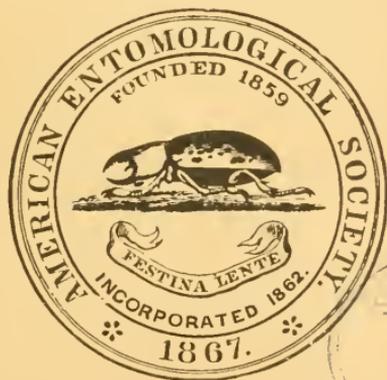


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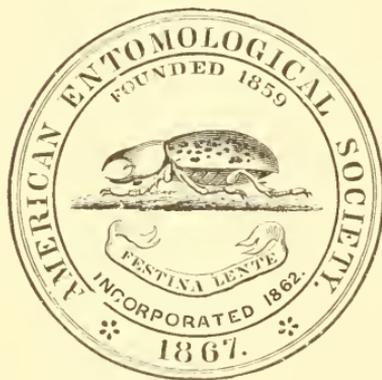
INSECTS

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DESCRIPTION OF A NEW GENUS AND OF FOUR NEW SPECIES OF HYMENOPTERA.

BY P. CAMERON.

ZETHOIDES gen. nov.

♂.—Antennæ clavate, the base of the flagellum narrowed; the scape as long as the following two joints united. Eyes large, converging below, the malar space almost obsolete. Clypeus about 3 times longer than wide, its apex rounded. Labrum hidden. Mandibles becoming gradually narrowed towards the apex. Maxillary palpi with at least 4, the labial with at least 3 joints. Abdominal petiole as long as the rest of the abdomen united, narrowed at the apex and at the base of the 2nd segment as in *Zethus*; 2nd segment bell shaped, as long as the other segments united. Ventral surface slightly convex. Radial cellule appendiculate, the stigma large; there are 2 transverse cubital nervures; the cubitus extends to the apex of the wings, its 2nd abscissa is the longer, the 1st the shorter; the first recurrent nervure is interstitial; the second is received at the base of the apical third of the cellule. Transverse basal nervure interstitial. Scutellum large, flat, its apex roundly margined. Median segment with a rounded slope towards the apex; reticulated, its centre with 2 longitudinal keels. Legs slender, the middle tibiæ with 2 spurs; the claws simple.

I am not quite certain if the wings fold naturally in repose or not. In one example they did do so after being moistened for the purpose of being cleaned. The presence of 2 spurs on the middle tibiæ removes the genus from the Eumenidæ, as do also the fact of there being only 2 transverse cubital nervures, which fact also separates it from the Vespidæ, which have 2 spurs on the middle tibiæ. There is no hook on the end of the antennæ as in the male Eumenidæ. The alar neuration and the clavate antennæ would place it with the Masaridæ, but from the known species in that group it may be readily separated by the long abdominal petiole (except from *Paramasaris*, which differs in other respects). It has very much the form of *Zethus*, especially in the form of the abdomen.

The pronotum is transverse, but not acutely spined; the eyes are margined behind, as is also the occiput; there is a conical protuber-

ance below the antennæ extending to near the top of the clypeus; there is a deep, oblique furrow on the base of the mesopleuræ; at the foot of the metapleuræ is a wide deep furrow, divided into two by a stout ridge. Tegulæ moderately large. Parapsidal furrows absent. The basal half of the abdominal petiole is widely furrowed laterally. The mandibles are short, the apex of the one not reaching to the base of the other; they do not form a beak. Temples moderately large. Ocelli almost forming a triangle. Scutellar depression large, deep. The apical joints of the antennæ are not clearly separated.

In some respects this genus agrees with *Paramasaris* Cam., but, *inter alia*, that genus may be known by the recurrent nervures being received in different cellules—the 2nd and 3rd—while in the present genus they are both received in the 2nd. I have not ventured to run the risk of dissecting a specimen to make out the number of joints in the palpi, which may have a joint more than I have stated.

Zethoides flavolineatus sp. nov.

Black, the clypeus, apical half of tegulæ, extreme apex of petiole, a longitudinal line on the apical half of the 2nd abdominal segment, its apex—the line widest on the outer part—and the centre of the other segments, lemon-yellow. Flagellum of antennæ brownish beneath. Legs black, the apex of the fore femora, the outer part of the tibiæ and the base of the tarsi yellow. Wings fuscous-hyaline, the nervures and stigma black. ♂.

Length 7 mm.

Front and vertex strongly, but not closely, punctured; the eye incisions smooth, as is also the frontal tubercle and clypeus. Pro- and mesonotum opaque, strongly, but not closely, punctured; the pleuræ more shining, almost smooth, the sutures strongly erenulated. Metanotum reticulated; the 2 central keels become more widely separated towards the apex. The narrowed basal part of the petiole is irregularly rugose; the apex is sparsely punctured.

Hab.—Panama (Pacific side), J. J. Walker, R. N.

Paratiphia 12-maculata sp. nov.

Black, shining, the clypeus, the lower part of the inner eye orbits, a large, somewhat triangular mark on the sides of the pronotum, a large mark on the mesopleuræ below the tegulæ, a large mark, roundly narrowed at the base, on the apical two-thirds of the scutellum, the postscutellum, a small mark on the sides of the 1st abdominal segment, a large irregular one, longer than broad, and a smaller, broader than long, mark on the 3rd yellow. Wings uniformly fuscous-violaceous, the nervures and stigma black. ♂.

Length 12-13 mm.

Front strongly but not closely punctured, the centre more closely and strongly than the sides; the vertex less strongly and more sparsely. Pro- and mesonotum shining, strongly but not closely punctured; the parapsidal furrows deep. Scu-

tellums impunctate. The basal half of the metanotum deeply and closely punctured; in the centre irregularly transversely striated; the striae curved and widely separated and bordered by a stout, smooth longitudinal keel; the sides and the apical slope slightly shagreened. Abdominal segments punctured, except on the apex; the penultimate segment is more opaque, thickly covered with black hair and with a smooth, shining keel in the centre; the last is more opaque and is stoutly keeled in the centre. Coxae, trochanters and femora shining; the tibiae and tarsi more opaque, thickly covered with a dark silvery pile; the calcaria black, the tarsal spines dark rufous.

Hub.—Panama, probably the Port (Mathew).

The large smooth tegulae have only a few punctures at the base; they reach close to the apex of the scutellum; the flagellum of the antennae is opaque, the middle joints slightly dilated below; the scape shining, strongly punctured and with short hairs; the base of the prothorax is stoutly keeled above; on the sides, behind this, is an oblique furrow; the apex of the metanotum and the base of the abdomen are covered thickly with a grey pile.

Nysson cressoni sp. nov.

Anal cellule of hind wings terminating at the origin of the cubital nervure; the hinder tibiae not spinose; the 2nd ventral segment not angled. Black, densely covered with silvery pubescence; the apex of the labrum broadly, a mark on the apex of the clypeus at the sides, a line on the inner eye orbits opposite the tegulae and the apices of the basal five segments of the abdomen, a line on the base of the fore tibiae in front and the apical joints of the fore tarsi, yellow. Wings clear hyaline with black nervures. Flagellum of antennae brownish beneath. ♀.

Length 5 mm.

Vertex sparsely punctured, densely covered with silvery pubescence; the lower part of the front impunctate. Pro- and mesothorax sparsely, weakly punctured, shining, as are also the scutellum and postscutellum; the pronotum with a widely interrupted yellow line. The basal area of the median segment shining, distinctly but not very closely punctured; the rest of the segment opaque, much more closely and less strongly punctured; there is a distinct pyriform depression on the apical slope, bordered by a furrow on either side; the projecting sides are largely and deeply incised in the centre; the incision is as long as it is wide at the apex. Abdomen shining, sparsely punctured; in certain lights with violaceous tints. Pygidial area opaque, broad, rounded at the apex, obscurely rugose. Temples not margined. Vertex and front without keels or tubercles.

The apical nervures in the hind wings are obliterated; the cubital cellule is confluent with the marginal and discoidal; the transverse cubital nervure is roundly curved outwardly.

Hub.—"N. Mexico."

I have had this little species in my collection marked as undescribed for many years. The label has written on it "N. Mexico;"

whether this means New Mexico or North Mexico I am unable to say now.

***Polistomorpha nigromaculata* sp. nov.**

Fulvous, the thorax and head tinged with yellow. A triangular mark on the sides of the vertex, extending from the eyes to the outer ocelli, it becoming gradually narrowed from the outer to the innerside, a broad band on the centre of the occiput, 2 large irregular marks on the basal slope of the pronotum, a band on the apex, dilated in the middle to near the top of the basal slope, its base rounded and narrowed, a broader and much shorter dilatation on the sides, the mesonotum, except at the sides and apex, and two lines down the centre, a broad band on the base of the scutellum, its centre broadly extended to near the apex, the postscutellum, except in the centre at the apex, 2 marks on the metanotum, their sides straight on the inner side, rounded and narrowed towards the apex on the outer and a small mark on the end of the segment in front of them black. Legs fulvous, the hinder femora darker; there is a long fulvous, sharp-pointed tooth behind the middle, which extends beyond the tibiæ when they are pressed against the lower side of the femora; following this are 4 short, blunt black teeth closely pressed together and of equal size. Wings hyaline, slightly infuscated at the apex; the nervures fulvous. ♂.

Length 11 mm.

Apex of clypeus broadly rounded, projecting; there is a stout keel between the antennæ which extends down the face, becoming gradually smaller and more indistinct towards the clypeus; the vertex strongly punctured; the sides of the face and clypeus obscurely punctured and longitudinally striated. Upper part of thorax closely and strongly punctured, the metanotum keeled down the middle. Pleuræ more sparsely and less strongly punctured. Abdominal petiole stout, broad, about one-half longer than broad, of almost equal width throughout. Dorsal surface of abdomen closely and distinctly punctured, the apical segments thickly covered with fulvous pubescence; the ventral surface shining, flat, sparsely punctured. Malar space slightly longer than the scape of the antennæ. Hinder coxæ sparsely and indistinctly, the femora and tibiæ closely and strongly punctured. Metapleuræ irregularly obliquely striated. Last segment of abdomen above stoutly keeled, the keels narrowed at the base and apex; in the centre is a shining, longitudinal line; the last ventral segment is broadly depressed in the middle, the depression more clearly defined at the apex, which is clearly separated, its sides straight and not oblique like the posterior part. The flagellum of the antennæ is broken off from the 3rd joint; the 1st joint is yellow; the 2nd and 3rd blackish. Mandibular teeth black. Coxal tooth distinct.

Hab.—Panama.

This is the first species of *Polistomorpha* I have seen. It comes close to *P. surinamensis*, of which a good description is given by Schletterer. The two may be separated thus:

Apex of clypeus transverse; the femoral teeth irregular, with 4 large ones clearly separated, the body not largely marked with black.

***surinamensis* West.**

Apex of clypeus distinctly rounded; the femora with only one large tooth, the body marked with black ***nigromaculata*.**