

Capítulo 28

DE VARIOS GENEROS DE AVISPAS, LANGOSTAS, MARIPOSAS Y OTROS EXANGÜES DE POR ACA

Cuarto género de exangües señala Aristóteles. De algunos de ellos hemos ya dicho algo. Recogeremos acá de otros lo que hubiere especial, y así a las abejas, (de que dejamos ya dicho), juntaremos las avispas, que por acá en el modo de hacer sus habitaciones o panales, aunque sin miel, se les parece[n] no poco.

Las más comunes de por acá se llaman *lapinig*¹. Son algo menores que las avispas de España, pero de su talle y color. Crian en los troncos o ramas de los árboles. Sus casas, a las veces son bien grandes, a modo de panales secos y sin miel; (que a los que no la tienen llaman *cagas*² estos naturales). A la casa del *lapinig*, la llaman del mismo nombre; que, si tubiera miel se semeja a las [de] las abejas que llamamos *liguan*, aunque la materia es más sólida y cartagilácea. Pican y dejan el aguijón como en España, pero no mueren como las abejas, porque tienen tres o cuatro aguijoncillos.

Algunas veces por acá me holgaba yo de que hiciesen sus casas en árboles frutales y de estima, que con eso estaban seguros, con el escuadrón volante que los defendía. Ahuyéntanse también con humo como las abejas.

De este género de avispas hay muchas diferencias, y algunas muy grandes, y todas armadas de cantidad de aguijones. *Coron-coron*³ llaman a unas. Son mayores dos veces o tres que los tábanos

Chapter 28

CONCERNING THE VARIOUS KINDS OF WASPS, LOCUSTS, BUTTERFLIES AND OTHER BLOODLESS INSECTS OVER HERE

Aristotle enumerates four kinds of bloodless creatures. About some of these we have already said something. Here we shall select from the others what might be unusual; and so as with the bees, we shall discuss the wasps which over here make their dwellings and combs which they resemble not a little, however, without the honey.

The most common ones here are called *lapinig*.¹ They are somewhat smaller than the wasps of Spain, but of the same shape and color. They built their dwellings in the trunks or branches of trees; sometimes these are quite large in the fashion of honeycombs, dry and without honey. The natives call the combs which do not have honey, *kagas*.² The dwelling or house of the *lapinig* is called by the same name; if it contained honey it would be the same as that of the bees which we have called *lig-wan*, although the material is harder and tougher. They sting and leave their stinger as in Spain, but they do not die as the bees do, because they have three or four little stingers.

Sometimes here, I amused myself in discovering from what they built their houses in fruit trees and judging that as a result they were safe by reason of the flying squadron which defended them. They also flee from smoke like the bees.

There are many differences in this type of wasps; some are very large and all are armed with a number of stingers. Some they call *kurunkuron*.³ They are twice or three times as large as the

de España. La hechura de avispas; y, porque sus casas, que las hacen de barro, redondas, como ollas pequeñas, lo parecen, les pusieron dicho nombre, que quiere decir “olla pequeña”.

Pican estos tan recio y son tan dañosos que por otro nombre les llaman *macaihag*, que quiere decir “que hacen dar voces”; porque cualquier animal u hombre a quien hincan su aguijón lo siente tanto que gritan luego, cada cual según su calidad. Suelen hincharse mucho y tal vez morir los picados, si es en parte peligrosa.

*Buligan*⁴ llaman a otro *abejón*, algo menor pero más perjudicial que el pasado, no sólo por ser ponzoñoso su aguijón cuando pica, sino porque es amicísimo de *tuba*⁵ (ya dijimos lo que es), que se saca de las palmas de los cocos, que como es dulce y ellos de casta de abejas, acuden a los cañutos de ella en tanta cantidad que, si no los taparan, no dejaran gota, y a las veces buscan por donde entrar, y no son pocos los que traen ahogados dentro de dicha *tuba*.

De estos y otros menores, todos ellos perjudiciales, he contado yo diez o más diferencias. Diré lo que en una de ellas he reparado, en confirmación de lo que dije de las abejas.

*Alimbubuyog*⁶ llaman a un abejón mayor que las avispas de España. Su hechura como ellas, excepto que es negro. Estos viven, comúnmente, en agujeros de árboles o maderos, que naturalmente los tienen (que por acá no son pocos, por haber un género de gusanos, y aun de avechuchos más pequeños que avispas, que los taladran, que parecen agujereados con barrenas o taladros).

Viven también estos debajo de tierra, en partes donde no está descubierto, como bajo las casas, y aun dentro de las iglesias tal vez, y son enfadosos con su zumbido, y dañosos cuando pican.

Lo que en éstas he reparado yo, cuando crían, es lo siguiente. Hacen de barro muy blando, o de la flor de él, que ellos saben

horseflies of Spain. The shape is like that of the wasps and because their houses, which they build out of clay in a round shape like those small ones, they seem alike and this same name is given to them. It means "small pot".

They sting very viciously, are extremely dangerous and are called by another name *makalhag*, which means that they cause one to cry out because whatever animal or person whom their stingers pierce feels it so much that each one cries out in his own fashion. Those stung usually swell up greatly and if they are stung in a vulnerable place may even die.

*Buligan*⁴ they call another stinger, somewhat smaller but more harmful than the last not only because the stinger is poisonous when the insect stings but because it is very fond of *tuba*⁵ (we have already mentioned what this is) which is taken from the coconut palms. Because it is sweet and they are a type of bees which flocks to the bamboo containers filled with it in such numbers that if they are not prevented they will not leave a drop. Sometimes they seek ways to enter and quite a few are drowned in this *tuba*.

Of these and other smaller ones, all dangerous, I have counted ten or more different varieties. I shall describe what I discovered about one of these, in confirmation of what I said about the bees.

*Alimbubuyog*⁶ is the name of a large bee, larger than the wasps of Spain. Its appearance is similar to theirs except that they are black. They usually live in holes in trees or wood which have been made naturally. Here, these are not a rarity because there is a variety of worms and even very small birds, smaller than wasps, which bore the holes, and they seem to be hallowed out with augers or drills.

These also live under the ground, in inaccessible places, such as under the houses and even at times inside the churches. They are troublesome with their humming and dangerous when they sting.

I have discovered the following about them when they are propagating. From a very soft mud or from the flower they know

escoger, unos vivares del tamaño del dedo meñique, dos o tres juntos, como caños vacíos y muy bien hechos. Quedan tan duros y fuertes que con los dedos solos no se desharán, sino con palo o hierro. En cada uno de estos nidillos dejan su agujero, al un lado, como ellos son de gruesos. Traen unos gusanos verdiscos. (Hélos visto muchas veces y observado cuanto hacen con ellos), que no tienen más que los mismos pies que estos abejones cuando vuelan, que son seis, tres a cada lado cerca de la cabeza o pecho.

Estos gusanos los meten dentro de dichos nidillos, en que ponen, (que no se de qué es), primero una telilla blanca, que sirve como de segundinas en que queda envuelto dicho gusano y dejándolo dentro, tapan con lodo, (ya que no a piedra – lodo), la puercecilla por donde los metieron. He tenido yo cuidado de ver en que paran, y, después de unos diez o doce días deshecho uno de los nidillos (en que hay, como dije, dos o tres divisiones), y hallar al gusano que vide poner los días antes, que ya comenzaba a criar alas y a adelgazar la mitad del cuerpo, para que, como las avispas, sean muy cenceños, dejaba los otros compañeros, y, cuando menos me percataba veía abierto el nidillo de tierra, deshecho el agujerito que habían tapado antes y con nada dentro; de donde se colige, con evidencia, que aquellos gusanos meros se convierten en dichos abejones, y lo mismo, a mi parecer, sucede en las abejas, como dijimos arriba.

Con esto pasemos, dejando las otras especies de avispas o abejones, a las langostas, que acá llaman *doron*⁷, las que les son como plaga de Egipto, que infestan no poco a estas Islas, con tanta cantidad a veces que obscurecen el sol todo el tiempo que duran en pasar, y tardan no pocas horas; de modo que por acá, para encarecer algo de que hay mucho, o para exagerar la mucha gente, dicen que son como las langostas; y aunque las grandes y que vuelan son muy dañosas e infestan a los sembrados y plantas, talándolo todo, lo son sin comparación mucho más los hijos que dejan y llaman *locton*⁸.

El modo de avivar, o parir, es particular. Buscan lugar lodoso y de tierra blanda y encajan la inferior parte de su cuerpo en el

how to extract some little tubes of the size of the little finger, with two or three together like hollow bamboos and very carefully made. These come so hard and strong that they cannot be crushed by the fingers alone but require a stick or piece of iron. In each of these little nests they leave an opening on one side as big as they are. They bring in some greenish grubs. I have seen them many times and observed what they do with them. They have the same number of feet as these little bees when they fly. There are six, three on each side near the head or breast.

They place these grubs inside these little nests in which they first put (I do not know what it is made of) a little white covering which serves as a placenta in which this grub becomes wrapped. Leaving this inside, they cover up with mud the little opening through which they were put in, although it is not sealed tightly. I have taken the trouble to examine how they end up. After about ten or twelve days, I have broken apart one of these little nests in which there are, as I said, two or three divisions and found there the grub which I saw placed there some days before. Now, it has begun to grow wings and half of the body has become slender and which like the wasps may be very slender. It left the other partners and when I least expected it, I saw the little nest or earth opened through the little hole which had been filled before and now with nothing inside. From this it can be assumed with evidence that these mere grubs are converted into little wasps. The same thing happens, in my opinion, among the bees, as we said above.

With this, we shall pass on, omitting the other varieties of wasps or bees, to the locusts, which here are called *duron*.⁷ These are like a plague of Egypt and frequently infest these islands in such quantities at times that they obscure the sun for the whole time that it takes them to pass and they linger many hours. As a result, those who exaggerate about something about which there is a large quantity or overstate the number of persons, are said to be like locusts. Although the fully grown ones which fly are very harmful and infest the fields and crops laying them waste, they cannot be compared to their offspring which are called *lukton*.⁸

The manner of hatching or laying eggs is unusual. They look for a muddy place and with soft soil; they bury the lower part of

lodo, de modo que están casi todas sumergidas en él cuando es muy pegajosa la tierra, y más si les llueve cuando están poniendo sus huevecillos, se quedan muchas apegadas las alas al lodo y no pueden salir, quedándose allí muertas; cuando no, en habiendo deshovado, vuelan y se desaparecen o mueren; y dentro de pocos días comienzan a salir los hijuelos en tanta mayor cantidad que las madres, cuantos son los huevecillos, (que dicen son muchos) que cada una dejó, de modo que cubren el suelo y dejan quemado todo cuanto hay verde por donde pasan; que, como no pueden volar, van a saltos. El modo que estos indios tienen para matarlos es. Miran hacia donde van, que siempre es en favor del viento, y abren unas grandes zanjás, de cuatro o más palmos de ancho y otro tanto de hondo, poniendo la tierra a la parte hacia donde van, y, arri-madas a ella y ayudadas con cañas o palos, unas hojas de plátanos (ya dijimos cuán largas y anchas son). Como son tan lisas, cuando llegan los primeros a la casa y van llenándola (que con tanta cantidad se hace muy en breve) aunque quieran pasar no pueden, porque resbalan con las hojas que pusieron para parapeto a la otra parte, y así caen todas dentro y luego las tapan con la tierra, que sacaron, y las dejan sepultadas, multiplicando estas casas hasta que se acaban, y ni aun ellas bastan. ¡Tanta es su multitud!

La isla de Manila⁹, dicen, es mucho más infestada de langostas que las otras, y las hay casi siempre. En estas de *Pintados*¹⁰ no suelen haber tantas, pues se pasan algunos años sin verlas; y, cuando de otras islas (que es lo ordinario) pasan a ellas, máxime a la de *Ibabao*, (donde lo he notado y no pocas veces), no duran porque, si es en tiempo de vendavales, que es el verano acá, la misma fuerza del viento que las trae, las traspasa por lo ancho de la isla a la mar ancha que viene de Nueva España y allí quedan ahogadas, sucediendo algunas veces navegar leguas cerca de la costa, llenas de langostas; y, si es tiempo de brisas, que es del oriente, como veremos en el Capítulo siguiente, o las detienen la fuerza de los

their bodies in the mud so that they are totally submerged in it. When the earth is very sticky and especially if it rains when they are laying their tiny eggs many of them have their wings held fast by the mud and since they cannot emerge, they remain trapped to die. When this does not happen, when they have laid their eggs, they fly off and disappear or die. In a few days the offspring begins to emerge in so much greater numbers than their mothers, so numerous are the little eggs. They say that each one lays a large number so that the young cover the ground and they leave as if burned whatever was green wherever they pass. Since they cannot fly they travel by hopping. The method which these natives have of killing them is as follows. They take note of the direction in which they are moving; this is always in the direction of the wind. They open several large trenches, four *palmos* or more in width and as may deep, placing the soil on the farthest side in the direction they are going and close to it and supported by leaves of bananas (we have already described how long and wide they are) held in place by canes or sticks. Since the leaves are so smooth, when the first locusts come to the ditch and proceed to fill it (with such numbers this happens very quickly), although they wish to pass, they cannot do so because they slip on the leaves which were placed like a parapet on the other side. Hence, they all fall in; then the natives cover them with the earth which they have taken out and leave them entombed. These ditches are multiplied until the locusts are killed. Not even are these means sufficient. So great are their numbers!

The island of Manila,⁹ they say, is much more infested with locusts than the others; there are almost always some of them. In these islands of the *Pintados*¹⁰ there are not usually so many. For several years pass without seeing them. When they cross over from other islands (which is an ordinary occurrence), especially to from *Ibabao*, where I have noted it many times, they do not last long because, if it is the season of the *vendabales*, which is summer-time here, the very force of the wind that brings them, transports them across the width of the island to the broad sea which stretches from New Spain, and there they are drowned. One can travel for leagues sometimes along the coast with the water filled with locusts. If it is the season of the *brisas*, which is a wind from the East, as we shall see in the next chapter, either the force of

vientos que no pueden romper, o las muchas lluvias, que es su tiempo entonces y de invierno (o cuasi invierno por acá), las matan de frío, y con eso duran poco.

Muchas otras diferencias de langostas, (aunque no tan dañosas como las dichas, por ser en menos cantidad), hay por acá, y de varios nombres; pero, por no tener cosa especial, no hacemos mención de ellas.

Vengamos a la mariposas, que todos son géneros de exangües y volátiles. Háylas en estas Islas muchas, muy grandes algunas y muy hermosas, adornadas de vistosos colores y todos vivísimos, en especial las alas, que algunas parecen de raso muy fino, otras de velludo muy bien labrado. Llámanlas en nombre general *aliban-bang*¹¹ or *anunugba*¹². Y aunque hay muchas diferencias, de las más notables haremos acá mención por ser una de las cosas en que tienen sus supersticiones estos naturales.

*Acanug*¹³ llaman a unas muy grandes y muy pintadas de varios y muy hermosos colores; y, por serlo tanto, es refrán suyo, cuando uno va vestido de varios colores y bien compuesto, decirle que se semeja a esta mariposa.

Es por lo extraordinario y grande *paglehe*, (que ya hemos dicho lo que es entre estos naturales, o *pangasa*) de modo que, si cuando hacen sementera o limpian la tierra para sembrar, encuentran acaso algunas de estas mariposas, lo dejan, (que esto ocasiona el *paglehe*), porque, si no, dicen que se morirán o les sucederá alguna cosa muy adversa y dañosa, que equivalga a muerte.

No me alargo en contar la otra variedad hermosa de las muchas y muy diferentes mariposas que por acá se ven; y es cierto que con admiración en lo vivo de sus colores varios, de sus tamaños particular de sus figuras, diferencia de sus alas y otras circunstancias notables.

Seis alas he visto yo en algunas; las dos mayores, y las otras dos pequeñas, y las de en medio medianas; de modo que estas alas no las tienen unas tras otras como las plumas, sino arri-

the wind stops them and they cannot go through, or the plentiful rainfall, for this is the season, and the winter or semi-winter here, kills them with the cold so that they survive but briefly.

Many other different kinds of locusts exist here with various names, although not as harmful as these because they are in fewer numbers. But because they have no special peculiarities, we shall not make mention of them.

We come to the butterflies which are all bloodless species capable of flying. There are many in these Islands; some very large and beautiful, adorned with a variety and showy colors and all extremely lively, especially their wings. Some of these seem like a very fine satin, others of finely embroidered velvet. They call them by the general name *alibangbang*¹¹ or *anunugba*.¹² Although there are many different kinds, here we shall mention the most notable because it is one of the matters about which these natives have their superstitions.

*Kakanug*¹³ is called one of the very large and very beautifully painted with various and very pretty colors. For this reason, there is their saying when a person who goes dressed in varied colors and well fitted out; they say of such that he resembles this butterfly.

Due to the extraordinary and powerful *paglihi*, about which we have already said, what this is among these natives, or *pagasa*, if they encounter, by chance, one of these butterflies while they are preparing a field for sowing or are clearing the land for seeding, they abandon it. This calls for the *paglihi*; for if not, they say that they will die or that something very adverse and dangerous will happen to them which will be the same as death.

I shall not prolong this by telling about the other beautiful variety of the many and very different butterflies that are seen over here. It is certain that they cause admiration for the vividness of their colors, the variety of their sizes and especially their shapes, the differences in their wings and other remarkable peculiarities.

I have seen some with six wings; two large ones, two other small ones and those in between of medium size, arranged so that these wings are not one after the other, like feathers, but joined

madras unas a otras al lado, quedando en algunas las alas menores adentro cerca del espinazo; en otras afuera. De cuatro alas también las hay, y otras (y son las menores) de dos.

Hállanse algunas con un copetillo a modo de garzota o plumaje gracioso. Los colores de unas son totalmente negras, con unas como cifras, o letras, muy coloradas, en medio de las alillas. Hay otras totalmente blancas, con labores negros. Háylas de color totalmente verde, y jaspeadas otras, y, a mi ver, las que yo he reparado por más hermosas son unas de un jaspeado pardo y blanco, con aguas o visos colorados como chamelote de aguas¹⁴, que al rayo del sol representan un hermoso iris, más vistoso que el que se ve en los cuellos de las palomas y otras aves.

De sus propiedades o calidades poco podemos decir, porque las observancias en esta parte de los naturales son pocas, cortas y nada científicas, como de gente que se cuida poco de estas cosas. Y sólo lo que hallan observado de sus mayores imitan y reconocen.

Diré algo de lo que yo he reparado, y sea lo primero que estas mariposas son, a mi ver, la cabeza o parte principal de los que llamamos exangües, pues no solo les falta sangre, pero ni carne, ni huesos, ni espinas o cosas que se las parezca tienen; y aun las mayores, de que ya tratamos, que serán como unas tórtolas pequeñas, tienen tan poco jugo, que casi todas ellas (dejando las alas, que son mucho más enjutas y secas, a modo de las plumas sin cañones, pues aunque se suelen apolillar, no podrir), y tal vez entre las ojas de un libro, (como solemos con los registros), se conservan con los colores nativos muchos meses y años. Son de una materia cartagilácea enjuta, sin tener cosa sólida.

Lo más sólido y lo más duro es la cabeza, aunque no tenga hueso, sino que el [que] había de ser casco es más blando, aunque tan sólido como una cáscara de huevo, y de materia que se pudre con mucha brevedad. Las alas, aunque dijimos que son como los pelos de las plumas en lo enjuto, no en lo delgado o deshilado, porque son todas de una pieza y como si fueran de un pedazo de

one to the other at the side. In some of them the small wings are inside, near the spine. In some others, outside. There are some also with four wings and others (they are the smallest) of two.

Some are found with a little crest like the decorative plumage. The colors of some are completely black with bright red, cifer-like figures or letters in the midst of the small wings. There are others completely white, with black designs; there are those of a completely green color and others are speckled. For me, the ones that I have observed to be the most beautiful are some speckled gray and white ones with red streams or rivers or *chamelote de aguas*,¹⁴ which in the light rays of the sun take on the appearance of a beautiful rainbow, more striking than the one which is seen on the necks of doves and other birds.

About their characteristics and qualities we are able to say little because the remarks in this regard by the natives are few, brief and in no way scientific. For they are a people who have little concern for these matters; they simply imitate and remember what they have observed from their ancestors.

I shall relate something of what I have discovered; the first may be that these butterflies are, in my opinion, the chief or principal group of those creatures we call bloodless. Not only do they lack blood, but even flesh and bones. They have no spines or anything that resembles these. Even the largest, which we have already considered, which are like a kind of small turtle dove, likewise have no bodily juices than almost all the others (except for the wings which are very much dried and sapless, in the manner of wings without the pinions, for although they may be full of holes, they do not rot), sometimes they are preserved between the pages of a book, as we do in the registers, with their natural colors for many months and years. They are of a dry cartilaginous material without anything hard on it.

The most solid and hardest portion is the head, although it has no bone. What ought to have been the skull is softer, yet as hard as the shell of an egg and of a material which decomposes very quickly. The wings, although we said that they are as dry as the feathers are not similar in their thinness or thread like quality because they are of one piece as if they were made of one piece of

raso, con su modo de vello muy delicado. Y por esta causa conservan mejor, y salen mejores, los colores con que la naturaleza les pintó variamente, pues, como hemos dicho, son de muy hermosos, varios y sólidos colores, y algunas que parecen doradas o plateadas, aunque estas se deslustran más fácilmente manoseadas.

La parte que se junta [enjuta in text] de las dichas alas al cuerpo es algo canosa o húmeda y de materia más corruptible. Los nervios, (como suelen ser también en las hojas de los árboles), son de materia, aunque más sólida y dura que lo extendido de ellas, pero no menos vistosa.

Vi yo en un libro de un Padre de los nuestros, que por curiosidad había juntado muchas y varias, mayores y menos, alas de estas mariposas, todas muy hermosas, y que las miraba yo y admiraba no pocas veces como las imágenes de pluma en la variedad de colores, lustre como de vello de las plumas y *tesón* del pergamino; que todo esto juntó Dios en estas mariposas.

De los otros géneros de exangües, como chicharras, grillos y otros, que con su canto, o cantan o entretienen, también hay acá variedad. Los grillos son mucho menores, aunque no menos enfadosos que en España, y casi todo el año cantan, porque casi todo es estío. Las chicharras se oyen menos, aunque hay otras de mayores voces y más sonoras que ocupan su lugar.

Un animalillo hay, tan pequeño que apenas hay quien lo haya visto, y tiene la voz mucho mayor que las chicharras de España, llamado *durat*¹⁵ y previene, como las ranas, con su chillido las lluvias.

Es refrán de los que gritan mucho, o de los que no les para la tarabilla. Con ser tan pequeño, y tan escondido bajo la tierra, que no se ve aunque se oye de muy lejos, pero debe de tener, tan vivo el oído como el pito, pues, aunque muchas veces enfadado de sus chillidos le mandaba buscar, fue en valde, porque, en advirtiéndolo cualquier movimiento, y sin duda debe percibir el de

satin, with each having its own peculiar, very delicate hair. For this reason, they last longer and the colors, with which nature painted them in variegated ways, show up better. For as we have said they are of very beautiful multicolored and solid colors; some appear to be gilded or plated, although these lose their luster very easily when handled.

The portion by which these wings are joined to the body is somewhat fleshy and moist and a more corruptible material. What ought to be the nerves, as also in the leaves of trees, are of a material which is even harder and more solid than in their broad surfaces. But they are no less beautiful.

I saw in a book of one of our *Padres*, that for the sake of curiosity he had collected, many multicolored, large and small wings of these butterflies, all very pretty. I used to look at them and admire them quite often. They were like images made of feathers in the variety of colors, a sheen like velvet of feathers and the firmness of parchment. All these qualities God joined together in these butterflies.

About the other kinds of the bloodless, like the cicadas, crickets and others, which with their singing or chirping entertain, there is also a variety. The crickets are much smaller, although not less troublesome than in Spain; they sing almost all through the year because it is almost all summertime. The cicadas are heard less, although there are others with stronger and more sonorous voices which take their place.

There is a little creature so tiny that there is scarcely anyone who has seen it and it has a sound much greater than the cicadas of Spain, called *durat*.¹⁵ It forecasts, like the frogs with their croaking, the coming of rain.

There is a saying about those who shout a lot or who prattle on ceaselessly, that being so small and so hidden beneath the ground that it is not seen; yet, one can hear it a great distance away. But it must have as keen a sense of hearing as the sound because many times, when bothered by its cries, I ordered the natives to look for it; it was in vain because on noticing any move-

los pies, que cuando se asientan en el suelo, calla al punto, y le dura hasta que se apartó otra vez el que le iba a buscar; que parece que tiene mayor sentido muchas veces sin comparación que su cuerpo.

*Borlo*¹⁶ llaman a otro animalejo, del tamaño de los grillos de España, que vuela también y canta como ellos, aunque con voz más ronca. El tallo, o figura, es muy diferente. Algo más se parece a las chicharras, aunque es menor. Este tiene un piquillo como tenacillas, tan duro y acerado que apenas hay cosa alguna de las más duras que no roa, si quiere y halla algún jugo; y es tan perjudicial a los sembrados que, cuando el arroz está ya que echa cañas de uno o dos nudos antes de espigar, suele tomar por entretenimiento (cebado también del poco jugo que halla en el primer nudo de la caña del arroz) irle cortando a toda prisa, dejando pocos de ellos. En una noche taladra no poco parte de una poca sementera, y, si son muchos, a toda ella, sin remedio humano que lo pueda entorbar; (aunque no les faltan sus medios supersticiosos a los indios para prevenirlo), dejando como sagado el arroz, que por la mañana se halla caído en el suelo. Y si acaso estos *borlo* dan en los sembrados, cuando están pequeños y como de uno a dos meses, es el daño mayor y más irreparable, pues en el más tierno hacen mayor estrago; y, por estas malas mañas, entre estos es refrán este animalejo, del que tiene buena voz y malas obras, de los mentirosos y habladores, y aun [aunque in text] es un género de maldición que usan ellos cuando llaman a otro con el nombre de este gusurapo; que en todas partes las malas mañas se conocen y aborrecen, y más cuando caen en una boca dulce.

De otros insectos, o exangües, que son muchos y varios, como lagartijas de dos colas, y otros que llaman estos naturales *pangasa*, por lo extraordinario y raro, no hago mención por no alargar este libro, como ni tampoco de varios géneros de hormigas voladoras, no sólo de las que se dice vulgarmente que para su mal le nacieron a las hormigas las alas; que casi todas las diferencias (que de

ment whatsoever, and without doubt it can perceive a person through his feet when they are planted on the ground, it immediately becomes silent. This lasts until the one who was looking for it has departed. Without any doubt, it has much more sensitivity by far than its body would seem to warrant.

*Burlo*¹⁶ they call another little creature, about the size of the crickets in Spain, which also flies and sing as they do, although it is in a harsher tone. Its shape or figure is very different. It is more similar to the cicadas, although it is smaller. It has a little beak like a small pair of tongs so hard and metal like that there is hardly any of the hardest substances which it cannot pierce, if it wishes and finds a little sap. It is very damaging to growing fields and when the rice is at the point of sending out stems of one or two knots, before forming the grain, it seize them for amusement (excited also by a little sap which it finds in the first joint of the rice stem) it goes about cutting the rice stems with great speed, leaving only a few. It can lay waste in one night a large part of a small field. If there are a great many of them, they destroy all of it without any human means that can impede them, even though the natives are not lacking in superstitious means to prevent it. Rice that is ready for harvest is found in the morning lying on the ground. If, by chance, these *burlo* attack the sowings when they are young, and about one or two months old, the damage is greater and more irreparable because in the more tender shoots they work greater havoc. For these evil deeds the name of this little creature is a metaphor for one who utters good words and performs bad deeds; for liars and talkative individuals. It is even a kind of curse which they use when they call by the name of this water worm, one whose bad habits are known everywhere and hated and especially since they are couched in a sweet phrase.

About other insects or bloodless ones which are numerous and varied, such as the newts with two tails and others which these native call *pangasa* due to their curiousness and rarity, I shall not mention in order not to lengthen this book. Nor shall we speak about various kinds of flying ants, not to mention those about which it is said commonly that for its evil purpose the ants

estas sabandijas, como dijimos, son muchas por acá), las echan con el tiempo, y con ellas acaban más presto su vida.

Pero hay especies de hormigas tan grandes y mayores que las avispas, que siempre tienen alas y vuelan, siendo aladas de su natural para los efectos que la Divina Providencia sabe y para aumento de la variedad y hermosura del Universo, en quien tantas maravillas ha encerrado su Criador, tan sabio como poderoso, para que aun en lo muy menudo le alabemos.

grow wings as also all the differences which this nasty insect has, as we said. They are numerous over here; they shed them with time and thereby end their lives very quickly.

But there is a species of ants large or larger than wasps, which always have wings and fly; being winged by nature for the purpose, which Divine Providence knows and for the increase of the variety and beauty of the universe in which the Creator, as wise as He is powerful, has enclosed so many marvels, for even the least of which we praise Him. □

Chapter 28

ANNOTATIONS

[1] A wasp; a hornet; a bee. *Masakit kumagat. Lapinigon nga kahoy. Lapinig:* wasp. These wasps live in swarms and produce a honey which cannot be eaten. De la Rosa-Alcázar [1914], *op. cit.*, p. 180.

[2] *Cagas*. Or *kagason, kagson*: The portion of the honeycomb which is dry and has no honey, like the *ginulo*, neither worms nor offspring, like the *orlan* – *Kagas kon putiukan*, it is said of what is void and without fruit like the one who did not receive pay for the work or of the one who worked in vain. 2. *Naghagas na sira; nagpatagsa sin lakat. Ginkagasan na kita*. We were left alone. *Ginkagasan na an bungto, an uma, an huron. Baga kagas na an lawas ko sin niwang*, I am thin and consumed/shrunken. 3. A certain bird with short legs. *Nangaas*, to catch these birds or hunt them. *Panagagas na ining sugob*, when all come armed with spears that it seems to be similar to a certain device they use to catch birds once the plants have dropped the leaves; they place as a sign certain small sticks to find them later. Sánchez [1711], *op. cit.*

"Kagas: A honeycomb without honey. A little head or rootcrop of the kind called *bagung*, without seeds already. Also a bird by this same name. De la Rosa-Alcázar [1914], *op. cit.*, p. 75.

[3] *Coroncoron. Kurunkuron*. A pot according to Tramp and spelled *kuron*. *Op. cit.*, p. 119. Now, in Bisayan whenever the first syllable is duplicated it means something small. Sánchez gives an entry under this spelling *colod* or *kulod*: The vein that runs through the middle of a leaf, a spine or a back of something. *Kulalan*, it is called in Cebu when it has many edges and here, *kuloran, biliran, Koloran na kon nagatawo an tulon sa bunkog* when the person is so thin that the bones of the spine can be counted.

Kulurkolor (kolodkolod), to escape confusedly. *Nangkolodkolod*, is the same. When unable to stand up from work, *kun diri, kun diri matuyhanga sin buhat. Namguludkulod palagiw san gubat, nagbuburong, naggugumok*. Sánchez [1711], *Ibid.*

This is bell-shaped nest made of mud and called in Spanish a *cascabel* (little bell).

[4] *Buligan*. A deadly stinging insect that lives in swarms; a. in need of help. v. To be helped. n. Hard work. Tramp, *op. cit.*, p. 60. Sánchez has no entry for this word.

"The wasp may be called *buliganay*: a red and a black poisonous bumblebee." De la Rosa-Alcázar [1914], *op. cit.*, p. 64.

[5] *Tuba*. A drink; sap; juice; wine derived from coconut palm and also known as *bahal*. Tramp, p. 449. *"Bahal*: A powerful or strong tuba which is about

two or three days old and near to becoming vinegar. De la Rosa-Alcázar [1914], *op. cit.*, p. 27.

"The wine that is taken from *sangotan*. Palm, *nipa*, *buri*, etc." Also known as *bahal*: a strong and bitter *tuba*. *Maisug na, apas na nga bahal*. Sánchez [1711], *op. cit.* Nowadays, the sweet *tuba* is called *bahalina* by the Samareños.

[6] *Alimbubuyog*. A hornet; big bumblebee. Tramp, *op. cit.*, p. 10. In Sánchez we find this *alimbubuyog* under *buyog*: large bee that bores the trees. *Op. cit.*

"*Alimbubuyog*: flee, fly, wasp." De la Rosa-Alcázar [1914], *op. cit.*, p. 13.

[7] *Duron*. Or better *duron*: a locust; grasshopper. Tramp, *op. cit.*, p. 143. According to Sánchez it is a locust. *Nanlulupad an duron, pagdurunon an akon humay; Nagduduron*, the locust eats up the seeds and plants. *Ginduro*, what has been eaten by the locust. *Gindaronan* the person to whom the locusts destroyed the rice, *pagdoronan na kita niyan, pinanoronan an bongto sa mga dato*, the *principales* have oppressed and destroyed the town; they have exploited/afflicted it. Sánchez [1711], *op. cit.*

[8] *Locton. Lukton*. Offspring of the locust. *Iton maluya pa. Lupok ko an putiokan. An akon uma, ginluktonan na, kun ginankan na sadton duron. Ibid.*

"*Lukton*: When the locusts are nesting they are very, very destructive and harmful to plants especially to *palay* or rice." De la Rosa-Alcázar [1914], *op. cit.*, p. 190.

[9] *Island of Manila*. Ancient chroniclers and writers of Philippine history frequently referred to the large island of Luzon as *Manila*; Alcina makes a constant such reference. Artigas y Cuerva, quotes D. Lorenzo Hervás: "The name Mindanao pertaining to the second largest island comes from the Bisayan terms and particles: *-min* [or *man*] and *danaw*. The first (*min* or *man*) is a composite particle meaning a plurality of what the root states: e.g. *Min* + *danaw* is *Mindanao*, meaning "many" + "lakes" – or a land of many lakes. Manila: the particle '*man*' plus '*ilaya*' or '*iraya*', meaning 'from up the river'; hence, people coming from up river. *Reseña de la Provincia de Leyte, op. cit.*, p. 26. Sánchez has an entry which is similar to Manila; namely, *maninila*: a tree similar to the plum tree. With the people strong tendency to shorten words, could this perhaps be a reference to Manila where, perhaps, such trees grew in abundance?

Another example: W.E. Retana makes some fine scholarly inroads on this matter in showing the origin and meaning of words as for example the word '*tagalog*'. The word *tagalog* may be derived from the '*taga*' meaning 'from' and '*ilo*' (*ilaya*), *iloc*, *iluc* – up river. Hence, *taga-ilog*: one come from the interior, from up river.

Again the Malayan root *luk* or *lu-ok*, means 'to enter the bay, a gulf or a creek, or river'. This same root is found in similar words as *Kaluokan* or *Caloocan*; *Iluon* (Ilocano), *Malukon* (Moluccas in Indonesia), *Maluco*, (Malakka), *Hilolo*, *Ilo-Ilo*, *Tagluk*, *Tagalu-uk*, *Kamukon*, etc. For example, the word 'bay' in Indonesian means *Teluk*: again the root *LUK* appears. Perhaps, *Tagaluk(g)* or *Tagalok*, means 'people living on the bay'. Cf. Francisco Combés, *Historia de Mindanao y Jolo*, W.E. Retana, ed. Madrid: Viuda de M. Minuesa, 1897, Appendix: "*Notas y Tablas Metódicas col. 755-756*."

[10] *Pintados*. The Bisayans had a strong practice of tattooing themselves; hence, the Spaniards referred to them as '*Pintados*' or 'the Painted Ones' to differentiate them from others in the Philippine Archipelago. Hence the Islands were called *Islas de los Pintados*, Pintados Islands.

[11] *Alibanbang*. More correctly *alibangbang*: a butterfly according to Sánchez. Tramp gives a more extended meaning: a small yellow-winged butterfly of the roadsides; angelfish; butterfly-fish, coral-fish. *Op. cit.*, p. 9.

"*Alibangbang*: Big butterfly. A sea fish of this name." De la Rosa-Alcázar [1914], *op. cit.*, p. 13.

[12] *Anunugba*. Small butterfly. De la Rosa-Alcázar, *op. cit.*, 19.

[13] *Acanug. Kakanug*. A very large butterfly, have and of various colors. *Baga si kuan kakanog na*. It is said of those who dress colorfully and elegantly. Sánchez, *op. cit.*

Tramp gives this meaning to his entry for *kakanog*: cocoon; chrysalis; pupa. *Op. cit.*, p. 73.

"*Kakanog*: Big butterfly of grey color. Big worm which prepares the cocoon with fibers similar to the silk." De la Rosa-Alcázar [1914], *op. cit.*, p. 73.

[14] *Chamelote de aguas. Camelote de aguas. Camelote*, from the Greek καμλωιγ, from κάμγλος, camel. *Camelote* is a strong, impermeable textile made before of camel's hair and later of goat's, mixed with wool. Recently made only of wool. *Camelote de aguas*, the textile especially pressed and luscious. Cfr. *Diccionario de la Lengua, a-guzpatarra*, 249.

[15] *Durat*. In its secondary meaning: a species of green lizards, *daw tabili*. Its primary meaning: steady, persevering. *Madurat, madosa, malaros*: the one who always recalls the bad words said against him; oftentimes he/she brings them back. Sánchez [1711], *op. cit.*

"*Durat*: A small lizard so-called or known. v. To insist, to persist." De la Rosa-Alcázar [1914], *op. cit.*, p. 118.

[16] *Burlo*. In Tramp it appears as *budlo*: a cricket. *Op. cit.*, p. 57. Sánchez does not have this word in any of its forms.