

posterior whitish bands. Second segment with a small dorso-lateral rufo-fulvous spot reaching posterior margin. Venter black, the whitish bands more distinct. Feet black. Wings dark fuliginous, fading at apex, hinder margin and root. First posterior cell widely open.

A paratype, slightly damaged, is a little larger and lacks the spots on second segment.

Taken in May, at West Palm Beach, Florida, by Dr. H. E. Wright, after whom the species is named.

JEAN-HENRI FABRE.

It is hard to believe as I write that Fabre is dead, for the great age to which he lived and the extraordinary character of the man had, as it were, dulled one's senses to the inexorable facts of life. The photograph before me of "that inimitable observer," as Darwin called him more than half a century ago, showing that keen old face wrinkled with years of the most intense and penetrating observation still intent on the movements of an insect, had instilled into one an idea of permanence. But on October 11th, at Orange, he finished a life of ninety-two years of hard and strenuous toil.

Born of humble parentage at Saint Léons, a little village in the Haute Rouergue, on December 22nd, 1823, he was destined to a life of poverty, through which he struggled with an indomitable perseverance, which was the outstanding characteristic of his entire life and the main cause of the imperishable fame that will be his. His early years were a perpetual struggle for education. Undeterred by disappointment, he laboured on as a teacher, now as a professor of mathematics and physics at Ajaccio in Corsica, where an acquaintance with that brilliant naturalist Moquin-Tandon was responsible for his determination to forswear mathematics for the study of living things, and later at Avignon, always careless of degrees and dignities. The chance discovery in 1854 of a volume of that famous entomologist, Léon Dufour, on the habits of a wasp, *Cerceris*, directed his steps into that path of patient entomological study from which, during the succeeding sixty years of incessant