

## DASCALIA.

*Dascalia*, Stål, Bidrag till Rio Janeiro-Traktens Hemipter-Fauna, ii. p. 69 (1858)<sup>1</sup>; Hem. Afr. iv. p. 235 (1866)<sup>2</sup>.

Stål<sup>1</sup> characterizes this genus as follows:—"Venis tegminum longitudinalibus apicem versus simplicibus, haud furcatis, seriebus duabus continuis regularibus venularum transversarum conjunctis," thus separating it from *Ormenis*, *Flata*, &c., which are described as "venis tegminum longitudinalibus compluribus apice furcatis, venis transversis vario modo dispositis." Subsequently<sup>2</sup> he gives the characters somewhat differently:—"Tegminibus apicem versus seriebus duabus transversis maxime regularibus venularum instructis, venis longitudinalibus inter et pone series illas simplicibus nec furcatis." The only insect belonging to this genus which I have seen is one in the Vienna Museum, presented by Signoret and labelled *Dascalia nietoi* (a manuscript name); this certainly differs from *Ormenis*, but it does not answer well to Stål's description, for although the short apical veins are not (or only in one or two cases) forked, the regular series of transverse veins are not distinct, and in specimens in our collection which appear to belong to the same species they are very irregular.

The genus is very distinct, and, apart from venation, may be known by its very short and broad truncate head, the very prominent shoulders and large tegulæ, and the strongly raised callosity on each side of the tegmina behind the shoulders, which gives the insect a swollen appearance if viewed from above; it seems to form in some way a sort of connecting-link between *Flatoides* and *Ormenis*.

1. ***Dascalia nietoi***, sp. n. (Tab. VII. figg. 26, 26 a.)

Viridescens vel fusco-virescens, colore variante, nigro vel fusco variegata; capite lato brevissimo, haud vel vix ante oculos producto, truncato, oculis prominulis; fronte suboblongâ, ad medium plus minusve distincte carinatâ; pronoto capite longiori, antice rotundato; scutello convexo, plus minusve nigro notato; tegminibus fusco vel nigro notatis aut partim reticulatis, margine interno (a latere viso) ad apicem elevato, leviter venosis; pedibus et abdomine testaceis, vel plus minusve infuscatis.

Very variable in colour, being light green with strong irregular dark markings, or greenish-fuscous, or fuscous-brown with darker markings, which on the tegmina are sometimes reticulate; head very broad and short, truncate, not or scarcely produced before the eyes, which are very prominent; forehead slightly longer than broad, with a more or less distinct central keel; pronotum distinctly longer than the head, rounded in front; scutellum convex, about as broad as the head including the eyes, more or less marked with black spots, or variegated with black; tegmina not strongly veined, with the inner margin produced at the apex, so that when viewed from the side (when closed) it appears elevated; callosity behind the shoulders strong and prominent; legs and abdomen more or less agreeing with the general colour, the former bispinose.

Long. 10-12 millim.; lat. ad hum. 3-4 millim.

*Hab.* MEXICO (*Mus. Vind. Cæs.*); GUATEMALA, San Juan in Vera Paz, San Isidro (*Champion*); PANAMA, Bugaba, Volcan de Chiriqui (*Champion*).

A specimen from Mexico is figured.