

*Brachycrepis* n. g.

This genus is very similar to *Rhopalicus* Förster, but the prolonged metathorax has three distinct keels, the abdomen has a short rugose petiole, the marginal vein of the front wings is but slightly longer than the stigmal and the parapsides complete. The anterior femora are very much swollen; the antennæ are subclavate, 13-jointed with two ring joints, and are inserted slightly below the middle of the face; the pedicel is about as long as the first funicular joint.

*Brachycrepis tricarinatus* n. sp.

♀ Length .13 inch. Dark blue with a slight metallic tinge on the head and thorax, confluent punctured. Eyes dark brown. Antennæ 13-jointed, black, except the scape beneath, which is brownish-yellow; flagellum pubescent; the first funicular joint the longest, the others slightly subequal, but gradually growing wider toward the club, the fifth and sixth joints being wider than long. Collar transverse, narrowed in the middle. Mesothoracic grooves distinct, but very delicate as they approach the scutellum. Coxæ, femora and tibiæ, excepting their tips and the last tarsal joint, blue-black; tips and the other tarsal joints, honey-yellow. Abdomen long ovate, about the length of the thorax, blue-black with a very slight metallic tinge near the base beneath. The second segment, counting the petiole as the first, is the largest, the others gradually subequal; each segment with a single row of delicate white hairs. Wings hyaline; veins pale brownish, the submarginal vein as long as the marginal and postmarginal together, delicate, the marginal is but slightly longer than the stigmal, the latter clavate with a slight uncus.

Hab.—Riley Co., Kansas. Prof. E. A. Popenoe.

## CAN INSECTS DISTINGUISH BETWEEN RED AND YELLOW?

BY T. D. A. COCKERELL, WEST CLIFF, COLORADO.

In this neighborhood (Custer Co., Colorado,) one very frequently finds a yellow spider of the genus *Thomisus* or allied thereto, seated in the middle of the umbels of *Ligusticum montanum* Benth. and Hook., and on other yellow flowers. This spider, so seated, has nothing to cover it from direct observation, and from its size and colour would be conspicuous enough elsewhere; but on the yellow flower, sitting in the depression in