

Annual Report of the Manchester Scientific Student's Association,
1877. From the Association.

MAY 9, 1879.

Vice-Director Dr. HORN in the chair.

The Publication Committee reported favorably the following papers presented at the last meeting for publication in the Transactions of the American Entomological Society:—

“Synopsis of the Monotomidæ of the United States,” by George H. Horn, M. D.

“Synopsis of the Nitidulidæ of the United States,” by George H. Horn, M. D.

Mr. Blake communicated the following description of a new species of *Pamphila* from Costa Rica:

***Pamphila dukolum*.**—♂.—Upper side bright fulvous; primaries broadly margined with fuscous, broadest at inner angle, a bright fulvous streak on costa extending from base to near the middle, below which at base it is obscure fuscous; at the extremity of cell a fuscous patch rounded at apex and joining the costal margin; nervules fuscous; secondaries margined with fuscous, broader at costal margin and base, becoming narrower at exterior margin; disc immaculate, fringes fulvous. Under side; primaries brighter fulvous than above, paler at apex, the fuscous margin extending along interior margin to inner angle, and terminating below the middle of exterior margin, the fuscous patch at base same as above, subcostal nervules fuscous; secondaries bright yellow, with a fulvous streak extending from base to near anal angle, immaculate, fringes same as above. Thorax above fuscous; abdomen fulvous, beneath yellow; palpi fulvous mixed with grey; antennæ fuscous, the club and basal portions of the joints bright ferruginous within; legs pale fulvous. Expands 24 mm.

Hab.—Costa Rica. Collected by the late Wm. M. Gabb. Allied to *P. Zabulon*. The specific name above used has been taken from the vocabulary of one of the Costa Rican tribes, as compiled by Mr. Gabb, and signifies brownish-yellow.

Mr. E. T. Cresson exhibited specimens of several hymenopterous insects which he believed to be new, and described them as follows:

***Oryssus occidentalis*.**—♂ ♀.—Black, opaque; head coarsely punctured, the vertex gibbous, crowned with six or seven acute tubercles encircling the lower ocellus; clypeus acutely margined at tip which is truncate; cheeks very prominent; joints 3--6 of antennæ more or less white above; thorax depressed, densely punctured; scutellum triangular, acute at tip; wings smoky beyond stigma; knees and line on outer side of tibiæ, white, tarsi fulvo-testaceous, sometimes more or less obfuscated; abdomen shining, ferruginous, basal segment black, scabrous. Length .40—.60 inch.

Hab.—Colorado, Nevada, (Morrison). Eight specimens.

Oryssus mexicanus.—♀.—Black, opaque, coarsely and confluent punctured; vertex crowned with a circular row of prominent tubercles around the lower ocellus, and between the summit of the eyes a coarse transversely rugose prominence; on each side of the face a sharply defined longitudinal carina reaching below to the acutely margined, somewhat recurved tip of clypeus, converging above and connected by a cross-carina below the lower ocellus, the surface within this oblong quadrangular enclosure is reticulated; cheeks silvery sericeous, a short acute carina on each side above base of mandibles; posterior margin of prothorax above silvery-sericeous; a longitudinal shining ridge on disk of mesothorax and another shorter and less distinct on each side over the tegulæ; scutellum rounded at tip; wings fusco-hyaline, a subhyaline space beneath stigma; tibiæ piceous, tarsi dull ferruginous; abdomen rather shining, basal margin of the segments rufo-testaceous. Length .60 inch.

Hab.—Mexico, (Sumichrast). One specimen.

Cleptes purpurata.—♀.—Purple, changing to blue, shining; head and thorax sparsely punctured, thinly clothed with erect black pubescence; scape black, flagellum brown, sericeous; prothorax green; longitudinal lines on mesothorax deeply impressed; metathorax coarsely rugose, longitudinally so at base above, lateral angles subacute; tegulæ piceous; wings pale fuscous; legs black or piceous; abdomen flattened, ovate, smooth and shining, minutely punctured, black, changing to purple in certain lights, thinly clothed with short black pubescence. Length .30 inch.

Hab.—Vancouver's Island, (Henry Edwards). One specimen.

Cleptes americana.—♂ ♀.—Green, blue or purple, sparsely punctured, thinly clothed with black pubescence; antennæ black, scape sometimes blue or green, flagellum sericeous; thorax strongly punctured, longitudinal lines on mesothorax well impressed; metathorax reticulated, sometimes longitudinally rugose at base above, lateral angles acute; tegulæ black or piceous, sometimes æneous; wings pale fuscous; tibiæ and tarsi black or piceous; abdomen flattened, smooth and shining, feebly punctured, thinly pubescent, black, changing to green, blue or purple in certain lights. Length .20—.23 inch.

Hab.—Colorado, Nevada. Fourteen specimens.

Mr. Cresson stated that the species described by him at a former meeting as *Euchroeus Edwardsii*, should have been referred to *Paranopes*, also a genus not hitherto represented in North America.

Rev. Mr. McCook exhibited some microscopic slides containing thin sections of the mandibles of the Agricultural Ant of Texas, (*Pogonomyrmex barbatus*), showing the loss of substance by wear on the sharp edges of the teeth. These slides served to illustrate his views that, while the teeth of the mandibles in some specimens may be naturally more acute than in others, the great amount of rounding seen in the specimens of older individuals is the result of natural wear as in the teeth of higher animals. The same fact was also illus-