

## A NEW SCALE-INSECT INFESTING DATE-PALMS.

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## PARLATORIA VICTRIX, sp. nov.

♀. Scale about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mm. long, similar to *P. zizyphus* (which I find on lemons), but the true scale white (in *zizyphus* it is brownish); second skin black, bordered with pale ochreous (in *zizyphus* it is all black); first skin narrower, often pale greenish, and not so much overlapping second skin.

♂. Scale white.

♀. (Boiled in potash) nearly colourless, tinged with brown. No grouped ventral glands. Three pairs of lobes; median four rather close and equidistant from one another, the third lobes more distant from the second. Lobes having about the shape of an axe-blade, narrowest at base. Plates scale-like. Margin striate. Mouth-parts far posterior.

For the arrangement of the spines, plates, and lobes, see the figures.



*Hab.* On leaves of date-palm, sent from Tucson, Arizona, by Prof. Toumey. Writing Dec. 28th, 1893, Prof. Toumey says:—"I send you to-day specimens of date-palm (*Phoenix dactylifera*) infested with sp. of *Parlatoria*. . . . I believe this scale was brought here on trees imported from Africa, and distributed by Department of Agriculture."

These palms were originally from Cairo, so the insect is probably Egyptian. It is curious that it has never been noticed by European naturalists; the *Aronidia blanchardi*, lately described by Targioni-Tozzetti, from date-palms in the Sahara, is evidently a different thing.

The insect was formerly considered to be *Parlatoria zizyphus*, but on comparing it with true *P. zizyphus* (found on lemons) it is evidently distinct. Mr. Pergande, of the Entomological Division at Washington, has re-examined it from material I sent, and is now also of this opinion.

Las Cruces, New Mexico, U.S.A.

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