

grey specimens, smaller than ordinary examples of either form, and certainly bearing no more resemblance to one than to the other, but their time of emergence is precisely that of the form or species which we call *crepuscularia* (formerly *laricaria*). If, on account of difference of colouring, we still continue to look upon *crepuscularia* and *biundularia* as distinct species, we shall, for the sake of consistency, be compelled to make one or two more species to admit these grey and blackish forms.—ID.

*The male of Formicoxenus nitidulus, Nyl.*—In vol. xx, p. 16, of this Magazine, I pointed out that Mons. E. André had shown in his "Species des Formicides d'Europe," that the male of *Formicoxenus* was still unknown to collectors. Mons. André has, however, in his First Supplement, p. 11, published last October, described the sought-for male, which has been discovered by M. Gottfried Adlerz, and was described by him in his "Myrmecologiska Studier," Öfv. af Kongl. Vet. Akad. Forh., 1884, p. 43. For the benefit of our English Hymenopterists I therefore give a translation of the chief distinguishing characters of this male, and I fancy that, in all probability, it may be found in many collections mixed with the workers, which it seems so closely to resemble.

*Formicoxenus nitidulus, Nyl.*—♂. Exactly like the ♀, except the following characters: head more narrowed behind, which gives it a more oval form; mandibles very short, narrow at the apex, which is obliquely truncate, its apical angle projecting in a blunt tooth; ocelli small, but always distinct; antennæ of twelve joints (the worker has only eleven), the scape shorter and thicker than in the ♀, never more than half the length of the flagellum, the basal joints of the latter are longer than in the workers, and the joints of the club are narrower, in fact, the club is not well defined, and might be held to consist of four or five joints; thorax like that of the ♀, but rather longer; no wings or alar articulations; abdomen with the petiole like that of the other sex, and with five segments beyond it, which are slightly narrower than in the ♀ or ♀; genital armature small.

M. André also observes that, according to M. Adlerz, there exists in every colony of *Formicoxenus* a certain number of specimens intermediate in the form of the thorax and in the development of the ocelli and genital organs, between the males and the workers, and that therefore these characters cannot be relied on to distinguish them, but that the number of abdominal segments and antennary joints, as well as the shape of the mandibles, remain constant.—EDWARD SAUNDERS, St. Ann's, Mason's Hill, Bromley, Kent: May 18th, 1886.

*The female of Crabro signatus, Panz.*—The male of this rare species is so distinct from all its allies that there is scarcely any chance of its being overlooked, its rounded curved posterior tibiæ, and the little spine on the posterior femora at once affording characteristic distinctions, but with the female things are very different. It resembles that sex of *dimidiatus* so closely that it requires a very careful examination to detect its characteristics. There is a something in the general build of the insect that makes it look distinct, and yet it is not easy to point out in what the distinction consists. Mr. Harwood has very kindly given me the only female which he has captured at Colchester, where he has also taken the male, and after a careful comparison of it with ♀ *dimidiatus*, the following characters appear to me to be of value in distinguishing it:—