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CLASS.—NEUROPTERA.

NATURAL ORDER.—LIBELLULITES, *ined.*

Genus *Libellulam* ut a Doct. Leach circumscriptum, audendo iterum dividere in terram ambiguum periclitor: nihilominus mihi videtur, character unicus “*metalæ sexibus ambobus compares*” non sufficit, propterea distinctiones novas in corporis figuram conditas, attentavi: instrumenta cibaria haud examinavi, quoniam genus satis determinatum instanter universus monstrat aspectus, sanciantque characteres enumerati existimo.

GENUS.—SYMPETRUM.^d *Newman.*

Caput metathorace latius: propodeon, podeonque in commisura incrassata: segmenta sequentia lateribus compressa: protelum ac adjacentia plus minusve incrassata: tetum minutum: teli appendices notas cæteris distinctas vix præbent: alarum stigma utrinque convexum.

The remaining species of Dr. Leach's genus, *Libellula*, widely differ from each other in the form of the posterior segments, and in the length of the superior caudal appendages of the male; but in none of them are these segments compressed as in the genus *Sympetrum*; they will, in all probability, resolve eventually into three distinct genera, and as such I had once prepared them for publication, together with *Sympetrum*, as below,^e but a dislike to name-giving induced me to relinquish them.

A. *Sexus colore discrepantes.*

Symp. Scoticum. Mas, *purpureo-nigrum, maculis flavis; alis hyalinis: pedibus nigris.* Fem. *olivaceum, maculis flavis: subtus nigrum; alis hyalinis basi flavis.* Mas et Fem. *stigmatate nigro, pedibus nigris.*

^d Συμπιέζω *comprimo, ητρον abdomen.*

^e *Sympetrum*; abdomen laterally compressed. Ex. *Vulgatum*, Linn. &c. *Orthetrum*; abdomen laterally parallel. Ex. *Cærulescens*, Fab. *Cancellatum*, Linn.

Platetrum; abdomen depressed and dilated. Ex. *Depressum*, Linn. *Conspurcatum*, Linn.

Leptetrum; abdomen conical and pointed. Ex. *Quadrinacutum*, Linn. *Prænubilum*, Newman.

I may add that it is with great pleasure I have seen the divisions of Clairville's genus, *Colymbetes*, lately raised by our friends on the continent to the rank of genera. They had long since been similarly divided and labelled with MS. names in my own cabinet—causing much good-humoured raillery among my acquaintance, at my love of making divisions.

Libellula Scotica. *Leach.* E. E. IX. 136, *descr.*

Id. *Donovan.* XV. Pl. 523, *icon.*

Male, purply-black, with an oblique, yellow, elongate blotch on the mesothorax; another on the metathorax, besides several smaller spots of the same colour: the deca-ton and protelum likewise bear on each two distinct yellow spots: the wings are very clear, without any saffron tint at the base. *Female*, olivaceous, with the yellow spots on the anterior segments, as in the male; the posterior segments having the inferior portion black. The male and female have the stigma of the wings, and the legs, entirely black. (Length $12\frac{1}{2}$ lin.; breadth 19 lin.) (*Mus. Soc. Ent.*)

Taken in Scotland and some parts of England.

Symp. rufo-stigma. Mas. *Rufum.* Fem. *Olivaceum*
linea dorsali nigra. Mas et Fem. *Alis sordide hyalinis*
basi croceis stigmatè, maribus præcipue, rufo; pedibus
nigris.

Male, brilliant red. *Female*, olivaceous, the lateral portions of the meso- and metathorax inclining to yellow, variegated with black oblique lines: the acute keel of the posterior segments is tipped with black, the lower portion is also inclining to black. In both sexes the wings have a tinge of brown over the whole surface, and a saffron-coloured spot at their base: the stigma of the males, particularly, is bright red: the legs are black, with the under surface of the profemora in the females excepted, which is yellow. (Length 13 lin.; breadth 21 lin.) (*Mus. Soc. Ent.*)

This species is particularly abundant. I have examined no London collection without observing specimens of it; it is not allied to any described species; the red male instantly distinguishes it from *S. Scoticum*, the black legs and diminutive size from *S. vulgatum*.

Symp. vulgatum. Mas. *Rufescens.* Fem. *Olivaceum: alis*
sordidè hyalinis basi vix croceis, stigmatè infumato; femo-
ribus tibiisque flavis, lineis nigris; tarsis nigris.

Libellula vulgata. *Linn. Syst. Nat.* I. 901? (alis hyalinis
corpore griseo cauda simplici.)

Id. *Fab. Lat. Charp, Vand, &c.*

Id. *Schæff, Tab. 92, fig. 1 (mas); Tab. 137,*
fig. 1 (fem.): icon.

Male, red. *Female*, olivaceous, the lateral portions of the meso- and metathorax inclining to yellow, and streaked with black; a

slender black line passes centrally along the sides of the posterior segments, though occasionally interrupted; another black line, below this, is never interrupted: the wings in both sexes have a saffron tinge at the base,—in the females, extending along the costal margin: the stigma is smoke colour: the legs are yellow, with slender black lines, excepting the tarsi, which are totally black. (Length 16 to 17 lin.; breadth 25 lin.)

This species is also abundant round London, but never seen in company with the last. I have examined the authentic Linnæan specimen, and find it does not perfectly agree with this insect; but probably time has so altered its colours, that it would be scarcely fair to introduce a new name.

Sexus colore assimilantes.

Symp. basale. Mas et Fem. *Flavescens; alis, basi et marginibus costalibus, croceo tenuiter suffusis, stigmatate infumato, pedibus nigris, profemoribus subtus flavis.*

Libel. basalis. *Steph. Syst. Cat. I. 309.*

Male and female, dull yellow, approaching in parts to olivaceous: a series of irregular black spots, on the sides of the posterior segments, form an interrupted line: the meso- and metathorax are likewise marked with black, in the same manner as *Symp. vulgatum*: the wings are beautifully stained with saffron-colour at the base, and along the costal margin: the stigma is smoke-coloured: the legs are black, with the exception of the under surface of the profemora, in the female, which is yellow, and the coxæ and trochanteres, which are of peculiarly pale and delicate straw-colour. (Length 15 lin.; breadth 22 lin.)

Mr. Stephens, who kindly transmitted me his typical specimen, has the credit of first noticing this species as distinct from the others, and I have adopted his name, although I should have preferred a more distinguishing one, as the one he has chosen is more or less applicable to every species of the restricted genus *Libellula*. It does not appear an abundant species, though occasionally found near London. I have never met with it.

Symp. flaveolatum. Mas et Fem. *Flavescens; alis, metalis præsertim, latè croceis; stigmatate flavo; pedibus nigris extus flavo lineatis.*

- Libellula flaveolata. *Linn. Faun. Suec., descr.*
 flaveola. *Fab. Latr. Charp. Vand., &c.*
 Id. *Schœff., Tab. 4, fig. 1, icon.*

Male and female, yellow, with a continuous black line extending on each side from the metathorax to the telum: fore-wings with a saffron-coloured blotch at the base, and another, in the *females*, near the centre of the upper margin: hind-wings with a large blotch of the same colour at the base: stigma opaque, straw-coloured: legs black, with a yellow line externally on the femora and tarsi. (Length 15 lin.; breadth $22\frac{1}{2}$ lin.)

Taken, but rarely, in the neighbourhood of London; more abundant in Scotland. Most of these species vary in the disposition and mode of marking; they are also subject to have pale legs, when killed immediately on emerging from the pupa, and to change their colour by being kept: if due allowance is not made for these variations, much confusion will ensue. I shall feel obliged to any of your correspondents who can supply me with either of the two last described species, or any remarkable *Libellulites*, on loan.

Should these Notes meet with approbation, I hope, in another volume, to renew them, having made but slender progress with the stores on hand.

EDWARD NEWMAN.

ART. LXIII.—*Varieties.*

46. *Moths attracted by Sugar*, (Vid. ante, p. 310.)—I have observed that the bottles filled with sugar and water which are frequently hung against walls to attract wasps, and so preserve the wall-fruit, will attract moths also. I once knew an instance of *Catocala nupta* getting into one of them. If sugar barrels are heated, they will attract moths much sooner than when cold; some gauze should be so placed as to prevent the moths from injuring themselves, and a person should stand near with a net ready. *Sphinges*, and other moths, come to feed on honeysuckles and all sweet flowers.

J. C. DALE.

47. *Names of Captain Blomer's Insects*, (Vid. ante, p. 317.)—As some doubt seems to be attached to the names sent by Captain Blomer to the Entomological Magazine, I