

absence of metathoracic thorns; and of my undescribed species but two belong to the latter category. In fact it would seem from the following table, that a thorned metathorax is rather a S. A. than a N. A. character.

GENUS HEMITELES.

GROUP A: *Two thorns more or less distinct, one on each side of the metathorax, and directed backwards and outwards.* *H. tricolor*, Brulle, Brazil. *H. fasciipennis*, Br., Brazil. *H. xanthogaster*, Br., Brazil. *H. rufiventris*, Br., S. M. *H. striatus*, Br., Columbia. *H. lepidus*, Br., Brazil. *H. pulchellus*, Br., Brazil. *H. fuscipennis*, Br., Hayti. *H. incertus*, Cresson, Cuba, and two undescribed species from Illinois, U. S. In all 7 S. A., 4 N. A. sp.

GROUP B.—*Metathorax unarmed.* In all 13 N. A. sp., and none at all from S. A.

a. *Wings not banded with fuscous.* *H. amenus*, Cress., Cuba. *H. bicinctus*, Cress., Cuba. *H. subflavescens*, Cress., Cuba. *H. [Cryptus] orbis*, Say, and six undescribed species from Illinois, U. S.*

b. *Wings with one fuscous band.* One undescribed species from Illinois, U. S.

c. *Wings with two fuscous bands.* *H. [Cryptus] tenellus*, Say, Penna., U. S. *H. thoracicus*, Cresson, Cuba. *H. nemativorus*, n. sp.

Through the kindness of the Editor, my cabinet has been enriched by a fine female specimen of *H. nemativorus*, of which I had previously possessed but three females, captured at large in Illinois. His account of its larval and pupal history is as follows: "On June 29th I observed to my surprise a Saw-fly cocoon (*Nematus ventricosus*, Klug.) attached to a leaf high up on a gooseberry bush, instead of on or under the surface of the ground as usual. Thinking that the unwonted situation might be the effect of a parasitic attack upon the larva, I brought the specimen in, and a few days afterwards found that there had emerged from it the Hymenopteron that I now send you!" Now, as I know that this very same species of *Hemiteles* occurs near Rock Island, in Illinois, where as yet *Nematus ventricosus* has not been introduced, it follows that it could not have been imported from Europe along with this pestilent Saw-fly, but must be in all probability an indigenous species. Hence we may draw the further conclusion, that a native American parasite can and sometimes does acquire the habit of preying upon a vegetable-feeding insect imported among us from Europe. The same conclusion, indeed, follows from a fact which I pub-

* In 1860 and 1861, as I have stated in a paper on the Injurious Insects of Illinois (Trans. Ill. St. Agr. Soc. IV., p. 349), I bred from 50 to 70 male and female individuals of an undescribed *Pezomachus* (*P. Heteropterus*, Walsh, MS.), a genus which is normally aptereous and has an aborted thorax like that of a worker ant. Out of this large number there were produced four males, which had the complete wings of a *Hemiteles*, and all the other characters of that genus, including of course the fully-developed thorax. Hence I infer that a *Pezomachus* is nothing but a degraded *Hemiteles*. I may add that this species—as well as two other *Pezomachus* in my collection, including *P. minimus*, Walsh—has no metathoracic thorns, and that the winged males belonged to B a. of this table.