

viewed from above, the apical third of the abdomen appears thicker than the middle segments.

The antennæ have 14 joints, those of the ♀ having only 13. The third joint is longer and considerable stouter than the succeeding ones, and is deeply and obliquely excavated on the outer side, a little beyond the middle. Can this groove be of any use for holding the antennæ of the ♀? The object of the present note is to call attention to the habits of the species, and to indicate where it may be looked for; points upon which little, if anything, is known, I believe. Mr. Ashmead, to whom I sent a pair of these insects, wrote to me in regard to them:—"I know nothing of the habits of the *Ibaliina*, excepting what Giraud wrote, "Il est tres vraisemblable que sa larve vit parasite de quelque grande Coléoptère lignivore." "

The fact that an entomologist so well acquainted with the Cynipidæ, and the literature treating of them, had to make this admission, induces me to think that the few observations I have been fortunate enough to make (incomplete as they are) will be welcome to students of these insects, and may, perhaps, furnish a clue to enable other entomologists to work out the full life histories of the members of this anomalous and interesting sub-family.

My first acquaintance with *Ibalia maculipennis* was made in 1883, as I find by the following memo. in a note-book:—"June 28th. Two Hymenoptera, apparently ovipositing in maple." The note is illustrated by a rough sketch of the insect, sufficient to identify it. At this time my attention was given chiefly to Coleoptera, and other orders were only incidentally collected, so that no special value was attached to the observation. The following summer a specimen was taken on 26th June, but its label does not give any particulars, and no record of its capture is found in my note-book.

In 1886 I was fortunate enough to capture six specimens, of which three were ♂ and three ♀. My friend, Mr. Guignard, had taken a ♀ upon an old maple on 16th June, but it was five days later that I found my first two ♀ ♀. They were ovipositing upon an old, badly decayed maple; and in one instance the ovipositor was deeply inserted. Upon the same tree I captured another female, also ovipositing, on the 23rd June; and upon the same day secured my first male upon another old