

band by a dark grey stripe. Acrostichals biserial in front of suture, but quadriserial and widely spaced behind suture. Scutellum darkened. Abdomen more flattened about base than in *solitaria*; first segment very extensively darkened, second segment with very large triangular dark patches only narrowly separated on the median line and here occupying the whole length of segment; third segment with very much smaller, well separated, triangular dark patches on hind margin. Chaetotaxy of legs as in *solitaria*, but the short pubescence on tibiae (especially hind tibiae) is rather longer and the bristles on hind tibiae finer. Squamae whitish. Halteres yellow.

♀. Very different from the male, the thorax and abdomen being grey with light yellowish-brown tinge and immaculate. Frons with the interfrontalia very broad and long, occupying the greater part of frontalia. Frontal bristles few in number and short, outside the bristles a few fine tiny hairs. The thorax may show indications of two narrow stripes in front between the acrostichals and dorso-centrals, and the abdomen may bear traces of small faint brownish spots on the first three segments. Ovipositor with a terminal armature of stout upcurved spines. Chaetotaxy of legs as in the male. Wings with a faint yellowish tinge.

Length 4-5 mm.

This species has been found in recent years at widely separated places round our sea-coast in every month from May to September. Specimens have been examined from Brodie (Elgin), and Nairn, in Scotland; Southwold and Aldeburgh (Suffolk) and Studland (Dorset) in England; and Pyle and Porthcawl (Glamorgan) in Wales; taken by myself, Col. Yerbury, and Mr. Claude Morley. The synonymy is that given by Ringdahl (Ent. Tidskr., 1918, p. 159) after an examination of Zetterstedt's types. I also consider it probable that *serta* Pand. is another synonym.

(To be continued.)

# *EREMIAPHILA FRASERI*, SP. N., A NEW MANTID FROM MESOPOTAMIA.

BY B. P. UVAROV, F.E.S.

♀. Of moderate size for the genus. Head scarcely broader than the pronotum at its fore margin; face smooth; its subantennal part almost flat; with a feeble transverse convexity just below the antennae; supra-antennal transverse impression shallow; ocelli scarcely prominent; vertex and occiput smooth, but uneven; lateral sulci very shallow and narrow in the vertex, more impressed in the occiput; a pair of low, but rather large, rounded tubercles between the sulci and the eyes, just behind the inner emargination of the latter. Pronotum not larger than the breadth of its fore margin, distinctly narrowed posteriorly; its surface very uneven, but not rugose, with very small scattered granules; median line scarcely perceptible in the prozona, but distinctly raised in the metazona; transverse sulcus rather deeply impressed, its lateral portions almost reaching the fore margin of the pronotum and connected with each other by a submarginal sulcus, so that the part of the pronotal disc before the



typical sulcus is completely encircled by the sulci; this encircled part is strongly convex, with two low rounded tubercles in its fore part and a shallow impression behind the middle; metazona rather irregularly uneven, with two strongly prominent, closely approximated, round tubercles near the hind margin; the sides of pronotum in the hind part almost vertical, impressed near the hind angles; metazona almost twice as long as prozona; fore margin of pronotum distinctly convex, with a feeble prominence (but not a tooth) in the middle, very feebly bisinuate; lateral margins feebly and irregularly sinuate, entire; hind margin strongly rounded sideways and almost straight in the middle portion, with a small median projection; the fore lateral angles distinctly obtuse, rounded; hind angles still more obtuse, but not rounded, unarmed. Elytra and wings perfectly lateral. Fore coxæ thick, smooth, with a few granules on the inside and 4-5 feeble spinules along the lower carina. Fore tibiae with 4 external spines, besides the apical one. Middle and hind femora and tibiae with irregularly scattered granules and spinules. Abdomen, strongly flattened and expanded, uneven, but not rugose.

General coloration greyish-ochraceous. Face whitish. Vertex and occiput with scattered brownish points, indefinitely marmorated with grey, with a narrow pale middle line. Pronotum of the general coloration, with scattered brownish granules and dots; two bigger, somewhat impressed brownish dots just behind the typical sulcus; hind angles brownish; hind tubercles somewhat greenish. Mesonotum and metanotum greenish-ochraceous with brown dots and spots; elytra, except their basal half which is ochraceous, greenish ochraceous, with brown dots. Abdomen ochraceous, dotted with brownish. Fore legs pale ochraceous; tarsi brownish. Middle and hind legs ochraceous, with dark brown fasciae and granules on the upper side.

Length of body 21; width of head 6.5; length of pronotum 5.5; width of pronotum anteriorly 6; width of pronotum posteriorly 5; length of fore femora 6; length of middle femora 9.5; length of middle tibiae 8.5; length of hind femora 12.5; length of hind tibiae 14.5; length of hind tarsi 7.5; maximal width of abdomen 8 mm.

The type of this species, which is contained in the British Museum, is unique; it was captured by Major A. D. Fraser, D.S.O., R.A.M.C., at Anah, river Euphrates, Mesopotamia, 15.vii.1920, and it bears collector's note: "Lived ten days in captivity, with nothing to eat or drink. A few seen in desert; run very fast."

There are only seven described subapterous members of this genus, these possessing just unseparated expansions of the mesonotum and metanotum, and not a single one of them is known from Asia. The nearest ally of the present species is *E. barbara* Bris., from the Algerian Sahara, which differs from it by the shape and sculpture of the head and pronotum. *Eremiaphila* is confined to the Eremian region; *E. turcica* Westw., said to be from "Turkey," is also a Mesopotamian insect, since Westwood's type in the British Museum is from Baghdad.

London,

July 18th, 1921.



Uvarov, B. P. 1921. "Eremiaphilus fraseri, sp. n., a new mantid from Mesopotamia." *The Entomologist's monthly magazine* 57, 175–176.

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