

quite broad and short. Eyes not widely separated, P. M. E. as close to P. S. E. as to A. S. E., the A. M. E. are not very much nearer the A. S. E. than to each other. Abdomen twice as long as the cephalothorax. Femur II. longer than the cephalothorax. The epigynum shows an area longer than broad, with nearly parallel sides, divided by a rather narrow septum widened at its tip, the apical part of the sides are dark circular, and the basal part light and oval. Olympia, Washington. (T. Kincaid.)

NOTES ON COLLECTING AT BLOOM.

BY A. W. HANHAM, WINNIPEG, MAN.

At Brandon, Manitoba, in 1896, some very successful collecting was done on the prairies and open hillsides surrounding the town. Except in the valley of the Assiniboine River, which is still well wooded, the country around Brandon is very open—regular prairie country—with, of course, a good proportion under cultivation, it being one of the good wheat-growing districts of Manitoba.

However, there is plenty of good collecting ground to be found in almost any direction, and within a few minutes' walk. A short account of collecting at bloom may be of interest to our entomological readers, especially to those who have never visited "the boundless prairies of the West." Or there may be some who have had that pleasure, but have never tried collecting in this way, for lack of opportunity.

In 1896, I was at Brandon from July 9th to August 4th, and in 1897, from August 5th to 28th.

In 1896, I had my first evening collecting on the 15th; in previous years I had often collected off flowers towards dusk, and that was my procedure on this evening. It was on my homeward way that the inspiration came to me to sweep the clumps of bloom I came to, and the result astonished me, and led to the practice of collecting in this way on all available evenings.

It was quite too dark to see things moving on the wing or at rest on the flowers, and the only way to find out the contents of the net, after sweeping, was to hold it up against the sky line; even then it was generally impossible to tell what the catch consisted of, though the moths in the net could be seen and counted. After sweeping a few heads of bloom, it was nothing out of the way to find a dozen or more moths in the net, and it was surprising how little struggling they did either in the