MICRODON.

3

The specimens captured by Mr. Smith, all of which are males, agree with the one described by me from the Isthmus of Tehuantepec; I would amend the description of that, however, by calling only the tarsi black, and the femora and tibiæ deep blue. In all the examples before me the posterior part of the abdomen is coppery-red: in three of them strongly so. In the specimen with the less cupreous abdomen the thorax is of a deep purple colour. Wiedemann's description does not apply quite so well as that of Macquart. There are either a number of closely allied species or well-marked varieties of the same species, and some doubt of the identity must remain till specimens quite alike are compared from Brazil and Central America. Whether the example from Brazil with yellow tibiæ mentioned by me ⁵ is of this species, I am, after comparison of the specimens, unable to say. It is quite certain that this is Walker's M. trochilus.

2. Microdon gracilis.

Microdon gracile, Bigot, Ann. Soc. Ent. Fr. 1883, p. 320 1.

Hab. Mexico 1, Orizaba (H. H. Smith and F. D. Godman).

Bigot's inadequate description will not permit any certainty in the determination, but it seems not impossible that the single specimen before me belongs to this species. There is a discrepancy between the diagnosis and description, as regards the antennæ. Our specimen has the antennæ elongate, black; the face with light yellow pile above and on the sides; the front with black pile, and its least width (male) scarcely less than the distance from the foremost ocellus to the antennæ. The scutellum has two stout, moderately approximated, spines. The femora, and terminal joints of the tarsi, are black. The wings have the cross-veins narrowly clouded, but I do not see "deux petites macules diffuses, brunâtres, au bord externe."

3. Microdon baliopterus.

Microdon baliopterus, Loew, Centur. x. no. 56, in Berl. ent. Zeitschr. 1872, p. 86¹; Willist. Synopsis N.-Am. Syrphidæ, p. 5, t. 1. f. 2².

Hab. United States, Texas ¹ ².—Mexico, Amula in Guerrero 6000 feet, Teapa in Tabasco (H. H. Smith), Temax in Northern Yucatan (Gaumer).

The antennæ vary in colour from red to black, and the tip of the abdomen is more or less reddish.

4. Microdon falcatus.

Microdon falcatus, Willist. Synopsis N.-Am. Syrphidæ, p. 91.

Hab. Mexico, Tierra Colorada in Guerrero 2000 feet (H. H. Smith), Isthmus of Tehuantepec ¹.

I am not able to compare the type-specimen, and cannot say with certainty that my