

Pseudatrachia griseola n. sp. Head yellow, opaque, gray, pruinose; upper part of occiput and the antennæ black; proboscis and palpi yellow; thorax black, opaque, densely gray pruinose; the humeri and spots on the pleura yellow; scutellum yellow, marked with a median brown vitta; abdomen yellowish, subopaque; knobs of halteres and the legs yellowish; wings hyaline; veins yellow; last section of third vein less than one-half as long as the preceding section; length 3 to 4 mm.

Mesilla, N. Mex. (T. D. A. Cockerell, May 25, 1897), and Los Angeles Co., Cal. A pair from the latter locality, captured by the writer, were resting on the bare ground like a *Thereva*. Two males and one female. Type No. 4712, U. S. National Museum.

A Neglected Platymetopius.

By HERBERT OSBORN, Ohio State Univer., Columbus, O.

Platymetopius hyalinus n. sp.

Elytra hyaline with dark points and fuscous bands arranged, one sub-basal, one median and one sub-apical. Face bright sulphur yellow, vertex, pronotum, and scutellum yellow with some infuscation or greenish washes. Length ♀ 5.5 mm.; ♂ 4.25 mm.

Vertex acute, nearly twice as long as width at base, slightly less acute and produced in male, anteriorly depressed and with a conspicuous median impressed line running from base to tip. Front narrow, clypeus widening to apex, loræ almost a half-circle, genæ evenly rounded. Prothorax of usual form, sides short, posterior edge very slightly emarginate at center. Elytra hyaline, without veinlets or narrow lines, the nerves conspicuous, but one transverse vein between second and third sector.

Color: vertex yellow, more or less infuscated, the females showing a yellow wedge anteriorly, the males with deeper infuscation but having a marginal and anterior median stripe lighter. Face clear yellow with a marginal fuscous line just beneath margin of vertex, the margin of cheeks becoming somewhat greenish. Prothorax greenish yellow with slight trace of fuscous anteriorly in ♀ and faint milky irrorations in ♂. Elytral nervures fulvous in ♀, paler in ♂. Three fairly distinct transverse bands of fuscous spots, one, midway on clavus and including first transverse vein consists of transverse fuscous spots behind which to tip of cell is a smoky patch. The middle band includes a distinct black point at tip of clavus and on the nodal vein. The subapical band includes the anteapical transverse veins, the inner and outer of which are black, the fuscous points appearing in outer and middle anteapical cells in proximal part of three apical cells, those in the outer and middle apical cells forming a broken circle. Pectus black with yellow borders on coxal and pleural pieces. Abdomen above black on disk in female, with yellow border and

apex, in male black with marginal yellow spots. Beneath light yellow in female, black in male. Legs yellow with black points at base of spines.

Genitalia: Female, last ventral segment very much produced, reaching nearly half the length of the pygofer, tapering to a rounded point. Pygofer broad with a black spot near apex and a few short yellow bristles. Ovipositor equalling pygofer, black, with pale tip.

Male, valve triangular with an acute median tooth. Plates narrow elongate with the tips curving dorsad in two large hooks, which in normal position would be included between the edges of the pygofer. In all specimens in hand, however, the plates are bent backward on venter, exposing their inner face, and one specimen still in the position of complete coitus shows the plates caught upon the point of the greatly elongated female ventral segment and pushed over against the abdomen. In all specimens in hand it would appear that the position given the plates during copulation had been retained when the specimens were killed.

Described from five females and four males collected in Washington, D. C., June, 1897, by Mr. J. S. Hine, who states that they were very abundant upon an introduced species of maple. It seems strange that the species should have been so long overlooked if a native form; and, as suggested by Mr. Hine, it may be an introduced species brought with some of the exotic plants. If so it would still seem to have escaped the vigilance of the descriptive entomologist, as it can not be referred to any described species.

How a little Tineid Larva lives on what is left of a big Cecropia Caterpillar.

By HENRY SKINNER and ALFRED F. SATTERTHWAIT.

Mr. H. W. Wenzel, while looking for Pselaphidæ and Scydmenidæ, can't go by other natural history objects, as his is a case of atavism. His father and grandfather were naturalists, and he has two sons enthusiastically following in their father's footsteps. While collecting these minute Coleoptera, he also collected for us a goodly number of *cecropia* cocoons. These cocoons were sorted over and divided into the heavy ones and light weight ones. The heavy ones contained living cecropia chrysalids and *Ophion macrurum* cocoons, and the light ones larva killed by fungi, dipterous and hymenopterous parasites or by other causes. We were surprised to find in the inner