

in two long slender lobes which are curled up and give the appearance of being jointed beyond the middle. (See fig. 1).

Prothorax remarkably developed as in others of the group, dull black, finely punctate, and with yellow margins. The thorax is of like colour and texture, short shining white pilose posteriorly and laterally, the rest brownish pilose. Two widely separated, short yellow lines on the anterior mesonotum, and a yellow curved mark outside these on the lateral margin. Two oval yellow spots in front of the scutellum, and a yellow spot above the postalar callosities which runs down across them. Scutellum black with a yellow hind margin. Pleuræ black with a yellow mark in front of the wing.

Abdomen black, the lateral margins yellow, broadly on the second, the yellow reaching across on posterior margins of segments some distance. First segment very short. On the dorsal margin of the second, third and fourth are small median yellow triangles. The sixth segment is black with a yellow margin. Squamæ with narrow margin and almost transparent membrane. The pile on the abdomen is rather short, recumbent and shining in certain lights.

Legs yellow, femora blackish brown, pale beneath, the base and tips yellow. Tibiæ and tarsi yellowish brown. Wing venation typical, the membrane strongly rippled and infuscated light brown.

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#### EXPLANATION OF PLATE II.

Fig. 1. *Megalybus gracilis* Ph.

1a. Outline drawing of head from front and greatly enlarged figure of frons and the region around it.

Fig. 2. *Thyllis compressa?* Erich.

2a. Head and thorax from above.

2b. Outline of head from front.

2c. Drawing showing eyes meeting above and below the insertion of the antennæ.

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#### AN APPEAL FROM BELGIUM.

The following letter has been received from the Curator of the Entomological Section of the Royal Museum of Natural History of Belgium:

[Translation.

Brussels, 11-1-1919.

Dear Sir:

It is absolutely necessary that you write some notices in the American scientific journals in order to save the Selys Catalogue. I have lost twenty subscriptions in Europe and I must retrieve them in the United States. Financial aid from the de Selys family is impossible for a long time. Each new subscription will bring a little capital to the reconstitution of this work which can be brought to a termination with a little energy and with the aid of all. The great institutions, libraries, etc., ought to put some of their pennies into subscriptions. . . .