

*Melittobia clavicornis* (Cameron) (Hym. Eulophidae)  
**PARASITE OF THE MASON WASP** *Pison spinolae*  
Shuckard (Hym. Trypoxylonidae)

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In June of 1948, a number of cocoons of the so-called "mason bee" were collected from their clay chambers on buildings at Kaiwaka near Wellsford. When these were studied some six months

later, it was found that a large number of hymenopterus parasites had merged in addition to adults of the host.

Material was forwarded to Dr. O. W. Richards of the Imperial College of Science and Technology, London, who kindly identified the insects as indicated in the title, adding that *M. clavicornis* is described from Borneo, and its presence in New Zealand probably indicates that the host has been spread by man.

This parasite does not appear to have been previously recorded from New Zealand.

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