

THE WALKING-STICK, *MONOMERA BLATCHLEYI*
RACE *ATLANTICA* DAVIS IN EASTERN
MASSACHUSETTS

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In 1926 I received from Mr. A. W. Higgins a female walking-stick, taken at Rock, Mass., August 10. It was referred to *Monomera blatchleyi* Caudell in the Bulletin of the Boston Society of Natural History for January, 1930, but should have been referred to the race *atlantica* Davis. As this was the most northeastern record for this interesting form, I was desirous of obtaining additional material and if possible securing a male. I therefore asked Mr. Higgins to be on the lookout for it this year.

The results of his work were a surprise. On August 10-15 he collected 19 specimens, on the 21st 40, and on the 27th 17, a total of 76 specimens, all females. I kept the 40 specimens alive for several days. On the 23rd there were 55 eggs in the glass jar, and on the 25th 57. The eggs, which look like little seeds, are 2.5 mm. long. Mr. Higgins found about 60 per cent of the specimens on goldenrod. Most of the specimens were a bright green, some having a more or less prominent yellow or reddish lateral stripe, two were of a dark grayish color, three were reddish brown, and two were laterally reddish, this color extending over the ventral surface except for a narrow median stripe of green. They vary in length from 65 to 80 mm.

The most interesting feature connected with this insect is the apparent absence of males. Mr. William T. Davis had some forty-six females when comparing this form with the typical *blatchleyi*, and many more have come under his observation. Are we dealing with a parthenogenetic species, the males appearing only at intervals?



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