number of the so-called species have already been sunk by Stål and Butler as synonyms, and I have gone further than Stål has in one or two cases. No such series of the genus as that in our collection (numbering more than two hundred examples) has ever before been brought together, and it is evident from an examination of these that in many respects they are extremely variable insects, and that certain species which have been described on single or at most on two or three specimens will not stand. One of the chief characters that authors have made use of is derived from the number of costæ or raised ribs on each side of the pronotum; I find, however, that though it certainly is a help in some cases, yet, as a rule, it is most misleading, for the third costa from the dorsal costa (counting the dorsal costa as the first) is certainly variable in form among specimens belonging to what is undoubtedly the same species, being sometimes almost entire, sometimes half-defined, and sometimes rudimentary; the costal margin of the tegmina, moreover, is coloured like the pronotum and furnished with two or three costae, which project beyond the sides of the pronotum and lie close against it when the insect is at rest, and appear at first sight as if they belonged to it, and these have been counted in by certain writers in their descriptions. Species have also been formed on the deflexion or reflexion of the anterior or posterior extremities, which is a very misleading character.

After a very careful examination of the series before me I feel that, with the exception of a comparatively small percentage, they might all be arranged as forms of one species, although those at the opposite poles would appear entirely different, and a considerable amount of further material and study will be necessary before the synonymy of the species can be regarded as in any way settled.

The larva of *P. costata*, of which there is a single specimen in our collection, from Atoyac in Vera Cruz, is almost 20 millim. long, pisciform, narrow, and elongate, of a greyish-testaceous colour, probably greenish in life, with the last segment of the abdomen very long (about 5 millim.), slender, and pointed, and with the process in front of the eyes (which are large) about 6 millim. in length, constricted at about 2 millim. from the eyes, and from thence widened and flattened and subcuneiform at the apex; the legs are long and slender.

1. Polyglypta costata.