

this line, merely indicating the finely impressed margin, cannot be seen in many cases when the thorax is not detached from the base of the elytra. And this is the view Chapuis has taken of the value of this character, which Mulsant has used with some insistence.

### 1. *Brachyacantha lepida*. (Tab. X. fig. 16.)

*Brachyacantha lepida*, Muls. Spec. Col. Trim. sécur. p. 523<sup>1</sup>; Crotch, Rev. Coccin. p. 210<sup>2</sup>; Trans. Am. Ent. Soc. iv. p. 378<sup>3</sup>.

*Hab.* NORTH AMERICA, United States<sup>1</sup>, Texas<sup>3</sup>.—MEXICO<sup>1 2 3</sup>, Toxpam, Mirador (*Sallé*), Cordova (*Sallé, Höge*), Orizaba (*Sallé, H. H. Smith, and F. D. G.*), Atoyac in Vera Cruz (*H. H. Smith*), Jalapa (*Höge, Flohr*), Cerro de Plumas, Tapachula (*Höge*); BRITISH HONDURAS, R. Hondo, R. Sarstoon, Belize (*Blancaneaux*); GUATEMALA, near the city (*Salvin, Champion*), Chiacam, Senahu, Sabo, and Purula in Vera Paz, Zapote, Capetillo, Dueñas (*Champion*); NICARAGUA, Chontales (*Belt, Janson*); COSTA RICA (*Van Patten*).

Var. *a.* Maculis rufo-piceis.

*Hab.* MEXICO, Toxpam (*Sallé*), Teapa in Tabasco (*H. H. Smith*).

Var. *β.* Maculis confluentibus.

*Hab.* MEXICO, Tapachula in Chiapas (*Höge*); BRITISH HONDURAS, R. Sarstoon (*Blancaneaux*); GUATEMALA, San Gerónimo (*Champion*).

*B. lepida* is very variable as regards size (the larger examples being 4 millim. long, while some occur of scarcely half that size) and colour, and also in the degree to which the markings become confluent.

Of the var. *a.*, the colour of which may be due to immaturity, Mr. H. H. Smith met with a very large number at Teapa in Tabasco; and these appear to be all of the typical form, *i. e.* the spots are detached. Varieties with the two discoidal spots just united by a line occurred, in company with typical forms, at the city and elsewhere in Guatemala. In the variety which I designate *β* the discoidal spots are united together and to the central spots, as well as to the subapical spot, leaving six triangular yellow spots on each elytron—one on the base near the scutellum, with two others following almost in a line, and the yellow margin is dilated into three spots corresponding to these. Of this variety numerous specimens were met with at Tapachula. I have not observed any structural character in the abdomen of this insect.

### 2. *Brachyacantha westwoodi*. (Tab. X. fig. 17.)

*Brachyacantha westwoodi*, Muls. Spec. Col. Trim. sécur. p. 520 (♂)<sup>1</sup>; Crotch, Rev. Coccin. p. 211<sup>2</sup>.  
*Brachyacantha bipartita*, Muls. Spec. Col. Trim. sécur. p. 521 (♀)<sup>3</sup>; Crotch, Rev. Coccin. p. 211<sup>4</sup>.

*Hab.* MEXICO<sup>1-4</sup>, Toxpam, Yolos (*Sallé*), Jalapa (*Höge*), Atoyac in Vera Cruz (*H. H. Smith*).