

SOME ORTHOPTERA TAKEN AT MOOSE JAW, ASSINIBOIA.

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Last summer, on August 24th, a few hours were spent at Moose Jaw collecting Orthoptera. But few species were taken, and they are here listed for the locality. They were all taken on the open prairie, out a short distance from the town.

Chortophaga viridifasciata, DeGeer. Nymphs only taken.

Phlibostroma quadrimaculatum, Thom. But a few specimens taken.

Gomphocerus clepsydra, Scudd. This species was moderately common.

Arphia pseudonietana, Thom. (*tenebrosa*, Scudd.). Rather common, but not numerous.

Mestobregma kiowa, Thom. A single male taken.

Encoptolophus parvus, Scudd. One female specimen only taken. This species does not appear to have been previously reported from Canada.

Melanoplus atlansis, Riley. Apparently not very common.

Melanoplus Dawsoni, Scudd. Only the short-winged variety, *tellustris*, was taken. It occurred quite abundantly in the prairie grass.

Melanoplus infantilis, Scudd. This was the most numerous of any species noted.

Gryllus Pennsylvanicus, var. *neglectus*, Scudd. Five specimens of this insect were taken under a stone in a draw, or small hollow, on the prairie. Scudder has referred this insect to the synonymy, placing it as a synonym of Burmeister's *G. Pennsylvanicus*, but the smaller size and shorter elytra certainly entitle it to varietal distinction.

Nemobius fasciatus, var. *abortivus*, n. var. Hopping actively about in the grass in and along the borders of the above-mentioned draw were numbers of a small *Nemobius*, which is very similar to *N. fasciatus*, but is uniformly darker, being nearly black, and decidedly smaller, as shown by the following measurements:

Length elytra, male 4.5 to 6 mm., female 3 to 4 mm.; posterior femora, male 4 to 5 mm., female 5 to 6 mm.; ovipositor, female 6 to 7 mm.

About three dozen specimens, a few more females than males, were taken, and they are very uniform in size and coloration. This is the small black species mentioned by Walker, on page 184 of the CANADIAN ENTOMOLOGIST for July. Specimens were submitted to Prof. Blatchley, who says they may eventually prove a good species. They certainly form a valid variety, which may be called *abortivus*. Like *vittatus*, it is short-winged. Except for the uniform black colour, it resembles the *N. Utahensis* of Scudder.