

## LEDRA PERDITA vs. CENTRUCHUS LIEBECKII.

BY F. W. GODING, M. D., PH. D., RUTLAND, ILL.

In the February CANADIAN ENTOMOLOGIST, page 38, Prof. C. F. Baker contributes an article on *Ledra perdita*, A. and S., in which he attempts to identify the insect described by Amyot and Serville under that name with my *Centruchus Liebeckii*. Those authors describe their species from an admittedly inaccurate figure, the original type having been destroyed. They state that their species is from Northern America. [See note.] Van Duzee states (fide Baker) that *perdita* is from Pennsylvania, on what authority I do not know, and Prof. Baker decides that because Van Duzee gives that State as the habitat of the insect, and my species having been described from the same commonwealth, they must be identical. As there is no proof beyond the dictum of Van Duzee that *Ledra perdita* is from Pennsylvania that point may be dropped until we hear further from him. He is too careful a student of our Homoptera to be guilty of confusing a Membracid with a *Ledra*. The facts regarding Fitch's identification are these: While in Washington a few years ago, and working over the Fitch material, I found an example of *Liebeckii* labeled in Fitch's handwriting, "*Ledra perdita*, A. and S.," and "*capra*, Mels.," both names being on the label, which I recorded in the CANADIAN ENTOMOLOGIST, Vol. XXV., p. 172. Fitch never published his opinion regarding this species. Prof. Baker (l. c.) says: "So peculiar in form is it that there is not a possibility of confusing it with anything else in our fauna." Since that was written he has come into possession of a copy of Fowler's great work on the Membracidae of Mexico and Central America, and I do not doubt that since he has examined Fowler's figure of *Centruchoides laticornis* his opinion has undergone a change, for the figure of *perdita* certainly resembles that figure as closely as it would a figure of *Liebeckii*. The same is true with several others of the Centrotinae, viz., *callicentrus*, etc., etc., from "Northern America."

NOTE.—I do not know where Mr. Van Duzee publishes my reference to this species beyond a note in his catalogue of the Jassidae, wherein he says: "One American species of *Ledra* has been described, but I have not yet seen an example." Doubtless he here refers to Amyot and Serville's species.