1921. Mr. Thompson states that the "specimens were collected on Elderberry (*Sambucus* sp.), and borings in the stems indicated that they breed in the stems of this host." Paratype A is a male, and is similar to the type except that each elytron has an additional oblong bluish-black spot near the apex. Paratype B is a female, and is similar to the allotype except that it is smaller, measuring only 16 mm. in length and 5 mm. in width.

This species belongs to the section of *Desmocerus* in which the sexes differ in color. It is allied to *D. piperi* Webb, but can be distinguished, however, from that species by the elytra being smoother, with the tips more truncate; females with the elytron opaque black and intervals finely granulated; males with the elytron marked with bluish-black spots and more strongly attenuate posteriorly. It resembles *D. californicus* Horn very closely in the punctation of the elytra but can be separated from that species by the sexes being differently colored.

A NEW ASILID FLY FROM THE MADEIRA ISLANDS.

By T. D. A. Cockerell.

In the Museum of the Seminario at Funchal is a considerable collection of Madeira Diptera, determined by Becker. In it I found only one Asilid, *Machimus madeirensis* of Schiner. My wife took a specimen of this species at Canical, Madeira, January 5, 1921. One other Asilid is recorded from Madeira, *Tolmerus novarensis* Schiner. The Canary Islands possess a much richer Asilid fauna, with four species of *Promachus*, six of *Epitriptus*, two *Stictopogon*, and one each of *Heligmoneura*, *Tolmerus* and *Habropogon*. There are many indications that the Canaries, or at least the more eastern ones, were united with the African continent during part of Tertiary time. The Madeiras, on the other hand, appear far more isolated, and in general have the biota of oceanic islands. If there was ever any land connection with the continent, it was as far back as the Mesozoic

In the island of Porto Santo, 23 miles from Madeira, there is an extremely distinct snail-fauna, and a considerable number of endemic insects, particularly Coleoptera. On the southern slopes of the Pico de Castello, in January, I collected two males and a female of a *Machimus* which at first sight seems identical with that of Madeira. It is, however, rather smaller, and close inspection shows that it is certainly distinct, with the following characters:

Machimus portosanctanus, n. sp.

Female (Type).—About 13 mm. long, wing 9 mm.; black, with the tibiae suffusedly dusky reddish basally; face narrow, white with a faint yellowish tint;

face-beard long, mainly composed of black hairs, but lower part with slender white hairs; lower part of cheeks, behind eyes, with long pure white hair; occiput with erect black hair; proboscis shining black, about as long as the antennae; antennae black, the style not much shorter than the third joint; thorax dorsally with a faint median stripe, obsolete posteriorly, sublaterally with narrow shining ochreous bands, broadest in front; sides of thorax yellowish gray, with black spots, the mesopleura with two small round spots in front, and a broad bar behind, the whole like a grotesque face; thoracic bristles (posterior to the suture) long and black; wings pale grey, distinctly more dusky apically; legs with coarse black bristles, hind tibiae and basitarsi with fine ochreous hair on inner side; halters purplish at base, with a white stem and orange knob; abdomen compressed, the segments viewed laterally showing white apical bands rapidly broadening ventrad, so as to make elongate triangles, becoming continuous with the greyish-white venter; end of abdomen more produced, with terminal lamallae, than in *M. rusticus* Meigen.

Compared with a female *M. madeirensis*, this is readily distinguished by the anterior part of thoracic dorsum, which has only extremely short inconspicuous pubescences, and no dorsal bristles anterior to the insertion of the wings, though there are three notopleural bristles, the anterior one short. The front is distinctly narrower, and the face-beard seems less extensive. The long bristle on under side of hind femora is creamy-white; in *madeirensis* it is black. In *madeirensis* the apex of the discal cell, if produced upward, would reach the extreme base of the second submarginal; in *portosanctanus* it would reach a point well beyond the base. In other respects the two species are essentially alike, and are evidently very closely related.

Male.—Length about 13 mm.; similar to the female except for the sexual characters. The eyes are redder; the hind tibiae are dusky red except the middle third posteriorly, but the color is obscure; the hind tarsi are reddish. The genital armature is similar to that of *M. atricapillus* Fallén, but the forceps seem to be more slender, and more distinctly truncate in lateral view.

Type and Allotype.—Cat. No. 25049 U. S. National Museum. The paratype sent to the British Museum.

The genus *Machimus* has 34 Palearctic species, including five from Spain and one (*M. micropygus* Becker) from Morocco. Eastward, it extends as far as Persia (*M. armipes* Becker, *M. thoracicus* Lw., *M. cingulifer* Becker), and Speiser has described two species from the Kilimandjaro region in Africa. Great Britain has two species. Aldrich's Catalogue cites one species (*M. avidus* U. d. Wulp) from Wisconsin.

A mosquito and Tipulid I collected at Villa Baleira, Porto Santo, were found by Mr. F. W. Edwards to be "tramp" species, *Culex pipiens* L. and *Trimiera pilipes* Fab.