

## THE YOUNG LARVA OF ARSENURA RICHARDSONI, DRUCE.

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The eggs of this rare species were kindly sent me from Tacubaja, Mexico, by Mr. O. W. Barrett. The food-plant of the caterpillar was unknown to him. Heretofore we have only had the figures of the mature larva of three species of this genus, and four sketches of the caterpillar of *A. armida*, the better known species of this interesting genus, which ranges from Mexico to Brazil. The larva figured by Madam Merian, Stoll, Burmeister, and by Peters, is represented as being smooth, without any tubercles, horns, or hairs. The partly grown larva, when about one-half grown, is drawn as having a pair of high horns on the prothoracic and a longer pair on the third thoracic segment, and a caudal horn on the 8th segment, also a shorter median horn on the 9th abdominal segment. Peters\* states that this armature is retained until the last moult. He also figures the caterpillar of *A. aspasia*, H. Sch., which has four thoracic and a caudal horn; one would infer from his brief account that this larva was fully fed, since he figures the pupa, but it may be found to belong to the penultimate stage. He also figures the larva of *O. xanthopus*, Walk. The small young (in stage III.?) has a pair of long, slender filamental metathoracic horns about half as long as the body, and a caudal filamental horn of nearly the same length. The older larva has no caudal horn, but retains the two thoracic appendages, which are about a quarter as long as the body. He does not positively say whether this is the full-fed larva or not, but the pupa (subterranean) is figured.

We had from a study of this genus (also of *Rhescyntis* and *Dysdæmonia*), referred these moths to the subfamily Agliinæ, the venation being similar to that of *Aglia tau*. And it is a matter of no little interest to find that the young freshly hatched larvæ, now for the first time described, is somewhat similar in armature to that European genus, whose nearest allies belong to the South American fauna.

*Stage I.*—Length, 4 mm. Head large and round, wider than the body, and shaped as in *Adelocephala*. The body is rather thick, and tapers somewhat to the end. The first thoracic segment is rather wide,

\*Die Heteroceren-Raupen (und Puppen) des H. T. Peters' sehen manuskriptwerkes; Biologische Beiträge zur Brasilianischen Schmetterlings-fauna, Neudamm (1898)—1901.