MALLOPHAGA FROM TAHITI*

By

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INTRODUCTION

The three species here dealt with were collected in Tahiti by A. M. Adamson in 1928 and included in the collection from Polynesia submitted to me by E. P. Mumford, Director of the Pacific Entomological Survey. A report on the species from the Marquesas Islands has already been published.[1]

FAMILY MENOPONIDAE HARRISON

Genus ACTORNITHOPHILUS Ferris

The members of this genus constitute a very homogeneous group that is charactertistic of the bird families Laridae, Alcidae, and Charadriidae. A single species is in the material at hand.

Actornithophilus milleri (Kellogg and Kuwana) (figs. 1, 2).

Colpocephalum milleri Kellogg and Kuwana: Washington Acad. Sci., Proc., vol. 4, pp. 483-484, pl. 30, fig. 6, 1902.—Kellogg: American Ent. Soc., Trans., vol. 32, p. 321, 1906.—Uchida: Annotationes Zoologicae Japonensis, vol. 9, p. 488, 1918.—Waterston: Ent. Soc. London, Trans., p. 288, 1923.

Actornithophilus milleri (Kellogg and Kuwana); Canadian Entomologist, vol. 48, p. 304, 1916.

Tahiti: Hitiaa, 5 females, 1 male from *Anous stolidus,* November 22, 1928, Adamson.

Previous records: Galapagos and Revillagigedo archipelagos and adjacent waters, from *Anous stolidus, Sula variegata, Sula nebouxii, Phaethon aethereus, Camarhynchus affinis, Butorides plumbeus* and *Geospiza* species, recorded by Kellogg and Kuwana, and by Kellogg. Ponape Islands, from *Anous stolidus* and *Sterna melanauchen,* recorded by Uchida. St. Paul's Rocks, South Atlantic, from *Sula leucogaster* and *Anous stolidus,* recorded by Waterston.

In the original description of this species, no type was designated. I

[1] Ferris, G. F., New species and other records of Mallophaga from the Marquesas Islands: B. P. Bishop Mus., Bull. 98, Pacific Ent. Survey Pub. 1, art. 5, 1932.

* Pacific Entomological Survey Publication 6, article 2. Issued December 23, 1932.

herewith designate a specimen from *Anous stolidus,* Clipperton Island, as the type. As Waterston has pointed out, the true host appears to be *Anous.*

Several species of a type very similar to this have been described and it stands in need of more precise and extended figures, which are here presented. The species is moderately dark and seems especially marked by the strongly fusiform abdomen in both male and female and the sexual dimorphism in the form of the fore-head. In the male (fig. 2, *g*) the lateral

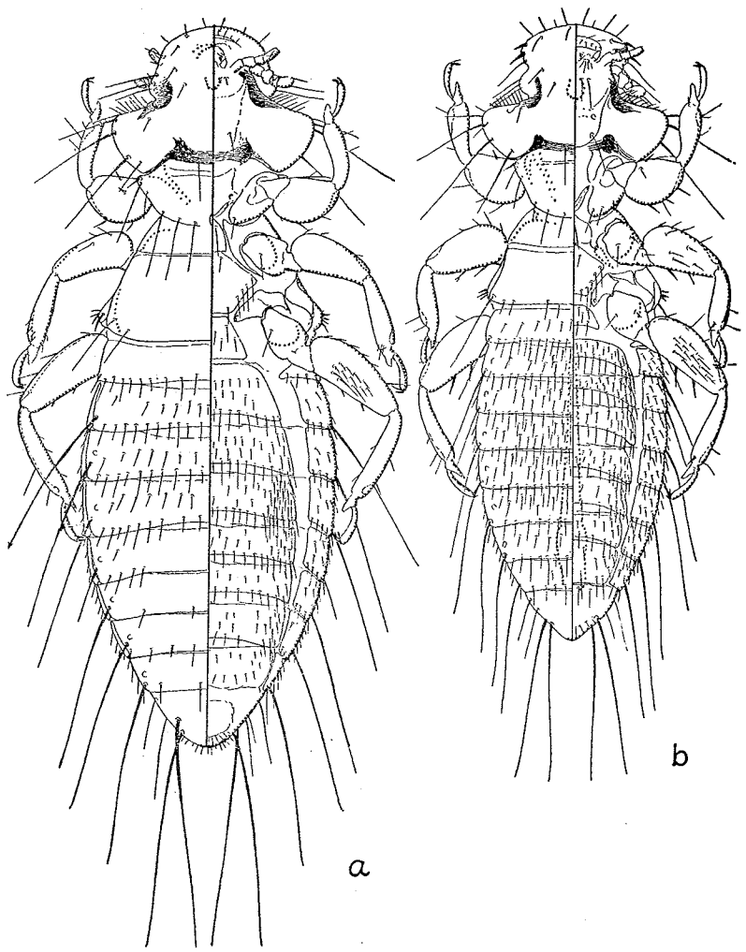

FIGURE 1. Tahitian *Actornithophilus milleri* (Kellogg and Kuwana) taken from *Anous stolidus: a,* female; *b,* male.

margin of the fore-head is distinctly emarginate and bears a pair of short, stout setae, while in the female (fig. 2, *f*) these features are lacking. There is also a sexual dimorphism in the setae of the posterior margin of the hind femora, the male (fig. 2, *c*) bearing here a pair of stout setae, while in the female (fig. 2, *d*) these are minute. The brush of setae on the fourth sternite of the abdomen is much more strongly developed in the female (fig. 2, *b*) than in the male. The genital region of the female (fig. 2, *a*) is very simple, the genital plate including only the sternite of the eighth segment and showing no special modifications. The genitalia of the male (fig. 2, *e*) have the parameres somewhat asymmetrical. The terminal portion of the preputial sac is strongly sclerotic, the sac is beset with small teeth and bears an irregular, sclerotic structure at the inner end.

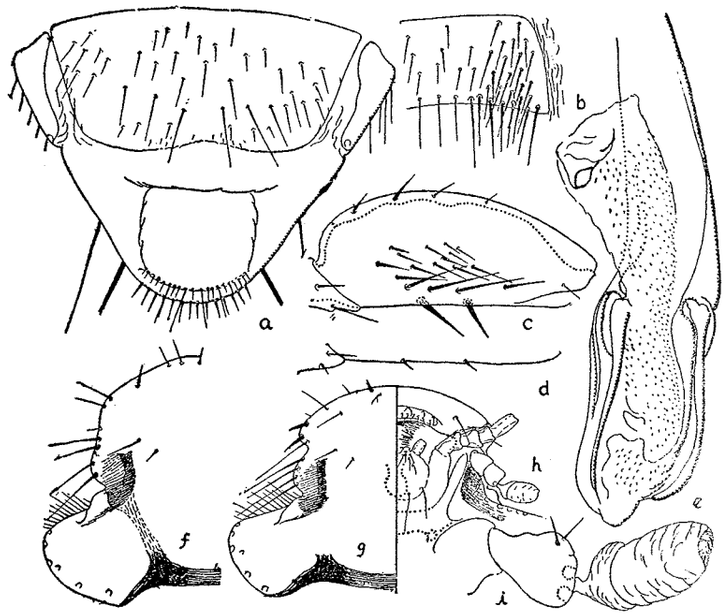

FIGURE 2. *Actornithophilus milleri* (Kellogg and Kuwana): *a,* genital region of female; *b,* brush of setae from fourth sternite of female; *c,* brush of setae on posterior femur of male; d, posterior margin of posterior femur of female; *e,* genitalia of male; *f,* dorsal aspect of portion of head of female; *g,* dorsal aspect of portion of head of male; *h,* ventral aspect of portion of head of male; *i,* antenna.

Genus MYRSIDEA Waterston

This genus, as at present understood, contains a considerable number of forms that were referred by earlier authors to *Menopon* and *Colpocephalum* and occur for the most part on passerine birds. Its species are to be found as very characteristic parasites of the family Corvidae, especially.

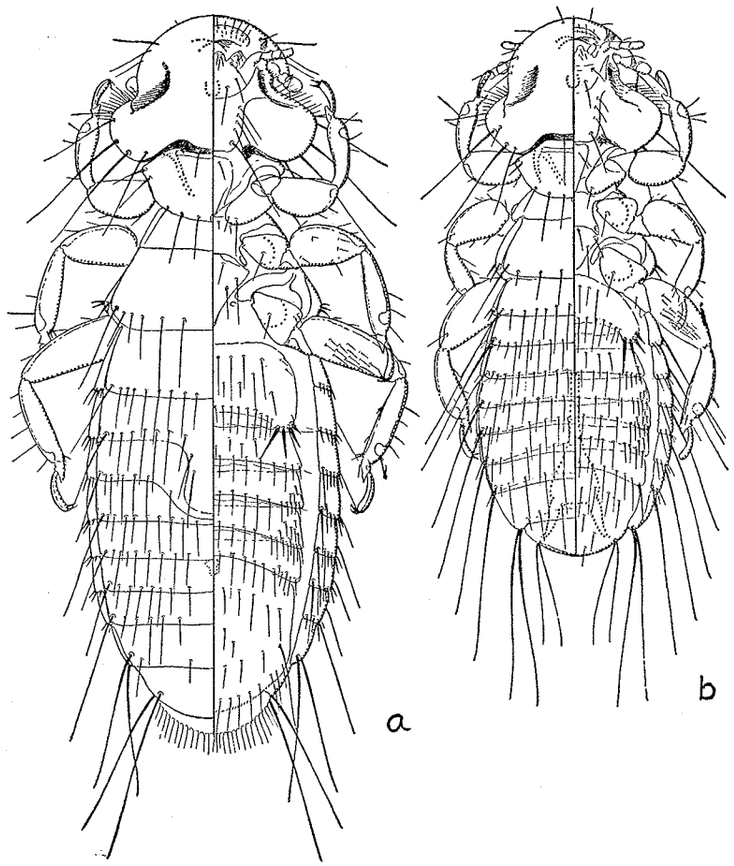

FIGURE 3. Tahitian *Myrsidea invadens* (Kellogg and Chapman) taken from *Acridotheres tristis: a,* female; *b,* male.

Myrsidea invadens Kellogg and Chapman (figs. 3, 4).

Menopon invadens Kellogg and Chapman: New York Ent. Soc., Jour., vol. 10, p. 167, pl. 15, fig. 5, 1902.

Myrsidea invadens (Kellogg and Chapman); Ferris: Canadian Entomologist, vol. 48, p. 308.

Tahiti: Hitiaa, from *Acridotheres tristis* (mynah), November 22, 1928, Adamson.

Previous record: Hawaii, from *Acridotheres tristis.*

The original description of this species is extremely deficient, the asters of setae and the modification of the abdomen of the female having gone unnoticed. In this species the modifications of abdominal tergites involve only the second and third segments, the second having its median third produced into a spatulate process that extends almost to the posterior margin of the fourth segment, while the third tergite is more broadly and less strongly produced, it also not quite attaining the posterior border of the fourth tergite. The fourth is but very slightly modified. The abdomen in this region is somewhat membranous and the modifications can only be seen in proper preparations. The ventral "asters" of setae are strongly developed (fig. 4, *c*) in both male and female.

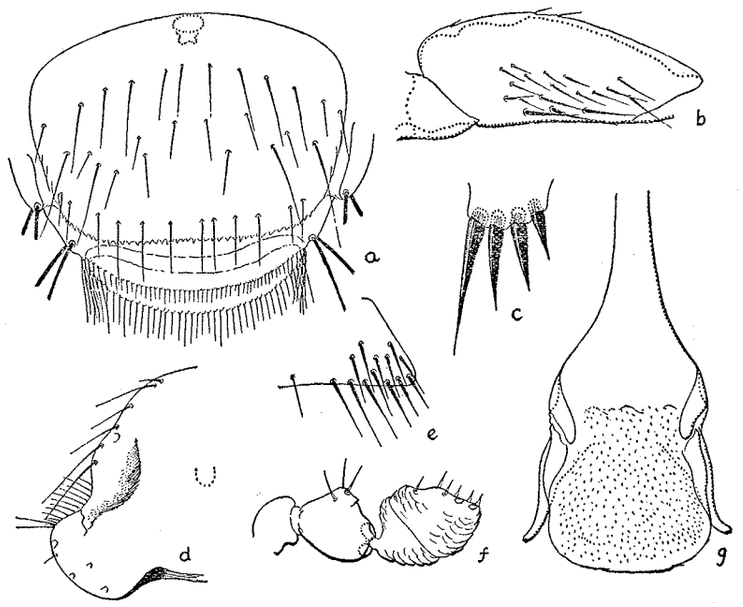

FIGURE 4. *Myrsidea invadens* (Kellogg and Chapman): *a,* genital region of female; *b,* ventral aspect of posterior femur; *c,* aster of setae of second abdominal segment; *d,* portion of dorsal aspect of head; *e,* brush of setae from fourth sternite of female; *f,* antenna; *g,* genitalia of male.

The genitalia of the male (fig. 4, *g*) are very simple, adhering closely to the type common to the genus and lacking any distinctive structures. The accompanying figures of other details may be of assistance in the further clarification of the species of this genus.

FAMILY PHILOPTERIDAE BURMEISTER

Genus DEGEERIELLA Neumann

Degeeriella separata (Kellogg and Kuwana).

Tahiti: Hitiaa, from *Anous stolidus,* November 22, 1928, Adamson.

This species is figured, together with notes, synonymy and previous records in my Marquesan paper.