

## NOTE XXXII.

## A NEW SPECIES OF MICROSTYLUM

(DIPTERA : ASILIDAE)

BY

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Through the kindness of Mr. R. Oberthür at Rennes, France, the Leyden Museum received not long ago a specimen of a gigantic Asilid, belonging to the genus *Microstylum* Macq. and of oriental origin. As I cannot find in the literature of Asiatic Asilids any description applicable to it, I have no doubt that the species, notwithstanding its large size, remained hitherto unknown. In publishing it here, I name it in honour of the eminent entomologist, to whom the Museum is indebted for this interesting present.

*Microstylum Oberthürii*, n. sp. ♀.

Deep black; thoracic dorsum dark-grey; beard orange-yellow; wings brown with green and violet lustre. — Length 43 mm.

Head proportionally small, narrower than the thorax; front and face not quite as broad as the transverse diameter of the eyes, and with sub-parallel sides, black with a brownish violet reflexion; along the sides of the front a row of black hairs; the face slightly projecting, with some transverse folds; mystax forming a row of strong black bristles at the oral margin; underside of the head thickly

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clothed with orange-yellow hairs. The two basal joints of the antennae shining black, about equal in length; third joint dull greyish-black, slightly longer than the two basal joints together. Proboscis longer than the head, shining black, with some short rufous hairs at the tip; palpi black, with black bristles. Thoracic dorsum somewhat flattened, uniform dull dark-grey, with minute black hairs; pleurae and breast piceous, thickly clothed with black hairs; scutellum small, brownish-black, with a few black hairs at the hind border. Abdomen twice as long as the thorax, tapering towards the end; the first four segments velvet-black, the following shining-black; sides of the abdomen with long black hairs; the apical segments with some rufous pilosity; anus with a double row of black spines. Legs robust, black and black-haired; pulvilli yellowish. Halteres brownish. Wings longer than the abdomen, brown with a bright-green, blue and purple lustre, and the normal venation of the genus *Microstylum*.

A female specimen from Siào-Lòu, at the frontiers between Thibet and China, in the province Tatsien-Lòu.

This species is closely allied to *Dasyopogon* (*Microstylum*) *Vica* Walk. (List Dipt. Brit. Mus. II, p. 304), of which I saw a specimen preserved in the Museum at Budapest, and to which may be reckoned as synonymous *Microstylum spinitarse* Macq. (Dipt. exot. Suppl. 4, p. 61, pl. 6, fig. 1). *M. Vica* is likewise a black species with dark-coloured and iridescent wings, but it is of a much smaller size (31 mm. length), and differs by having the thorax, instead of greyish, as black as the rest, and by the black (not orange) hairs at the underside of the head.

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