoceros north of the Zambesi River had been previously produced.

Two mounted heads belonging to two different forms of the Topi Antelope, obtained by Major Gibbons, were likewise exhibited. One of these, obtained on the White Nile, was no doubt the Tiang (*Damaliscus tiang*)¹. The other, obtained on the plains to the south of Lake Albert Edward, was probably the typical Topi (*D. jimela*)², but required further comparison.

Major Gibbons, who was present, then gave the following particulars concerning the two species of Topi Antelope which he had met with:—

I first saw the larger Topi (*Damaliscus jimela*?) some 25 miles south of Lake Albert Edward. As I neared the lake they became quite common and were frequently to be seen in small herds up to 12. It is improbable at least that their range extends south of about 1° S. lat., where, except for the lava valley running from the Kirunga volcanoes northwards, the country is very mountainous and wholly unsuited to the requirements of this class of Antelope. So, too, the great mountain-range stretching high and deep from the N.W. of Kivu along the shores of the Albert Edward to Ruenzori and beyond in all probability has barred their expansion westwards. To the east of the Albert Edward the country, though hilly, is not without plains and valleys, and it is probable that this antelope

¹ Sclater & Thomas, 'Book of Antelopes,' i. p. 63.

² *Ibid.* p. 67.