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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.

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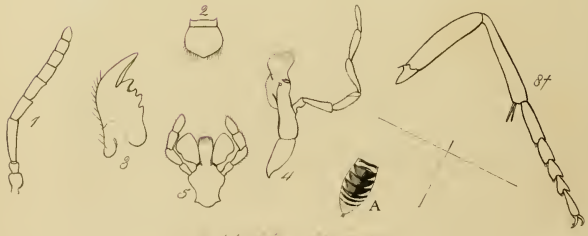
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subsp. *Carabus* N. 1859

ALLANTUS FLAVIPES.

ORDER Hymenoptera.

FAM. Tenthredinidæ.

*Type of the Genus, Tenthredo Scrophulariæ Linn.*ALLANTUS *Jur., Panz., Curt.*—*Tenthredo Linn., Fab., Klug., St. Farg.*

Antennæ frequently shortest in the males, inserted in the middle of the face, approximating, as long as the thorax, clavate, compressed, 9-jointed (1); basal joint short stout subpyriform, 2nd small, obovate, 3rd the longest, clavate, 4th and 5th stouter but much shorter, the following diminishing to the apical joint, which is small and conical.

Labrum suborbicular, angulated in the centre and ciliated (2).

Mandibles very similar, curved, the apex forming a strong claw with 3 or 4 stout teeth below, externally pilose (3).

Maxillæ long and slender terminated by an ovate lobe, and an internal pubescent one. *Palpi* long slender pubescent and 6-jointed, basal joint short, 2nd and 3rd longish and stout, 4th a little longer, rather slender and clavate, 5th not longer than the 3rd, 6th shorter, the slenderest, apex conical (4).

Mentum short, corset-shaped. *Palpi* attached to the anterior angles, short stout pubescent and 4-jointed, basal joint sub-pyriform, the remainder nearly of equal length, terminal joint ovate-conic. *Lip* broad and trilobed, central lobe oblong, lateral lobes more obovate (5).

Males *not always the smallest.* Head *transverse-oblong, base concave: face trigonate: eyes vertical, prominent, and oval: ocelli forming a compact triangle on the crown.* Thorax *globose: scutel broad and semiovate.* Abdomen *generally cylindric, a little depressed and linear in the males, the apex rounded, sometimes rather broad in the females, the apex conical: ovipositor not projecting.* Wings, superior with 2 marginal and 4 submarginal cells. Legs, *hinder long, stoutest in the males: thighs, anterior the shortest: tibiæ all spurred, anterior with the apex of one spur furcate: tarsi 5-jointed, first 4 joints lobed beneath, and stouter than the others in the hinder pair of the males (8†): claws bifid: pulvilli distinct.*

Larvæ with 6 pectoral, 14 abdominal and 2 anal feet.

FLAVIPES *Fourc.—Curt. Guide, Gen. 466.*

Male black, head and thorax mealy; clypeus labrum and 2 basal joints of antennæ yellow, 2nd black inside; sides of collar scapulars and 2 dots on postscutel yellow; margin of 3rd segment and 2 following ferruginous, with a black streak at the base of each, remainder yellow, base of 6th with a broad black band, narrow on the 7th, wings ferruginous-yellow, costa and stigma ochreous; legs yellow, intermediate thighs with a small, hinder with a large black patch on the inside; 4 anterior tibiæ with a black patch at the apex; tarsi black, gray at the base, hinder with the 3 basal joints yellow. *Female* with 2 basal joints of antennæ yellow: abdomen with the margins of the segments yellow, interrupted on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th, forming sublunate spots on the sides (A): wings yellow, costa stigma and nerves orange; hinder thighs with a black patch at the base.

In the Cabinets of Mr. Shuckard and the Author.

IF we take the typical species of Allantus and compare them with those of Tenthredo, pl. 692, the differences are very

evident, especially in the antennæ; but if we proceed in the comparison we shall find that they gradually approach, so that at last there is little to distinguish the genera excepting the length of the 3rd joint of the antennæ. I cannot speak with certainty regarding the trophi, not having examined them sufficiently, but I must not omit to notice a remarkable departure from the typical structure, which Mr. Haliday has pointed out to me in a species allied to *Selandria*, with very short palpi, containing only 5 and 3 joints instead of 6 and 4. Mr. Haliday has only seen the males which he took at Holywood, and has named them *seminigra*, and perhaps *Brachythops* may be considered an appropriate generic name.

In addition to the 42 species of *Allantus* recorded in the Guide, I am now able to add three more. The following sections may probably be found preferable to Dr. Klug's, which are based on the colour of the antennæ.

* *Antennæ short, subclavate. a. Hinder tarsi stout in the males.*

1. *Scrophulariæ* Linn.—Panz. 100. 10.—*rusticus* Schr.
2. *captiva* St. Farg. 88. 256. First detected by Mr. Shuckard.
3. *Thompsoni* Curt. MSS.

Male black; clypeus, base of antennæ, humeral spots, 2 on scutel, margins of 1st and 4th, sides of 5th and apical segments yellow: legs yellow, upper side of thighs, apex of tibiæ and tarsi black, hinder dilated.

I have the pleasure of dedicating this pretty species to my friend C. J. Thomson, Esq., who was present when I took it at Mickleham the middle of August.

4. *flavipes* Fourc.—Curt. Brit. Ent. pl. 764. ♂.—*dispar* Klug.

This species was first observed by Mr. Shuckard in Battersea fields, where it appeared in abundance the end of June. Wishing to see the insect alive, I went to the spot the beginning of July, when I found 2 females upon the flowers of *Sinapis nigra* and also 6 larvæ, one of which I have figured: they were feeding on that plant, and I believe upon *S. alba*, pl. 546; they ate the leaves, stalks and flowers; one soon changed its skin, when it lost all the black spots except those on the head, and it buried itself on the 17th, and the others successively, but unfortunately I could not rear them: there is little doubt however that they were the larvæ of *A. flavipes*.

Dr. Klug having described 2 species of *Allantus* under the name of *dispar*, I have found it necessary to revert to Fourcroy's name, although it is not perhaps so appropriate.

b. Hinder tarsi alike in both sexes.

5. *rusticus* Linn.—*carbonaria* Fab.—Panz. 71. 10.—*notata* Panz. 64. 10. ♀.

** *Antennæ longish, filiform: a. hinder tarsi stout in the males.*

6. *zonatus* Panz. 64. 9.—*equestris* Panz. 107. 6.—*succincta* Don. 13. 441. 2.

b. Hinder tarsi slender in both sexes.

7. *lividus* Linn.—Panz. 52. 6. ♀.—*Carpini* Panz. 71. 9. ♂.

The plant is *Sinapis nigra*, Common Mustard.