

#### 4. *Hydrophilus pollens*.

Ovalis, convexus, niger, supra viridi-olivaceus, parum nitidus, pedibus nigro-piceis, antennis palpisque testaceis; prosterni processu profunde fisso, utrinque anterieus dente acuminato deorsum spectante; femoribus posterioribus validis; abdomine pubescente, segmento penultimo medio linea lævigata et carinata, posterius in dente libero producta, segmento ultimo medio spatio parvo, anterieus angusto lævigato; palpis maxillaribus maris dilatatis.

Long. 30–35 millim.

*Hab.* MEXICO (coll. Laferté), Vera Cruz (Höge).—SOUTH AMERICA, Demerara (Harper).

Of this species I have before me three examples, and have no doubt that the example from Mexico with the maxillary palpi dilated is the same species as the individual from Demerara with the palpi simple, although in this presumed male there is not the slightest incrassation or peculiarity of the front tarsi, which are quite like those of the female; the second example from Mexico has unfortunately lost the palpi.

*H. pollens* is one of a group of species distinguished by the prosternum in front being divided into two lobes, by the hind body being nearly entirely covered with pubescence, by the broad hind femora, and by the males possessing peculiar sexual distinctions. The species of this group are rather numerous in South America; but are apparently scarce, and only two or three have been described.

#### 5. *Hydrophilus violaceo-nitens*.

*Hydrophilus violaceo-nitens*, Jacq. Duv. in Sagra's Hist. física polit. y nat. de Cuba, vii. Ins. p. 23<sup>1</sup>; Chevr. Ann. Soc. Ent. Fr. 1863, p. 205<sup>2</sup>.

*Hab.* MEXICO, Vera Cruz (Flohr).—ANTILLES, CUBA<sup>1 2</sup>.

The two examples of this insect received from Mr. Flohr are extremely mutilated and immature, but I expect they will prove to be the same as the Cuban species, of which only the female appears to be known. If I am correct in this supposition, *H. violaceo-nitens* is closely allied to *H. pollens*, but the colour of its upper surface is less viridescent, the lobes of the prosternum are quite obtuse, and the penultimate two segments are polished along the middle, while the glabrous space on the terminal segment is of oblong rather than triangular shape; the pectoral lamina is thick in front, and bears a remarkably deep depression; all the femora are red, but this may be due to the immature condition of the two examples.

These specimens were met with in the Laguna de los Cocos some time ago; but though sought for since the species has not again been found there.

### TROPISTERNUS (p. 54).

#### *Tropisternus mexicanus* (p. 55).

To the Mexican localities given, add:—Mazatlan in Sinaloa, San Juan Bautista in Tabasco (Höge).