

reddish orange, deeper, almost brown towards the apex; sides of the thorax and costal margin to the ciliae white. *Al. ex.* nearly $\frac{1}{2}$ inch. Kentucky. Captured in June.

[Basal half of the antennæ thickened with scales; palpi simple.]

C. auropurpuriella. *N. sp.*

Entire insect, according to the light, golden brown or golden purple with a greenish bronzy hue, especially towards the apex of the primaries, where the greenish tinge is very decided; apical half of the antennae annulate with silvery white. *Al. ex.* $\frac{1}{3}$ inch. Coll. Mr. Wm. Saunders, London, Ont. (Belongs to *Metallosctia*, Steph.)

[Basal joint of the antennae thickened with scales; palpi tufted.]

C. lineapulvella. *N. sp.*

White, faintly tinged with ochreous yellow; dorsal margin and apex of the primaries more distinctly yellowish; two rather indistinct ochreous-yellow lines begin before the middle of the wing and pass back, one to the apex and one to the dorsal margin before the apex, the apical line giving off a faint branch to the costal margin. Ciliae pale ochreous; the entire wing, except near the base, dusted with dark brown specks, which are arranged in lines more or less parallel to each other; antennae annulate with ochreous yellow. *Al. ex.* 5 lines. Kentucky. Taken at the lamp.

I have taken on the wing many other species, but I refrain from describing them until their food plants are known, a plan which I had perhaps also better have adopted with some of the above, for many of the species of this genus resemble each other so closely that it is well nigh impossible to give written descriptions by which they can be identified.

SIGNS USED TO DENOTE SEX.—I have often been puzzled to account for the origin of the signs in use among naturalists to denote the male (♂) and the female (♀) sexes; but the other day, while reading an astronomical paper, I came across a fact which seems to offer a solution of the difficulty. It appears that the first sign (♂) has been used from remote antiquity to signify the planet Mars, and is a rude representation of a spear behind a shield, fit emblems of the God of War. Ceres, the goddess of corn, was similarly symbolized by the sign used in zoology to denote the female sex, with this slight difference, that in the original astronomical sign, the continuity of the circle is broken on the left side, so that the figure appropriately represents a sickle.—*E. C. Lefroy in Hardwicke's Science Gossip.*