descriptions*. The various species may at once be known by their small size and globular or semiglobular appearance. The clavus is very bluntly rounded at the apex, and in the specimens which I have examined closely the outer marginal vein of the wings is interrupted by an elongate irregular-oval area at some little distance before the tip; the third vein from the marginal vein is not furcate.

In the Vienna Museum collection, besides a large number of unnamed specimens, there are no less than nine species named by Signoret, of which I can find no trace in any publication; I conclude, therefore, that they are all manuscript names; three of these species are from California and six from Mexico.

1. Clastoptera funesta. (Tab. XII. figg. 14; 15, var.)

Hab. MEXICO, Chilpancingo in Guerrero, Atayac in Vera Cruz, Teapa in Tabasco (H. H. Smith), Cuernavaca and San Marcos (Bilimek, in Mus. Vind. Ces.), Orizaba (Saille, Bilimek, H. H. Smith, F. D. Godman); GUATEMALA, Tamahu in Vera Paz, Guatemala city (Champion); HONDURAS (Mus. Holm. 1); NICARAGUA, Chontales (Janson); PANAMA, Bugaba, Volcan de Chiriqui (Champion).

The specimens in our collection which I have referred to this species (about 150 in number), and those in the Vienna Museum (about twenty-five in number), are very small globose insects, and have the upper surface in most cases of a uniform shining black colour, or black with the base of the scutellum broadly light yellow. The head, legs, and underside are all more or less yellow, and the metopidium is usually furnished with a transverse black line. The apical portion of the tegmina is, as is usual in the genus, more or less broadly hyaline, and is furnished on each side at the inner angle with a dark callosity. In some specimens there are lighter markings or obscurely lighter bands on the tegmina, and others are more or less castaneous, but these appear to be immature.

I was at first inclined to refer the insects which I have placed under this species to C. proteus, Fitch, but, after examining the specimens of C. proteus in the British Museum I have altered my opinion. I have not seen a named specimen of C. funesta, Stål, but from the description I have little doubt that his insect belongs to the entirely black form of the present species. It is possible that three or four of the species alluded to or described by Stål in the ‘Bidrag till Rio Janeiro-Traktens Hemipter-Fauna,’ ii. pp. 16, 17 (as C. scutellata, Germ., C. pallidiceps, Stål, and C. tibialis, Stål), may be synonymous with this variable and evidently abundant species, but I have not seen any typical specimens of these insects. In the Vienna Museum collection three

* Stål, ‘Bidrag till Rio Janeiro-Traktens Hemipter-Fauna,’ ii. p. 16, says: “Species hujus generis non nisi coloribus inter se different, plurimas difficilleme distinguuntur et describuntur: alia igitur cetera aliarum tantum varietates.” The punctuation and general size and shape, however, afford fair characters in some cases.