

In these insects, as in the Uroceridæ, the hinder-wing has upon its anterior margin a row of minute hooks with which to hold the posterior border of the front one. The number of the hooks is, however, much less, there being only about a dozen scattered along the outer half of the wing.

Of our two species the larger and handsomer is *R. atrata*, of which my specimens vary in length from a little over one and one-quarter inches to nearly two. The head is a rich yellow, with the exception of the eyes and a slight band, bearing the ocelli, on the vertex. The slender antennæ, about an inch long, are also yellow, as, likewise, are the extremely long legs, with the exception of the upper joints of the posterior pairs. The thorax and abdomen are black. The wings, which expand from two to two and three-quarter inches, are transparent, but with a dark smoky tinge. The female is furnished with an ovipositor from *four to five and one-half inches in length*; flattened and scarcely stouter than a hair.

*R. lunator* is more common, at least in this vicinity, and varies much more in size, the largest specimens being fully twice as big as the lesser ones. The body varies in length from three-quarters of an inch to one and one-half inches, and bears at its posterior extremity an ovipositor projecting from one and one-half to three and three-quarter inches.

The head is yellow with a dark band, in which are inserted the three ocelli, between the eyes, parallel to which runs another dark line which almost encircles the head. Lines also run from the base of the antennæ to the mandibles. The slender antennæ are dark at the base but get lighter toward the tip. The thorax and abdomen are dark brown, ornamented with lines and borders of yellow, which is also the color of the legs. The wings (front pair) expand from one and one-quarter to two and one-half inches, and have a quadrangular dark patch on the anterior border.

The larvæ of both "long-stings" feed upon those of the Uroceridæ and other wood-borers, in which the female ichneumon deposits her eggs by means of the long ovipositor. The method of performing this operation may often be witnessed during the summer by visiting beech trees in which *Tremex* larvæ are at work, but it is difficult to describe clearly its accomplishment and the different postures of the insect during the progress of her laborious and dangerous duty. A series of good drawings would best convey a correct idea of the process, but I do not know of any book in which such are to be found, while some illustrations are very inaccurate. For instance, I saw the other day in a text book of zoology