

*Phora venusta*, n. sp.—♀ Head and thorax black, sub-shining; antennæ yellowish-brown; palpi, halteres and legs, including the coxæ, yellow. Abdomen opaque velvet-black, the broad bases of the second and sixth segments and a triangular dorsal spot at the base of the third, fourth and fifth segments, yellow; venter also yellow. Frontal setæ pointing upward. Front tibiæ on the outer side each bearing one, the middle tibiæ with two stout setæ near the base, hind tibiæ destitute of setæ on the outer side. Wings hyaline, costal vein extending to the middle of the wing, ciliate with minute bristles, second heavy vein forked near the apex, the tip of the first heavy vein near the last fourth of the distance between the humeral cross-vein and the tip of the first branch of the second vein; first slender vein nearly straight, the cell in front of it sub-equal in width to the one behind it. Length, 1 mm. Boston, Mass., Sept., 1868. A single specimen in the National Museum. I am indebted to the Curator for the privilege of studying the fine series of specimens contained in the collection of that institution.

#### PREPARATORY STAGES OF EUCLIDIA CUSPIDEA, HUBN.

BY JOHN B. LEMBERT, YOSEMITE, CAL.

*Egg*.—Pea-green colour; round, with deep longitudinal lines from the top to the bottom. Deposited in twos and threes up to as many as eight or nine at one laying before flying away. The eggs change next day to a mottled gray colour, resembling the dried plant stalks on which they are laid. They are not deposited directly on the food plants, which are lupin and clover. They hatch out in nine days.

*Larva*, first stage.—A slender looper. Head quite large and bilobed. Light green from the head to the first segment back of the thoracic legs, which are six in number; thence dark green to the segment joining the four abdominal legs, lighter beneath; remainder of body light green. Length, about 6 mm.

The second change escaped my notice, as the larvæ were always moving and must have taken but a short time to effect it; the whole surface of the body became concolorous and of a light green. On the twelfth day they were very quiet; fine white and black lines could be seen along the sides. After this they would raise themselves up, put their heads between the thoracic legs, then twist around, open their mouth parts as if in the act of biting or covering their bodies with a fluid; suddenly they disappeared. Seven days afterwards I examined the leaves of the food plants and found one curled up in a web; taking it for granted that it was prepared to hibernate, I put the jar away for the season.

Subsequently I found that I was mistaken on this point, and that I had introduced with some clover a Hemipterous enemy which destroyed my larva.