

there is no absolute uniformity in the length of the arisal joints, though not much discrepancy.

All the rest of my specimens, from various localities throughout the United States, are larger, reaching twelve and a half millimetres in length and none of them as small as the largest of the ones described. The pollinose bands of the abdomen are usually broader on the second and third segments, the wings in none so strongly infuscated proximally, and in most the infuscation is more or less obsolete; the antennæ vary from red to black, the second joint of the arista in the female varies from one-third to three-fourths as long as the third joint; in the male from one-half as long to longer. The dorsal thoracic stripes vary from very slender ones in Colorado specimens, to broader and more distinct ones in New England, North Carolina, and Southern Californian ones. Specimens from Carolina and New England have the basal part of the venter yellowish red, with moderately large spots on the sides of the basal segments above. A specimen from Wyoming has the thoracic dorsum strongly pollinose, and the bands of the abdomen unusually broad. Two others from California have the second joint of the arista very short, not a third of the length of the third, the wings scarcely at all infuscated in front, and, unlike all the other specimens, the cheeks do not have black hairs, but yellow pile; other specimens from California, however, are like the eastern ones in this respect. Yet another, rubbed (female) specimen, from Connecticut, differs in having the sides of the face distinctly narrower, considerably narrower than the median portion. The bristly hairs on the sides of the face vary not a little in size; those of the described specimens leave a more bare space below on the inner side, that is less, or not at all, apparent in the larger specimens.

The value of these various characters I confess myself unable to decide. Only this much seems certain, no, or little reliance can be placed upon the comparative lengths of the arisal joints; and the second joint is always longer and more bent in the male than in the female.

I think there can be little doubt but that this is Say's species; his "large, obsolete, reddish brown spot near the base" of the abdomen is not usually, though frequently, present. The synonymy of *G. philadelphia* seems equally certain. The species must be closely allied to, possibly identical with *G. fasciata* Meigen, of Europe, the larvæ of which have been found in nests of *Bombus terrestris* and *Megilla reclusa*, where the flies deposit their eggs. A specimen from the Boston Society of