

The larvæ before me were obtained from Beavers trapped in some of the tributaries of the Colorado of Texas. The tender skin behind the ears seems to be the favorite place, the larvæ being concealed under scales of dried material, seemingly mucilaginous.

I owe these larvæ to the kindness of a friend who has recently traveled in Texas, through whose instruction the skins were so prepared that he was enabled to obtain what, at one time, seemed almost a hopeless desire.

The eggs of *Platypsylla* were also observed. They are minute objects, not fastened to the hair, as is the case with lice, but placed directly on the skin among the densest hair.

When the larva are removed from the fur and placed on a flat surface they move with the sinuous snake-like motion observed in *Staphylinide* larvæ.

The fully developed beetles have also a mode of progression decidedly *Staphylinide* in appearance.

*Platypsylla* seems destined to have difficulty in finding a final resting place.

Ritsema, in the beginning, referred it to the *Aphaniptera*, an indefinite aggregation of forms gradually disintegrating.

Shortly after Prof. Westwood made it the type of a totally distinct order *Achreioptera*.

During his sojourn in Europe Dr. LeConte obtained specimens, and after the study of dissections, carefully made by Rev. A. Matthews, claimed *Platypsylla* as a Coleopter of the *Clavicorn* series and placed it in relation with *Silphidæ* and *Leptinidæ*.

My own dissections and study have not caused me to doubt in any respect the opinion of Dr. LeConte.

In the "Berlin. Zeitschr." xxx, 1886, p. 103, Kolbe, in a short paper, sees resemblances between the mouth parts of *Platypsylla* and certain *Mallophaga* (bird lice), and is disposed to unite it with the latter series.

Dr. A. S. Packard, in a review of the *Mallophaga*, considers them degraded members of the pseudo-neuropterous series.

If we combine the opinions of the last two authors we will have another position for *Platypsylla* in the *Neuroptera* (in the broad sense), an order which seems destined to be the asylum for entomological invalids of all sorts.

*Platypsylla* seems widely distributed. First discovered on the American Beavers in the Zoological Gardens at Amsterdam. I have