

variable in size (10–15 millim.), and to a certain extent in shape. As a rule, the pronotum is strongly raised in front and abruptly declivous before the apex; but in several examples it is only sinuate and almost straight. In the collection of the Vienna Museum there is a specimen, set on one side apparently as a new species, which belongs to this variety, and there are several others in our collection, mostly from high altitudes. The shape of the front of the pronotum is also variable; in a male specimen from the Volcan de Chiriqui the pronotal horns are much more marked than is usual in the species, and it might with reason be described as a new species if it were not considered as one of a series. In Signoret's collection there is a specimen, separated apparently on a much slighter difference in the shape of the front of the pronotum, under the name "*fairmairei*." I cannot, however, find that the description has been published. There are a considerable number of these unpublished species in collections, and they cause infinite trouble, as, unless the fact of their not having been published is mentioned, one cannot be certain that the reference has not been missed, and much time is wasted in a fruitless search for the name. Worse than this, however, is the publication of descriptions without locality; four out of six species of *Alcmeone* in the British Museum are so described, and the "Amer. bor." or "Amer. mer." of the earlier writers are almost as bad as no locality at all. The difficulty of identifying the species in Stål's 'Hemiptera Fabriciana' is greatly increased by the fact that he is obliged to give "America meridionalis" so often as the sole locality.

4. **Hyphinoë marginalis.** (*H. marginata*, Tab. V. figg. 25, 25 a, b.)

♂. *Hyphinoë marginalis*, Fallou, Rev. d'Ent. ix. p. 353¹.

Hab. GUATEMALA (*Sallé*¹).

M. Fallou's specimen, from the description, is a male, and the four specimens which I have seen are also males; one of these is in our collection, and I have received two from the Belgian Museum and one from the Stockholm Museum, all undetermined. It is a very conspicuous species, being entirely of a lighter or darker violaceous-brown or violaceous colour, with a clearly marked whitish-yellow lateral line on each side at the margins, and the tibiæ and tarsi testaceous. As M. Fallou's description is somewhat isolated I append it:—"Brun violacé. Cuisses de même couleur, avec les pattes et les tarses jaunes. Prothorax très renflé, formant un énorme bourrelet à la partie supérieure et terminé par une épine aiguë noire, n'atteignant pas l'extrémité des élytres. Une bande jaune claire part de chaque côté du bourrelet du prothorax et longe la suture jusqu'à la tache noire de la pointe. Ces bandes jaunes sont elles-mêmes bordées d'un trait noir. Élytres de même couleur que le prothorax. Long. 17 mm."

M. Fallou has kindly sent me the type; there is a specimen in the Royal Belgian Museum exactly agreeing with it, but the other examples are of a uniform dark