

A species from Chiacam, of which there are four or five females, and one male somewhat doubtfully associated with them, which cannot be referred to *S. oblita*, for the jaws are not suddenly bent as in the female of that species; it is less hairy, the antennæ have not the pale apical joints, and are, moreover, shorter, with shorter joints. The male, which is from the same locality, is paler in colour, with a brighter orange-coloured thorax, the margin of which projects in front of the nick, but yet not as in *S. paupercula*.

9 (F). *Silis paupercula*.

Sordide nigro-fusca, sericeo pubescens; ore et epistomate, prothorace (vitta mediana excepta), antennarum basi, elytrorum sutura et margine laterali pedibusque pallide-testaceis. Long. 5 millim. ♂ ♀.

Mas. Prothorace, margine laterali antice tuberculari plicato, in medio oblique constricto.

Hab. GUATEMALA, San Juan in Vera Paz (*Champion*); PANAMA, Bugaba, Volcan de Chiriqui 2500 to 4000 feet (*Champion*).

Var.? Prothorace nigrescente, limbo laterali pallido.

Hab. PANAMA, Volcan de Chiriqui 4000 to 6000 feet (*Champion*).

There are a series of little species, of which this is one, occurring together and very difficult to separate from each other; I distinguish *S. paupercula* by the thorax in the male being formed very much like that of *S. pauxilla*, and it may perhaps be necessary eventually to remove it with that species to a new genus. The thorax is not orbiculate, and not "nicked," but viewed from behind with the body towards one, the front part of the margin projects on each side; this character will separate it from *Silis lineata*. The head is wide with projecting eyes; the antennæ two thirds as long as the body, free from the erect pile observable in those of *S. oblita* and *S. ardua*, and their second joint more than half as long as the third.

The variety almost exactly simulates *Photinus diurnus*, which occurs on the Volcan de Chiriqui at various altitudes up to 8000 feet, and it is remarkable that in this variety the antennæ are wholly fuscous, as they are in the *Photinus*, and the tibiæ and under surface of the body are also dark. I have often had occasion to remark that the varieties of many species, which occur either in higher latitudes or in higher altitudes, tend rather to melanism than those which from living in hotter regions are perhaps forced to seek the shade more, and hence from living in retirement, in rolled-up withered leaves of fallen trees, or in chinks and holes during the hot sunshine, are simply brown or even white. The brown species of *Chauliognathus*, Mr. Champion informs me, have this habit of secreting themselves in dried leaves of a similar tint.

9 (G). *Silis amacula*.

Nigro-fusca; antennarum articulo basali, ore, epistomate, prothorace, pedibus (tibiæ apicibus tarsisque exceptis) elytrorumque sutura et margine laterali testaceis; abdomine segmentis singulis pallide marginatis, segmento apicali testaceo. Long. $4\frac{1}{2}$ –5 millim. ♂ ♀.