

A singular north-american fly

(*Opsebius pterodontinus* n. sp.).

By

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Among a lot of diptera, collected by the late J. Boll, and which I acquired in Geneva some time ago, I found an interesting Cyrtid, with wings of a peculiar shape, not unlike *Pterodontia*. Upon examination, I found that the species belonged to the genus *Opsebius* Costa (*Pithogaster* Loew) of which four european and as many north-american species are already described, but none with that extraordinary development of the wings. — (Compare my Catal. N. Am. Dipt. 1878, p. 240.) This character however is merely specific and perhaps only sexual; the generic characters of the species agree most intimately with those of some other described species of that genus.

Opsebius pterodontinus n. sp. ♂ *Brownish-black, shining, clothed with dense, erect, fulvous hairs; legs yellow; wings hyaline; costa with a conspicuous, abrupt projection at the end of the first vein.* — Length 7 mm.

The dense hair on the eyes is brownish-fulvous; antennae brown, arista brownish-yellow; thorax and abdomen are clothed with a uniform covering of erect, fulvous hairs, through which the shining, apparently dark brown, ground color is visible. Halteres whitish-yellow; tegulae transparent, with a yellowish tinge. Legs yellow, with golden-yellow pile; tarsi paler. Wings hyaline, with a slight yellowish tinge; veins yellow; anal cell open; third posterior cell much shorter than the fourth; all the veins reach the margin; first posterior cell divided by a cross-vein, which is a little beyond the discal cell; posterior crossvein nearly opposite (a trifle beyond) the origin of the second vein; tip of the second vein opposite the proximal end of the second submarginal cell; the costa, soon beyond the ending of the auxiliary vein is thickened, and the thickening forms an abrupt projection, blunt at the tip; the terminal portion of the first vein, likewise conspicuously thickened, runs

parallel to the costa, with a very narrow space between, and coalesces with it under the projection.

Hab. Dallas, Texas (J. Boll); a single male, labeled 26, IX., which probably means Sept. 26.

N.B. The wings of this species somewhat resemble those of *Pterodontia*, on account of the singular expansion of the costa. It may be that this character is merely sexual. My description shows the principal points of difference between the venation of this species and that of the european *Opsebius* (Pithogaster) *inflatus* figured by Loew in the Wien. Ent. Monatschr. I, Tab. I. fig. 1; the profile of the body, l. c. f. 2 is exactly like my *O. pterodontinus*.



Post-Script to p. 291. I should have stated that the venation of *Aplocera haruspex* is not correctly described in the Western Diptera, p. 284 („exactly like Dr. Philippi's figure of *Anypenus*“). Dr. Hagen, at my request, very kindly sent me a drawing taken from the original specimen and my statements are based upon it.



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