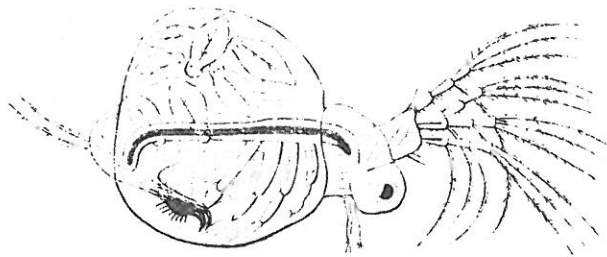


Notes on British Entomostraca. By W. BAIRD, Esq., M.D., &c. &c.



Daphnia brachiata.

THE minute crustaceous insects which were arranged by Muller under the general name of Entomostraca, meaning insects inclosed within a shell, have met with very little attention from the naturalists of Great Britain. Their exceeding minuteness and extreme delicacy of structure, have perhaps been the causes of this neglect, deterring most naturalists from examining them and studying them as they require to be studied—fresh from their native habitats. The difficulty of preserving them obliges the naturalist to seek them in their secret lurking-places—the fresh-water ponds and ditches, and the little pools in the rocks on the sea-shore, where they are chiefly to be found, and to study them as it were on the spot, with the aid of his microscope. The celebrated Latreille, after some remarks upon this extremely interesting class of little creatures, observes, “The organs of mastication are almost to this day hid from the eyes of observers. How can we discover a part which does not constitute the tenth part of a microscopic animal? The eyes of De Geer and Jurine however have believed that they could distinguish something. The latter has remarked, in the *Monocle puce* of Linnæus, two mandibles without teeth &c. These observations are so delicate, that out of a hundred entomologists, scarcely shall we find two or three who are able to repeat them, and participate, in some sort, in the pleasures of that discovery.”* Since Latreille penned the above, our knowledge of the anatomical structure of these marvellously small creatures has been much extended, and the few naturalists who have had patience to repeat the observations alluded to in the above quotation, have, I am sure, fully participated in the pleasures enjoyed by the first discover-

* ‘Hist. Gen. et Part. des Crustac. et Insect.’ iv. 199.

tracting at will. When ex-
out, hence the name of boar-
ss shade, and placed a few sea
completed, I made a painting
colours pretty correctly. I
to be shown to any of your
anbourn St., Brighton.
WARING KIDD.

forwarded to us his painting of this
ing from it, which we have much
ure of a British specimen of the
served that it differs very remark-
t-like mouth. Mr. Yarrell's fa-
he Zoological Society, presented
ured. The following quotation
ord of all that is known of this

aper of authors having been
of the occurrence forwarded to
by Dr. Henry Boase, a figure
British fishes.’ Its right mo-
ment of preparing this ac-
of Nettlecombe, and Mr.
th a notice of the occurrence
l in Bridgewater fish-market
while the specimen retained
Mr. Baker has since been
tr. Harvey, of Teignmouth,
Devonshire coast. The Cas-
tistole. It is figured and
oted. It is said to have
ine boar, on account of its
stling spines.—*History of*

mitted a specimen of the
of preserving fishes. We
it, who will be happy to
ion of form and colour,
96, p. T. iv. fig. 4.

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never seen them swim about as the animals of the genus *Cypris* do, but when shaken out of their lurking-places into a tumbler of water, they descend in gyrations until they reach the bottom, and then they creep along the surface of the vessel till they reach any vegetable matter they can find; upon this they creep along searching for food. In this habit they differ very widely from the beautiful little insects belonging to the genus *Daphnia*, which, from their long and mostly feathered rami and branchial feet, are well fitted for swimming about. In the 'Annals and Magazine of Zoology and Botany' for 1837, I described four species as inhabitants of Britain. Since that time I have ascertained the existence of several more, one of which I have never met with but in one spot, a stagnant pool in the old St. Pancras road, nearly opposite old St. Pancras church;—a pool which, in a year or two, will have changed its character from a habitat for *Daphniae*, to a resting-place for brick houses and the residence of human beings.—This species has been described and figured by Jurine in his work on the *Monoculi* of the environs of Geneva, but has never been noticed till now as an inhabitant of Great Britain.

Legion.—BRANCHIOPODES.

Order.—DAPHNOIDES or CLADOCERES.

Family.—DAPHNIDIENS, *Milne Edwards*.

Genus.—DAPHNIA, *Muller*.

Daphnia brachiata.* The length of this little creature is about half a line. The shell is of an olive colour, transparent, showing the stomach &c. very distinctly. It bulges out very much posteriorly, giving the insect a very *jolly* appearance, and is ciliated anteriorly. The main stalk of the rami is very large and fleshy looking; the under edge, for about half its length from the base, being crenated, and having two short setæ springing from one of the crenations or small lobes at about the middle of its length; the upper edge is serrated. The anterior branch of the rami has four articulations, the first one very short. On the inner edge a rudimentary seta springs from it, and another from the outer edge of the second articulation. One long seta springs from the third, and three long setæ from the last articula-

*Syn. *Monoculus brachiatus*, *Jurine*. *Daphnia brachiata*, *Desmarest*, *Edwards*. *Desmarest*, followed by *M. Edwards*, quotes the *D. macrocopus* of *Straus* as a synonyme of this species; but the form of our insect and that of *Jurine's* are so different from that given by *Straus*, in his paper in the 'Mem. du Mus. d'Hist. Nat.' v. t. 23, f. 30, that I hesitate in pronouncing them identical. *Jurine's* figure is very good, but in the specimens I have examined the head is a little more erect. (See fig. at p. 193).

tion. The posterior branch has three articulations, sending off one long seta from the first and second, and three from the last; these articulations are somewhat serrated on the edges, and the long setæ are all finely plumose and jointed about the middle of their length. The antennæ are very large and long, projecting straight out from the beak, and terminated by several short setæ. The tail terminates in a sort of articulation at the extremity, which has eight short spines on its under edge, and two long stoutish claws at its extremity. The two setæ on the tail are long, plumose and jointed. This species is not so very active as some others of the genus, owing perhaps partly to its form. It has a great many young.

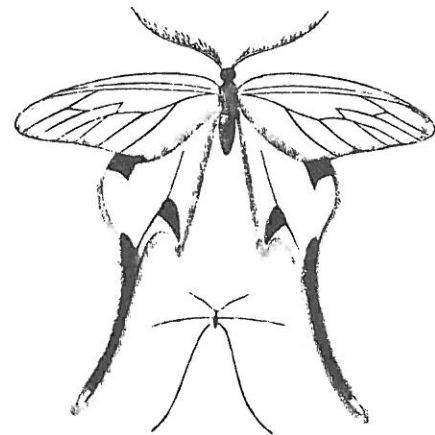
W. BAIRD.

Notes on *Lepidopterous* Insects. By EDW. DOUBLEDAY, Esq., F.L.S.

(Continued from p. 112).

Genus.—THYMARA.

Antennæ rather long, clothed exteriorly with appressed setæ, bipectinate, the pectinations long, and fringed with delicate setæ. Palpi (?). Eyes large, prominent. Anterior wings trigonate; costal nervure straight, attaining the costa considerably beyond the middle; subcostal nearly parallel with the costal nervure, bent downwards beyond the middle, so as partly to close the discoidal cell, from which portion two nervules are thrown off to the outer margin, whilst the third proceeds in a direct course to the costa just before the apex; median nervure four-branched, the nervules attaining the outer margin at about equal distances: discoidal cell divided longitudinally by a false nervure, which bifurcates at its extremity, one fork striking the disco-cellular curve of the sub-costal, the other the median nervure above and beyond the point where the second nervule from the base is thrown off, thus closing the discoidal cell: radial nervure



Thymara Zaida.