

the queen to pass, so that she remains imprisoned. With the growth of the colony the chamber formerly made and inhabited by the *Holcaspis* larva is enlarged by the workers. The queen with the larvæ prefers to inhabit the small central capsule in which the *Holcaspis* passed its pupal life. The larvæ are of a peculiar greenish tint. The males and virgin females make their appearance in the colony during the last week of May. At no time are the colonies of *L. obturator* very large. They rarely comprise more than 36 or 40 workers. Members of different colonies, even from galls on the same branch, are extremely hostile to one another. Along the creek-bottoms near Austin, *L. obturator* is also occasionally found nesting in the twigs of the wafer-ash (*Ptelea trifoliata*) which have been hollowed out by tiny carpenter-bees (*Ceratina nanula* Ckll. and *C. arizonensis* Ckll.). The relatively large entrance made by the bees at the end of the twig is plugged up by the ants with agglutinated vegetable particles and then perforated with a minute opening in the center.

16. *Leptothorax nevadensis* sp. nov.

*Worker* (Pl. XII, fig. 20).—Length 2.5–3 mm.

Mandibles 5-toothed. Clypeus depressed in the middle, its anterior margin sinuately excised. Antennæ 12-jointed, scape reaching to posterior corner of the head, first funicular joint as long as joints 2–4 together, joints 2–6 slightly broader than long, joints 7 and 8 as long as broad; two basal joints of club subequal, together shorter than the terminal joint. Thorax above in front of about the same width as below and behind; humeri much rounded, dorsum flattened in profile, without mesoëpinotal constriction. Epinotal spines robust, pointed, decidedly longer than broad at their bases, and nearer together at their bases than long, directed upward, outward and backward. Petiole  $1\frac{1}{2}$  times as long as broad, sides of node rounded, broader than the peduncle; seen from above the node is transverse, in profile it is narrow antero-posteriorly, its anterior slope gently ascending, concave, its posterior slope more abrupt, also concave, summit rounded; ventral surface of petiole with a prominent, compressed, downwardly directed tooth. Postpetiole in profile with a prominent, sometimes slightly angular node; the segment seen from above is transversely elliptical, about half again as broad as long, its anterior angles rounded. Gaster and legs of the usual conformation.

Mandibles striate and punctate. Clypeus subopaque, its surface, especially at the sides, traversed by rather coarse longitudinal rugæ. Head with a satiny luster, sparsely punctate and with delicate longitudinal rugæ, which become decidedly reticulate in the antennal