

half its length beyond apex of cuneus ; pubescence of hemielytra very short sub-erect, slightly longer on cuneus. Pubescence on legs relatively short, longest on tibiae. Genitalia figured (fig. 13).

Structure ♀.—Similar to male but relative measurements different.

Total length : ♂ 4.7 mm., ♀ 5 mm. ; width across expanded humeral angles ♂ 2.5 mm., ♀ 3 mm.

Habitat : WEST AFRICA, Gold Coast, Bosuso, 2 ♂♂ (including type) and 3 ♀♀ on *Macaranga horaeifolia*, 30.vi.1943 (*H. E. Box*).

This very remarkable Mirid undoubtedly belongs to the *Sahlbergella-Bryocoropsis* group of species which Dr. Schouteden (*Rev. Zool. Bot. afr.*, **26**, p. 473, 1935) has suggested should be considered as belonging to one genus. He states that if *Bryocoropsis* is to be distinguished generically from *Sahlbergella* then logically *S. singularis*, Hagl., and *S. theobroma*, Dist., must also be separated. There is a considerable amount of truth in this, and I am inclined to agree with him. I have considered regarding *Idioaspis*, *Bryocoropsis* and *Sahlbergella* as one genus but after some deliberation have decided to regard them as distinct genera separated as in the foregoing key. It remains, therefore, to propose a new genus for *Sahlbergella theobroma*, Dist., and to place Schouteden's (1935 *loc. cit.*) four new species of *Sahlbergella* in their correct genera.

#### ***Distantiella*, gen. nov.\***

Closely allied to *Sahlbergella*, Hagl. 1895, type *S. singularis*, Hagl. 1895 (fig. 8) but differing in the following characters.

Eyes much smaller only about one-quarter instead of one-half width of vertex.

Pronotum much less narrowed anteriorly ; acetabula of anterior legs very prominent laterally and broadly visible from above so that anterior width of front of pronotum is more than half its width across humeral angles, whereas in *Sahlbergella* it is barely one-third and the acetabula of the front legs are not visible from above. Middle and hind tibiae nodulose swollen instead of simple as in *Sahlbergella*.

Genotype : *Sahlbergella theobroma*, Dist. 1909 (fig. 7).

Schouteden's (1935 *loc. cit.*) four new species of *Sahlbergella* may be placed as follows :—

#### ***Sahlbergella collarti*, Schout.**

As pointed out by Schouteden, this species is closely allied to *S. theobroma*, Dist., and consequently must be referred to the new genus *Distantiella*. It differs from *S. theobroma* in the larger size, longer antennae, longer scutellum with the tip of its vesicle curved downwards and in the surface of pronotum and scutellum more strongly sculptured and punctate.

#### ***Sahlbergella maynei*, Schout.**

This undoubtedly belongs to the true *Sahlbergella*, in spite of its rather smaller and less posteriorly produced vesicle of scutellum and the slightly smaller less pediculate eyes. There is a series of this species in the British Museum from Mlanje, Nyasaland, collected in 1938 by Mr. C. Smee.

\* Dedicated to W. L. Distant, my predecessor at the Museum and the author of the typical species, in recognition of his extensive work on the Hemiptera.