

NOTE VIII.

DESCRIPTION OF A REMARKABLE NEW ASILID

BY

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Ommatius Schlegelii, nov. spec. ♂.

Tener, pallide rufus; abdominis segmentis ultimis fusciscentibus; facie fronteque angustis, argenteis; femoribus anticis extrinsecus pilis binis longis nigris, mediis spinula unica nigra munitis; tarsis anterioribus subtus nigro-notatis, anticorum articulo secundo primo sublongiori, intermediorum articulis 2, 3 et 4 brevibus, subdilatatis, externe nigro-plumatis; alis hyalinis, apice cinereo; nervis apicalibus flexuosis. — Long 12 mm.

This species, by its slender and delicate structure, on the first sight is hardly to be recognized as an Asilid.

Head rather large, broader than the thorax, nearly wholly occupied by the eyes; front and face very narrow, silvery white; front with a longitudinal groove; vertex small, deeply sunk in a narrow slit between the eyes; face on the upper part with a longitudinal groove, on the lower part a little prominent and gradually enlarging towards the mouth. Mystax not reaching beyond the middle of the face and consisting of a few long, partly yellowish, partly white hairs; beard whitish. Eyes large, descending on both sides beneath the oral margin; middle facets larger than the outer ones. Occiput impressed. Antennae short; the joints of nearly equal length; the two first joints pale yellow, the third testaceous, pointed at

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the tip; arista more than twice as long as the antennae, on the underside with about six hairs. Proboscis blackish brown, tawny at the base; palpi very short, yellowish.

Thorax uniformly pale rufous, on the sides and before the scutellum with a few yellow bristles.

Abdomen slender, rufous; the hind margin of the third and fourth segments brownish; the following segments entirely of this colour and somewhat shining; at the under surface of the second and following segments a rather long and dense, mostly yellow pilosity is present; genitals small; inferior appendices cylindrical, with the tips turned towards each other and with a long hair at the base.

Legs of moderate size and strength, pale yellow. Middle and hind femora with a pair of brown points at the tip. The second joint of the front tarsi elongated, even a little longer than the first, each of these joints with a black point on the underside. First joint of the middle tarsi as long as the following joints taken together, its tip infuscated and feathered outwards by a tuft of black hairs; the three following joints brownish, remarkably short and broad, feathered in the same way as the tip of the first joint; on the underside the first and second joints have a black point. Of the hind tarsi the first joint likewise is nearly as long as the following joints together, but these are not so short and broad as those of the middle tarsi, and have no tuft of black hairs, but they are a little infuscated at the tips. Pulvilli and claws yellow, the latter with a black tip.

Bristles and pilosity of the legs for the most part yellow; front coxae on the lower part densely beset with white hairs. Femora on the underside with some bristles of moderate size; front femora outwards, not far from the base, with a pair of long, black, curved hairs; nearly at the same place, but a little lower, the middle femora have a single black bristle. Front tarsi on the outer- and underside with rather long bristles.

Halteres pale yellow.

Wings rather narrow, hyaline with the tip cinereous; veins blackish; the space between the costal and subcostal veins, in the distal half of the wing, is somewhat infuscated. The two longitudinal veins issuing from the discal cell, together with the inferior branch of the external submarginal cell, are strongly curved; middle crossvein inserted at about two-thirds of the discal cell, which is rather elongate and narrow; fourth posterior cell closed and appendiculated at its proximal as well as at its distal end.

A single male specimen from the island Waigiou (Bernstein) in the Leyden Museum.

By its tender structure, its narrow face and front, the peculiar shape of its tarsi and the unusually waved veins in the apex of the wings, this species differs so much from the other species of *Ommatius*, that most probably future investigations will show the necessity for making a separate genus for its reception.

I dedicate this very distinct species to the memory of the late Professor H. Schlegel, the regretted Director of the Leyden Museum.

the Hague, February, 1884.