

and ending in a blunt point: viewed in profile, the entire length of the appendages is seen to lie in a single plane. Lower appendages very short, pointed.

♀. (Allotype.) Length of abdomen, including anal appendages, 33.5 mm.; length of hind wing, 25 mm.

Labium and genæ yellow. Labrum glossy black. Clypeus dark reddish-brown. Frons and upper surface of head glossy black, without conspicuous green reflections. Occiput broadly edged with yellowish-brown. First and second joints of antenna brownish; filament lost.

Prothorax brown, with a pair of large oval yellow spots on the middle lobe; hind margin rounded, slightly raised, yellow at sides. Dorsum of thorax proper black, with a narrow yellow line on each side, as in the male. Mesepimeron mainly blackish; light brown inferiorly (anteriorly); a short yellow line bordering the humeral suture basally, with an elongated spot of yellowish-white lying beside and below it. Metepisternum yellow below (before) the metastigma; mainly brown above (behind) the metastigma. Mesinfraepisternum as in male. Metepimeron principally yellow; a superior blackish spot near the pectus. Pectus as in male.

Legs as in male.

Wings: 15-16 postnodals in fore wings and 13 in hind wings. Wings entirely hyaline. Pterostigma as in male.

Abdomen dark chocolate-brown, glossy; the sutures between the more proximal segments yellow; some green reflections on segments 1 and 2. Anal appendages glossy black, short, subconical. Ovipositor, including the palps, not projecting beyond the level of the end of the abdomen; each of the lower valves with a convex ventral surface in the apical third of its length, armed with a longitudinal row of saw-like teeth; palps curving strongly downwards.

A NEW EMBIDOBIA FROM INDIA.

BY A. A. GIRAULT.

REARED from the eggs of *Embia major*, Imms, at Bhowali, Kumaon, Himalaya, India, August 24th, 1912 (A. D. Imms).

Embidobia brittanica, new species.

Female.—Length, 0.70 mm. Differs notably from the genotype in having the abdomen, legs, scape, and funicles 2-5 golden yellow. Fore wing dusky rather broadly at apex and with a faint cross-stripe from the marginal vein (hyaline in the genotype). The abdomen at apical fourth, however, and sometimes a cross-band between base and middle, dorsad, dusky; otherwise black or dusky black. Differs farther as follows: Funicle 1 is somewhat shorter, that is, slightly longer than wide; the other funicle joints also shorter, that is, wider than long, 5 twice wider than long; the propodeum is striate between the spiracles, at first (mesad) longitudinally, then obliquely; segment 2

of the abdomen is shorter than 3 (counting the first body segment as 2) 2 striate at proximal half (in the genotype striate for proximal three fourths), 3 striate at base (for nearly the entire segment in the genotype, though but faintly after middle); segment 4 shorter than 3 (longer in the genotype, sub-equal to 2). The whole of the venation from base to the apex of the elongate postmarginal vein bears conspicuous, long, stiff bristles (in the genotype less conspicuous, the postmarginal vein otherwise indistinct but for them). Marginal vein nearly as long as the stigmal vein, thrice longer than wide (in the genotype hardly twice longer than wide, less than half the length of the longer stigmal); otherwise the same. Mandibles with three small acute teeth at apex.

Three females.

Types.—Catalogue No. 20601, U.S. National Museum, the females on a slide.

The original description of the genus needs emendation as follows:

Antennæ in female 11-jointed, the club 4-jointed; lateral ocelli distant from the eyes; scrobes very deep but short, separated by a thin carina; eyes hairy; propodeum with a curved lateral carina; the postmarginal vein is present, *elongate*, over twice the length of the stigmal; the latter very narrow, its knob small and abrupt. Mandibles *tridentate*, the middle tooth shortest, the others subequal. Abdomen depressed from dorsal aspect, ovate, the base truncate and margined, none of the segments very long, the abdomen a little longer than the rest of the body. Habitus of *Telenomus*. Meson of propodeum declivous and against the abdomen (but when visible striate as in *britannica*, but not out to the spiracles). Male antennæ 12-jointed, moniliform, except the club and funicle 1, the former longer than the latter, longer than the pedicel (which is not so elongate in the male). From types of the genotype.

ON THE COCOON COLOUR OF VARIOUS INSECTS.

By G. T. LYLE, F.E.S.

UNTIL I read Mrs. Merritt-Hawke's paper, "On the Factors which determine the Cocoon Colour of *Plusia moneta* and other Lepidoptera," published in the 'Trans. Entom. Soc., 1916, p. 404, I was under the impression that for some time past it had been an accepted fact that the variation in colour of the cocoons of *P. moneta* is due entirely to the absence or presence of moisture.

Some years ago I reared a considerable number of the larvæ of this species with the idea of obtaining hymenopterous parasites, and my experience abundantly proved that, given a total absence of moisture, the cocoons were invariably white, while,