

have little need of wings, these organs have gradually degenerated into a musical and protective apparatus. As the male was released from the necessity of hunting up the female, he would naturally lose after a time his slighter but more active body; it is easy to see how arboreal habits once acquired may react upon the entire organization."

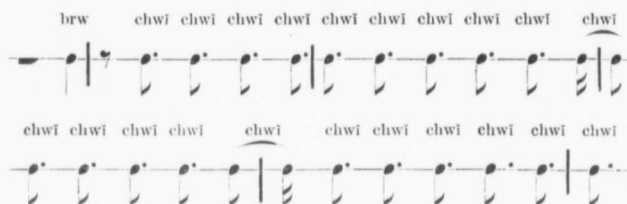


Fig. 48. Note of *Conocephalus ensiger*.

Fernald says: "I cannot imagine what ingenious person first discovered that their song resembled the words 'Katy did,' instead of some other words; for many persons besides myself fail, upon hearing them for the first time, to recognize them by their sound."

Conocephalus ensiger Harr. This insect has but a single song and stridulates only by night or during cloudy weather; it begins its song as soon as the sky is obscured or the sun is near the horizon; it begins with a note like *brw*, then pauses an instant and immediately emits a rapid succession of sounds like *chwi* at the rate of about five per second, and continues them for an unlimited time. Either the rapidity of the notes is variable, becoming sometimes as frequent as twenty-three in three seconds, or else there is some deceptive character in its song. In a number of instances I have counted the notes as rapid as the highest rate given above, but on a nearer approach to verify them the rate was invariably reduced to five per second; it is doubtful whether this was due to alarm at my approach, for this is one of the least shy of our Locustarians.

McNeill says "its song is a loud rasping *zip-zip-zip* repeated indefinitely. It does not begin to sing until dark," and in another place he compares the song to the first staccato part of the song of *Orchelimum vulgare*.

Davis writes of it on Staten Island that it is the first *Conocephalus* to be heard, "and with *ik-ik-ik*, as if sharpening a saw, enlivens low bushes and particularly the corn patch. This insect seems to especially delight in perching near the top of a corn-stalk and there giving forth its rather impulsive song. I have often watched one crawl, with many a spiral turn, up the stem, fiddling all the while. My notes on its first heard stridulation show considerable uniformity, and the average date may be taken as July 15."

Conocephalus nebrascensis Brun. Of this species McNeill writes: "If *ensiger* may be said to sing the first part of the song of *Orchelimum vulgare*, the well-known *zip-zip-zip-ze-e-e-e*, *nebrascensis* may be said with equal truth to sing the last part of the song, that represented by the *ze-e-e-e*; but the sound is much more resonant, being really in quality much more like the song of a Cicada, but not so loud and without a swell. It begins to sing earlier in the evening than *ensiger*."

Conocephalus robustus Scudd. This grasshopper is exceedingly noisy and sings equally, and I believe similarly, by day and night. The song resembles that of the harvest fly *Cicada canicularis*. It often lasts for many minutes, and seems, at a distance, to be quite uniform; on a nearer approach, one can hear it swelling and decreasing in volume, while there is a corresponding muscular movement from the front of the abdomen backward, two and a half times a second. This is accompanied by a buzzing sound, quite audible near at hand; it resembles the humming of a bee, or the droning of a bagpipe.

McNeill says of this species that "its song is indistinguishable from that of *dissimilis*,"

but the song of that of *C. nebrascensis* it certainly resembles. "lives both up and down while the sun is out, found it in Mi-

Davis says: "sandy ground. Along the sea shore when approach-

Conocephalus form, resembles count with an as indicated by that this estimated and fifteen stridulating in much surprise in the sequence of this

Orchelimum distinguish with twice very rare for it here [I

Orchelimum from that of times very noticeably short lasts from the

Orchelimum in it. It may not last long sound which

Orchelimum tarian to sing 28; the following on a hot sun where it climbs stalk that the plicated than into a trill a second; the (generally followed by a series of the staccato almost indefinitely ordinarily or two or three times, even before recommence differs from rapid trill or

*Davis says: "off perhaps by