

rower, equal, sutural vitta. It differs further in the bicolored underside, the want of serrations at the sides of elytra and in the presence of a distinct impressed median line on thorax. Several specimens from Mass. are in Mr. Julich's collection, and he informs me he has seen the same species in Mr. Lugger's collection taken near Baltimore. Dr. Horn says there is a specimen of the same species in the Leconte collection.

Odontota lateritia, sp. nov.

Elytra with eight series of punctures, divided into twos by three costæ. Form slender, parallel, margins of elytra distinctly serrulate. Above, uniformly blood red in color; beneath, head and prothorax red, else black. Antennæ and posterior legs black; median legs piceous, anterior legs rufo-piceous. Vertex with a median sulca. Thorax slightly wider at base, sides arquate; coarsely and densely punctured with an impressed median line, and a shallow transverse basal fovea.

Length 6 mm. *Hab.* Ariz. 1 specimen.

A very distinct species, belonging between *nervosa*, and *gracilis*. It is more robust than *gracilis* and more parallel than *nervosa*. Its uniform blood red color is characteristic and differs immediately from the two other species belonging to the same section.

Charistena bicolor, sp. nov.

Head and elytra metallic dark blue, shining, thorax red. Beneath prothorax and abdomen red, else blue black. Elongate, sides of the elytra parallel, margins not serrulate. Thorax as long as wide, feebly arquate in front, parallel behind, Disc hardly convex, with a large, shallow, fovea at base; sparsely punctured at middle, more densely at sides. Antennæ black, legs red.

Length 45 mm. *Hab.* New Mexico. 1 specimen.

The second and third joints of antennæ are equal in length, and the species is close to *Ariadne*. It stands before that species in the series. The intermediate femora do not appear to be serrulate, and the margins of the elytra are also smooth. It differs from all other species by the uniformly red thorax; the red legs also distinguish it from *Ariadne*.

On the discovery of *Thoracantha*, a tropical genus of Chalcid flies, in Florida.

By W. M. H. ASHMEAD, JACKSONVILLE, FLA.

It may be interesting to many of your readers to know that that interesting genus of the *Chalcididae*, *Thoracantha*, has a representative in the United States.

This spring, among other interesting captures, I took a beautiful male specimen of this unique genus, feeding upon the flowers of the gall-berry *Ilex glaber*, being I believe the first of the genus discovered on the North American Continent.

The genus has heretofore been considered tropical, all the described species having been taken in the tropics.

Thoracantha furcata Fabricius, is from Africa and Brazil; *T. striata*

Perty and *T. Latreillii* Guerin are from Brazil; while *T. nasua* Walker is from Philippine Islands, so that the discovery of the species in the U. S. is doubly interesting.

As my species does not agree with any of the descriptions accessible and is probably new, I name it in honor of the "Land of Flowers" and submit the following description.

***Thoracantha floridana*, n. sp.**

♂. Length .17 inch. Black, shining, coarsely rugose. Head small, transversely rugose, not visible from above and held horizontally under the abnormally developed thorax: eyes moderate, oblong oval, mandibles large, curved, and 4-dentate; antennæ black, 12-jointed, 9-branched, scape moderately long, cylindrical, 2nd large, globular, 3rd to 11th short, cylindrical, slightly widened and truncate at tip, each emitting a long sparsely pubescent sub-clavate branch; 12th joint very long, about same size as the antennal branches and making the antennæ apparently ten-branched; thorax enormously developed and elevated, strongly rugose, the rugosities taking the form of longitudinal grooves, with short sparse pubescence; parapsides wide apart, distinct; scutellum abnormally developed, projecting posteriorly over the abdomen in the form of two long slightly curved horns, which are longitudinally grooved; wings are slightly brownish or fuliginous and when at rest lie flat under the horns; the marginal vein is long, thick, and brownish black, stigma a large brown black spot with the postmarginal vein very long; abdomen pedunculated, peduncle longer than abdomen, finely sculptured, cylindrical, slightly bent near the middle and thickest at base, abdomen smooth shining, black, compressed and when viewed from the side, triangular; legs testaceous, pubescent, coxæ well developed black, upper part of femora and upper edge of tibiæ brown, two apical spurs on posterior tibiæ, with one small spine on middle pair.

Described from one ♂ specimen.

Notes and News.

The meetings of the Entomological Club of the A.A.A.S. will be held in room "H" of the University of Michigan. The first meeting will be held on the 25th of August at 2 P.M. and the following is the programme for that meeting: 1. Annual address of the President, Dr. John G. Morris. 2. Election of Officers for the ensuing year. 3. Reports of Officers and Committees. 4. New business. 5. "A biographical sketch of Dr. Wm. Le Baron, late State Entomologist of Illinois" by Dr. F. W. Goding. 6. Notes on structural and systematic characters of some N. A. Lepidoptera, by John B. Smith.

Other papers have been promised by Prof. C. V. Riley, Prof. Herbert Osborn, Rev. Geo. D. Hulst, Dr. D. S. Kellicott and Prof. J. A. Lintner.

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Mr. Ricksecker has written us a letter that is interesting enough to print almost in full; he says:

"Allow me to add my testimony to the fact, that at least some *Curculio* larvæ are lignivorous. At Monterey, Cal., I took numbers of



Ashmead, William H. 1885. "On the discovery of |Thoracantha|, a tropical genus of chalcid flies in Florida." *Entomologica Americana* 1, 95–96.

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