

ZONITIS, Fabr.

Z. zonitoides, Duges.—At Alpine, Texas, I took a few specimens of an insect which I refer to this species, "a widely distributed form in the highlands of Mexico and Guatemala" (Champion, *Biologia Centrali-Americana*). It resembles *Z. sparsa*, Lec., but is at once known by the black head, shorter maxillary processes and more densely punctured elytra. It belongs to the genus *Nemognatha* as defined by LeConte and Horn. Major Casey has suppressed *Nemognatha* (Illiger, 1807), I think properly since the discovery of new Mexican forms has shown the invalidity of the only character (the length of the maxillary processes) upon which it has hitherto been separable from *Zonitis*. That author has also united *Gnathium* with *Zonitis*, the slight thickening of the tips of the antennæ scarcely warranting the continuation of the former name as a generic term. The course outlined above will, however, necessitate some changes in specific nomenclature; thus *Z. immaculata*, Say, becomes preoccupied by *Z. immaculata*, Ill., and I propose to designate the former species by the name *Z. Sayi*, in memory of its pioneer describer.

Z. Californica,ⁿ sp.—Elongate, convex, shining, with sparse, bristly pubescence. Brownish, head piceous, elytra obscure, brownish yellow. Head with coarse, deep punctures, covering the entire surface, except a small callus between the eyes, more crowded and confluent just above the antennal insertions, antennæ thickened externally, third joint not quite twice the length of the second, evidently longer than the fourth, maxillary processes about half as long as the body. Prothorax broader than long, wider in front of the middle, sides narrowing slightly to the base and more rapidly and arcuately to the apex, basal margin nearly straight, the bead high and well marked; disk uneven, with coarse, deep, scattered punctures, irregularly disposed. Elytra at base much wider than the prothorax, finely rugulose but shining, punctures of moderate size, confused at base, but sparser, and forming rather regular rows on the disk. Body beneath shining, legs punctured, spurs of the hind tibiæ unequal, tapering to tip, the inner one much more slender. Length, about 5 mm., .20 inch.

I collected this species in great numbers in the mountains near Tehachapi, California, several years ago, and have distributed it as new to many museums. It is not closely allied to any of our native species of *Gnathium* (to which division it belongs by the antennal structure), the coarsely and closely punctured head serving by itself as a good differential character.