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BRITISH ENTOMOLOGY;

BEING

ILLUSTRATIONS AND DESCRIPTIONS

OF

THE GENERA OF INSECTS

FOUND IN

GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND:

CONTAINING

COLOURED FIGURES FROM NATURE

OF THE MOST RARE AND BEAUTIFUL SPECIES,

AND IN MANY INSTANCES

OF THE PLANTS UPON WHICH THEY ARE FOUND.

BY JOHN CURTIS, F.L.S.

HONORARY MEMBER OF THE ASHMOLEAN SOCIETY OF OXFORD,
OF THE IMPERIAL AND ROYAL ACADEMY OF FLORENCE,
OF THE ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES OF PHILADELPHIA, ETC.

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HYMENOPTERA, PART I.

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CERAPHRON HALIDAYI.

ORDER Hymenoptera. FAM. Proctotrupidæ Nob. Oxyuri Lat.

Type of the Genus Ceraphron sulcatus Jur.

CERAPHRON Jur., Spin., Lat., Leach.

Antennæ inserted near to the mouth, longer in the male than female, geniculated, 11-jointed in both sexes, pubescent, and attenuated in the male, the basal joint the most robust, not so long as the 3rd, 2nd very small, 3rd the longest, the remainder slightly decreasing in length to the last (1); filiform or subclavate in the females, the basal joint the longest, 2nd as long as the 4th, the 3rd long, the remainder slightly decreasing in length to the last, which is elongate-oval (1, a). *Labrum* undetected. *Mandibles* slender, bent, bifid and slightly pilose (3).

Maxillæ short, membranous, horny only on the outside, terminated by a broad rounded lobe. *Palpi* very long and exerted, 5-jointed, 3 first joints nearly of equal length, the 1st slender, 2nd and 3rd dilated, subovate, 4th and 5th very slender, the former nearly as long as the latter which is the longest (4).

Mentum elongated, horny, the angles emarginate to receive the *Palpi*, which are not longer than the lip, clavate and apparently triarticulate, the 2 first joints very minute, the 3rd ovate, pilose.

Lip large rounded and pubescent (5).

Head suborbicular, frequently depressed. Eyes remote. Ocelli 3.

Thorax ovate or oblong; prothorax transverse and not suddenly narrowed. Scutellum, elongate-conic; postscutellum sometimes toothed in the centre. Abdomen attached by a broad and very short peduncle, ovate-conic, composed of 7 joints, the 1st striated at the base and frequently covering more than half the body. Wings pubescent, anterior with a thickened costal nervure, terminated (in the type) by a large stigma, producing a curved branch. Thighs sometimes a little thickened. Tibiæ spurred. Tarsi 5-jointed, the basal joint long. Claws and Pulvilli distinct (8, a fore leg).

Obs. The dissections are taken from a male of C. Dux, nob., excepting fig. 1, a, which is the female antenna of the same species.

HALIDAYI Nob.

Male black, shining. *Antennæ* as long as the wings, 11-jointed, basal joint large ochreous, 2nd globose, the 4 following producing each, a long clavate branch pilose at the apex, the 3rd and 4th joints very short, 5th and 6th longer, 7th the longest, slightly branched at the apex, the remainder more robust, subovate, the 8th being slightly produced on the internal side, the 11th elongate ovate. Head transverse, large, punctured. Eyes large remote. Ocelli distinct. Thorax punctured, with 3 lines on the back meeting at the scutellum. Abdomen very smooth and shining, tinged with ochre and slightly furrowed at the base. Wings hyaline, iridescent, pilose, basal half of the costa thickened, the stigma large semiorbicular, producing a curved branch, all fuscous. Legs ochraceous; thighs, middle pair fuscous above; posterior pair of legs fuscous. Female unknown.

In the Cabinet of Mr. Haliday.

So little are these minuter Hymenoptera understood, that this genus has never been recorded even as British; and it is remarkable that only one species has ever been described by continental writers. I have now seen upwards of sixty species taken by Mr. Haliday, Mr. F. Walker, and myself. It is evident that they do not vary in figure and character less amongst themselves, than they do from the typical form, as will be shown by the following divisions with which Mr. Haliday has kindly furnished me. The insect dissected I preferred to the type, not only because it is the largest of the genus, but from my being acquainted with the sexes.

Div. 1. Antennæ 11-jointed; wings with the stigma sub-trigonal or suborbicular. The Antennæ shorter, the scape longer and the apex incrassated in the females.

1. *C. Dux Nob.* Length two lines, breadth three. Black, shining, base of tibiæ and tarsi ferruginous. Superior wings with a fuscous cloud. Mr. Haliday, Ireland.
2. *opacus Hal. MSS.* Mr. Haliday, Ireland.
3. *cimicoides Hal. MSS.* m. Sept. Holywood, Downshire.
4. *rufiscapus Nob.* Norfolk.
5. *rufipes Nob.* Norfolk.
6. *nitidus Nob.* Mr. Walker.
7. *sulcatus Jur. pl. 14.*—24th July, pales, Hampstead Heath.
8. *puliciformis Nob.*
9. *crispus Hal. MSS.* Aug. Holywood.
10. *Carpenteri Nob.* Black, head and thorax pubescent, body shining; apex of thighs, tibiæ and tarsi ochreous. Antennæ in the male similar to those of the same sex in *Eurytoma abrotani*. I have the pleasure of naming this curious insect after Thomas Carpenter, Esq. who bred it from female *Aphides*.
11. *elegans Nob.* Mr. Walker.
12. *Halidayi Nob. pl. 249.* This beautiful little insect I have dedicated to A. H. Haliday, Esq. a zealous advocate of Entomology, whose knowledge of these beautiful tribes is only equalled by the liberality with which it is imparted to others for the advancement of science. It was taken the 8th of Aug. near Holywood.
13. *gracilis Nob.* Mr. Haliday.

Div. 2. Apterous.

14. *C. ruficollis Hal. MSS.* May, Kensington Gardens.
15. *Rubi Nob. e.* Aug. upon bramble leaves, near Heron Court, Hants.
16. *melanocephalus Hal. MSS.* June, Oct. Shady groves.

Div. 3. Wings with a linear branch, but no stigma.

17. *longipennis Nob.* Mr. Haliday and Mr. Walker.

Div. 4. Antennæ 10-jointed.

18. *C. ferrugineus Hal. MSS.* July 8, Holywood.
19. *discolor Hal. MSS.* Aug. Sept. Holywood.
20. *nubilipennis Nob.* Mr. Walker and Mr. Haliday.

The plant is *Lathyrus pratensis* (Meadow Vetchling).