

S. nigella, Smith (Cat. Hymen. Ins. iv. p. 255), from Shanghai ; Kohl (Termés. fuzetek, ix. p. 193) also regards the two as possibly identical, and records *S. nigella* from Swan River.

✓ 15. **Sphex robusta.** (Tab. III. fig. 11, ♂.)

Nigro-cærulea, sparse punctata, breviter pilosa ; alis violaceis. ♂ ♀.

Long. 23 millim.

Hab. MEXICO, Atoyac in Vera Cruz (*Schumann*), Temax in North Yucatan (*Gaumer*).

Antennal joints somewhat thickened towards the base and apex ; the third joint much thinner than the others, and fully one quarter longer than the fourth. Head large, not dilated behind the eyes, but largely developed there ; sparsely punctured ; the vertex shining, bearing a few long hairs and almost devoid of pubescence ; front more thickly clothed with hair, and bearing a silvery pubescence ; clypeus, face, and cheeks densely silvery-pubescent, and thickly covered with long black hair, the hair becoming rufous on the apex of the clypeus. Apex of the clypeus with two stout teeth in the middle, the teeth separated by an incision as broad as themselves ; mandibles shining, broadly excavated at the base on the outer side, the apical tooth large and blunt. Thorax punctured, the metathorax very closely and transversely so and opaque ; the mesonotum covered with a rather short sparse griseous pubescence, the pleuræ more thickly pubescent ; the metapleuræ densely covered with greyish hair ; the metanotum bearing long blackish hair, the pleuræ closely, almost rugosely, punctured ; scutellum shining, sparsely punctured, slightly depressed in the middle. Petiole hardly twice the length of the hind coxæ. Abdomen narrow, almost glabrous, as long as the thorax ; the apical segment with a few blackish hairs, and irregularly punctured. Coxæ punctured and bearing some pale hairs ; femora sparsely punctured ; tibiæ and tarsi with the spines stout, blunt ; the metatarsal brush rufous. The wings are paler towards the apex ; the second cubital cellule receives the recurrent nervure near the apex, and is of nearly equal width throughout ; the third cubital cellule receives the second recurrent nervure at a somewhat greater distance from the second transverse cubital nervure ; the radial cellule extends a little beyond the third cubital.

In the male the clypeus has a slight indentation in the middle ; the head and thorax are clothed with rather long erect pale hair (much longer and thicker than in the female) ; the petiole is a little longer ; the apical four ventral segments bear tufts of hair in the centre ; and the wings are clearer posteriorly.

iii. *Tarsal claws 5-dentate.* (Priononyx, *Dahlbom*.)

✓ 16. **Sphex thomæ.** (Tab. III. figg. 12, ♀ ; 12 a, ♂.)

Sphex thomæ, Fabr. Ent. Syst. ii. p. 199.

Pepsis thomæ, Fabr. Syst. Piez. p. 209.

Priononyx thomæ, Dahlbom, Hymen. Eur. i. p. 28 ; Smith, Cat. Hymen. Ins. iv. p. 265¹ ; Saussure, Reise d. Novara, Hymen. p. 43² ; Patton, Proc. Bost. Soc. Nat. Hist. xx. p. 384³.