

FLATOIDES.

Flatoides, Guérin, Icon. Règne Anim., Ins. p. 362 (1829–1838).

Elidiptera, Spinola, Ann. Soc. Ent. Fr. 1839, p. 304.

Phalænomorpha, Amyot et Serville, Hist. des Ins. Hém. p. 525 (1843).

Atracis, Stål, Hem. Afr. ii. p. 250 (1866).

This genus includes a number of obscurely coloured species, which in several cases are very hard to distinguish one from another. These insects are found, I believe, on boughs or trunks of trees among lichen, and they afford a very good example of protective resemblance or mimicry, as in such a situation it would be very difficult to detect them; not only are they of a dull brown or greenish colour, but many of them have larger or smaller stain-like markings on the tegmina, and some are furnished with more or less conspicuous callosities, all of which make the resemblance to their surroundings more accurate.

Stål separates the genus into two—*Atracis*, with unispinose posterior tibiæ, and *Flatoides*, in which the tibiæ are bispinose; as this, however, appears to be the only tangible difference, it would be best to regard the character as merely separating them for convenience' sake into two divisions.

I. Posterior tibiæ with one large spine on its outer edge, about, or a little behind, the middle.

1. ***Flatoides humeralis*.** (Tab. VIII. figg. 1, 1 a.)

Flatoides humeralis, Walk. List of Homopt. Ins. ii. p. 405¹.

Elidiptera basistigma, Walk. List of Homopt. Ins., Suppl. p. 69².

Phalænomorpha sordida, Stål, Stett. ent. Zeit. xxv. p. 54³.

Hab. MEXICO^{2 3} (*Mus. Vind. Cæs.*); GUATEMALA, San Joaquin in Vera Paz, Pantaleon (*Champion*); PANAMA, Volcan de Chiriqui, Bugaba (*Champion*).—AMAZONS, Pará¹.

This appears to be a somewhat variable species; it may be distinguished amongst its allies by the more or less truncate and emarginate head, the comparative closeness of the transverse veins at the apex of the tegmina, and the rather strongly waved costal margin. The single example from Bugaba may belong to another species, but at present I prefer to treat it as a variety of *F. humeralis*. Stål (Bidrag till Rio Janeiro-Traktens Hemipter-Fauna, ii. p. 70) assigns *F. humeralis*, Walker, to his genus *Vutina*; apparently, however, he was unacquainted with the species, as he subsequently appears to have described it again as *Phalænomorpha sordida*. The single specimen which I have received from the Vienna Museum under the name of *F. humeralis* has the above synonymy attached to it; this was presented by Signoret, and it was on a type from Signoret's collection that Stål described *P. sordida*, so that the determination is evidently correct. We figure an example from Chiriqui.