[1841]

Date from Botton

Descriptions of two Hymenopterous Insects.

57

Actual date 18 27 Jan 1842 (Wheater, G. 9.2)

VI. Descriptions of two Hymenopterous Insects from Northern India. By W. W. Saunders, Esq., F.L.S. &c.

[Read 7 January, 1839.]

The two insects which I am at present about to describe were collected in the northern provinces of India by Lieut. J. Campbell of the Bengal Artillery, and form part of a small collection sent by him a short time since to this country. The first is a very interesting insect allied to Myrmica, but from which it appears to differ in the neuration of the wings, the two-jointed pedicel to the abdomen, and in the articulations of the antennæ, and I therefore propose forming a new sub-genus for it which I shall term "Myrmicaria," and thus characterize.

MYRMICARIA.

Head transverse, with the ocelli placed in a triangle on the vertex. Eyes lateral, small, oval and prominent. Antennæ filiform, inserted in the front of the head in a line drawn between the eyes, rather longer than the thorax, distinctly thirteenjointed; the first joint as long as the second and third; the second very small; the fourth to the thirteenth smaller than the third, and gradually decreasing in length to the terminal joint, which is nearly as long as the third. Mandibles small, almost concealed. Thorax ovate, very convex, prominent in front. Scutellum semiovate, prominent, forming, with the metathorax, an abruptly inclined plane. The superior wings with the stigma strongly marked, one cubital and one discoidal cell complete, and three cells on the apical margin sub-complete; the radial, discoidal, and sub-discoidal nervures nearly reaching the apical margin. Legs long and slender, with the posterior tarsi elongate. Abdomen subcordate, petiolate; the two first joints inversely clavate and forming the petiole; the terminal or seventh joint minute, and provided with two projecting valves.

M. Brunnea. (Plate V. fig. 2.)

Shining chesnut brown, hairy; eyes black; posterior margins of the five terminal segments of the abdomen dark brown; wings lightly tinged with brown, the nervures and stigma the same colour as the body; femora and tibiæ somewhat darkers

Length 6 inch, width 3 inch.

Descriptions of two Hymenopterous Insects.

pllection of Mrs. T. Prinsep.

[1, 3, 2, 3, ased teen from above; 2b, antenna; 2c, fore wing; 2d, hind wing; 2d, apex of abdomen.]

The second insect is a new species of the Fabrician Genus Proncus, the description of which is as follows.

Pronœus Campbellii. (Plate V. fig. 1.)

Light reddish brown; shining eyes; ocelli and apical joints of the palpi dark brown; tips of the mandibles black; wings of a light burnt-sienna colour, with a broad dark band on the apical margins, reaching nearly to the internal angle in the under wings and gradually running to a point; nervures of the same redbrown as the body; abdomen dark chalybeous purple, very polished, the pedicel red-brown.

In the collection of Mrs. T. Prinsep, and in my own.

Length 13 inch, width 13 inch.

I have named this magnificent species after Lieut. Campbell an active Indian Entomologist.

[Fig. 1 a, head seen from the front; 1 b, antenna; 1 c, apex of fore wing; 1 d, foot.]