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DIPTERA TAKEN AT MORTEHOE,

NORTH DEVON.

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This list is obviously the work of a beginner. Those groups of flies whose habits of life force them upon the notice of a Lepidopterist have naturally enough been the first to attract his attention; but Mr. G. H. Verrall's grand volume on the *Syrphidæ* has contributed not a little to the attractions of that family.

My best thanks are due to Mr. Verrall, to Mr. E. E. Austen and his assistant Mr. Hills, as well as to Mr. A. H. Hamm, for their patient assistance in naming specimens.

MYCETOPHILIDÆ.

*Sciara thomæ*, L.—One at Borough, July 29th; another Twitchen, on *Angelica*, August 26th, 1909.

## BIBIONIDÆ.

*Dilophus febrilis*, L.—Found as the prey of *Empis tessellata*, F., May 26th, 1905.

*Bibio marci*, L.—Abundant.

## TIPULIDÆ.

*Tipula oleracea*, L.—Once seen in the jaws of *Asilus crabroniformis*, L., again as the prey of *Philonicus albiceps*, Mg. In the autumn, if a strong east wind be blowing, it is curious to watch this insect on Woolacombe sands. Thousands of the flies blown from the land attempt to settle on the shore; for a few moments they dither in the wind upon their long legs, but are soon swept on, rolling over and over along the smooth sand; now and again between the gusts they recover their legs, but the process is repeated until at last the all-devouring waves are reached.

## STRATIOMYIDÆ.

*Sargus flavipes*, Mg.—A ♀ in my garden, Sept. 16th, 1909; *S. cuprarius*, L. One in my garden, July 28th, 1908.

*Chloromyia formosa*, Scop.—Common, July 20th—August 5th. The remains of one found as the prey of the sawfly *Allantus? arcuatus*, Scop.

*Microchrysa polita*, L.—One at Twitchen, May 29th, but common the last week of July. Fond of settling on leaves of *Hydrangea*.

*Beris morrisii*, Dale.—Two specimens: Twitchen Garden, July 22nd, Borough, July 29th, 1909.

## TABANIDÆ.

*Hæmatopota pluvialis*, L.—Only too abundant.

*Tabanus maculicornis*, Ztt.—Borough, not common. *Chrysops cæcutiens*, L.—This exquisite fly is scarce at Twitchen, common at Borough.

## LEPTIDÆ.

*Leptis scolopacea*, L.—One, Morteheo, May 26th, 1905; another at Borough, June 4th, 1906. *L. tringaria*, L.—A ♀ with prey (which was lost), Borough, July 19th; another at Woolacombe, July 26th, 1909.

*Chrysopilus cristatus*, F.—Borough, several by sweeping amongst *Inula dysenterica*, July 23rd, 1909.

## ASILIDÆ.

*Leptogaster cylindrica*, Deg.—One of this *Agrion*-like fly at Twitchen, July 28th, 1908.

*Dioctria rufipes*, Deg.—One at Borough, July 21st, 1908.

*Asilus crabroniformis*, L.—This formidable fly is not uncommon in some years; its buzz is almost as terrible and as suggestive of a hornet as its appearance. It is most commonly seen settled on very short grass on high land. Only once have I seen one with prey, a large Daddy-long-legs.

*Philonicus albiceps*, Mg.—Frequent on Woolacombe sand-hills close to the sea in July and August; it usually settles on the bare sand. Once I saw a ♀ devouring a blue-bottle (*Calliphora vomitoria*, L.) and whilst so engaged a ♂ fly pounced upon it and I netted all three. Another was taken flying with *Tipula oleracea*, L., in its grasp.



*Epitriptus cingulatus*, F.—Twitchen; taken by Dr. Dixey, August 9th—12th, 1897, also by myself, July 20th, 1908.

*Machimus atricapillus*, Fln.—One at Twitchen, August 22nd, 1907; another at Barnage, July 3rd, 1908.

#### BOMBYLIDÆ.

*Anthrax paniscus*, Rossi.—This pretty fly, so suggestive of a tiny *Hemaris fuciformis*, L., has occurred at Twitchen, but is commoner on the sand-hills at Woolacombe, July 27th—September 10th. [Also on Braunton Burrows, September 10th, 1907].

#### THEREVIDÆ.

*Thereva nobilitata*, F.—Woolacombe sand-hills August 24th, 1906 [Vention, George Ham parish, July 21st, 1909].

#### EMPIDÆ.

*Empis tessellata*, F.—Abundant, May 28th—July 19th. I have frequently captured it with prey, viz., *Dilophus febrilis*, L.; *Bibio marci*, L.; *Hylemyia* sp. ♂; *Mydæa* sp, ♂,\* a ♂ with *Lucilia cæsar*, L.; and a ♂ with *Syrphus ribesii*, L. *E. livida*, L.—Twitchen, Woolacombe; nearly as common as the last, especially in the third week of July; two specimens with prey (unnamed flies). *E. punctata*, Mg., Twitchen, Borough, May 28th—June 1st.

*Pachymeria femorata*, F.—Twitchen, flying in numbers under beech-trees, May 29th; a ♀ at Twitchen watched sucking honey from *Scabiosa arvensis*, July 24th.

#### DOLICHOPODIDÆ.

*Dolichopus? æneus*, Deg.—Twitchen garden, July 25th, 1909.

#### SYRPHIDÆ.

*Liogaster metallina*, F.—Three females at Twitchen, May 29th, 1909.

*Chrysogaster splendens*, Mg.—Twitchen, on flowers of *Angelica*, August 25th—September 19th, 1909; *C. solstitialis*, Fln., common on *Umbelliferæ*, July 20th—August 6th, 1909.

*Chilosia variabilis*, Pz.—Twitchen, several on flowers and leaves, end of July, 1909. *C. honesta*, Rnd., a ♀ at Twitchen, August 13th, 1909. *C. illustrata*, Harris. common, sometimes abundant, on Ragwort and *Umbelliferæ*, May, July, August; a fairly good mimic of *Bombus sylvarum*, L., the two occur together, sometimes even on the same flower-head. *C. albitarsis*, Mg., one at Twitchen, May 29th, 1909; *C. fraternæ*, Mg., one at Twitchen, August 9th, 1909; *C. bergenstammi*, Beck., two ♂, one ♀, Twitchen, August 13th—25th, 1909.; *C. velutina*, Lw. Of this recent addition to the British fauna I took a ♂ near Twitchen on the flowers of *Cherophyllum sylvestre*, August 17th, 1909. Mr. Verrall detected it among some troublesome little Syrphids, which he was good enough to name for me; *C. cynocephala*, Lw., one at Twitchen, May 29th, 1909.

*Platychirus manicatus*, Mg.—Females only, May, August, September; *P. scutatus*, Mg., one ♂, two ♀, Twitchen, August 7th—9th.; *P. albimanus*, F., common, the sexes in equal numbers, July 24th—September 20th; *P. clypeatus*, Mg., one ♂, three ♀, August 7th—September 19th.

\* See POULTON, *Trans. Ent. Soc. Lond.*, 1906, pp. 381, 382.

*Pyrophæna granditarsa*, Forst.—A ♀ at Twitchen, August 4th, 1909

*Melanostoma mellinum*, L.—A ♀, Twitchen, August 21st, 1909; *M. scalare*, F., three ♂ in August; the ♀ abundant in September, it often flies amongst herbage close to the ground. The halteres (at all events of the ♀) are bright emerald-green during life.

*Leucozona lucorum*, L.—This pretty fly is rather common, May 18th—August 18th.

*Ischyrosyrphus glaucius*, L.—One at Twitchen, August 20th, 1907; a second, on *Angelica*, August 14th, 1909; *I. laternarius*, Müll., a ♂ at Borough, July 29th; another at Twitchen, August 15th, 1909. The latter on *Angelica*.

*Catabomba pyrastris*, L.—Rather common, July 23rd—August 25th.

*Syrphus albostrigatus*, Fln.—A ♂, Twitchen, June 2nd, 1909; *S. grossulariæ*, Mg., very common, June 19th—September 9th; *S. ribesii*, L., less common than the last, July 17th—September 29th; *S. vitripennis*, Mg., common, May 29th—September 17th; *S. corollæ*, F., two ♂s, one on *Heracleum* beside high road, July 19th, the other at Twitchen, August 7th, 1909; *S. luniger*, Mg., a ♂ at Borough, August 2nd, 1909; *S. balteatus*, Deg., very common, July 23rd—September 29th; two ♀s taken at Twitchen September 21st, 1909, are small and dark and very shiny, having a very different appearance from the ordinary specimens, which were common at the same time and place; one specimen in the National Collection from South Devon comes near to them; *S. cinctellus*, Ztt., common, August 3rd—September 23rd; *S. auricollis*, Mg., four specimens, July 7th—August 15th; *S. umbellatarum*, F., three at Twitchen, August 19th—September 17th; *S. compositarum*, Verr., two on *Angelica* at Twitchen, August 7th, 13th, 1909.

*Sphærophoria scripta*, L.—Very common, May 31st—September 21st; *S. menthastri*, L., abundant, May 31st—August 13th, often flies close to the ground.

*Xanthogramma ornatum*, Mg.—A specimen taken by Dr. Dixey in Sandy Lane, July 10th, 1907.

*Baccha obscuripennis*, Mg.—A specimen on a window in the house, August 26th, 1909, was at first mistaken for a solitary wasp.

*Rhingia campestris*, Mg.—Abundant, May 28th—September 19th.

*Volucella bombylans*, L.—Rather common, especially at Borough, July 3rd—August 22nd; the two forms (*plumata* and *bombylans*) mimic *Bombus terrestris* and *lapidarius* respectively so closely that I have taken the fly for the bee; *V. inanis*, L., of this rare fly Dr. Dixey took a specimen in Sandy Lane, August 16th, 1907; *V. inflata*, F., one at Twitchen, July 18th, 1908, another at Borough on flowers of *Ænanthe crocata*, July 23rd, 1909; *V. pellucens*, L., one at Borough, July 24th, 1906.

*Eristalis tenax*, L., abundant; *E. intricarius*, L., one at Twitchen, September 12th, 1907; *E. arbustorum*, L., both forms common, May, July—September; *E. horticola*, Deg., scarcely common, May, July 18th—September 22rd.

*Helophilus pendulus*, L.—This handsome fly was very common in one field at Twitchen, August 19th—September 12th, 1907; a single specimen September 18th, 1909.



*Criorrhina oxyacanthæ*, Mg.—One specimen of this very bee-like fly at Borough, May 26th, 1905.

*Xylota segnis*, L.—Scarcely common, July, August; *X. sylvarum*, L., once at Borough, July 22nd, 1908.

*Syritta pipiens*, L.—Common, July 27th—August 29th.

*Arctophila muscitans*, F.—Several, Twitchen, Borough, Pool, September 16th—23rd, 1909. On the wing this fly is extraordinarily like *Bombus agrorum*, and I have been deceived several times. The two insects occur together at Twitchen, on the same day, on the same patch of *Centaurea nigra*, the Bumble bee very common, the fly comparatively scarce—all the classical conditions of Batesian mimicry.

*Sericomyia borealis*, Fln.—Occasionally at Twitchen and Borough, August 10th—September 23rd.

*Chrysotoxum cautum*, Harr.—A ♂ at Twitchen, August 4th, 1909; *C. elegans*, Lw., one at Borough, June 4th, 1906; *C. festivum*, L., two at Twitchen, one Warcombe Lane, July 29th—September 12th; *C. bicinctum*, L., a difficult fly to catch; one at Borough, June 26th, 1906, several at Twitchen, July 28th—August 26th, 1909.

#### CONOPIDÆ.

*Conops flavipes*, L.—Scarce; Shaftsborough on *Eupatorium cannabinum*, August 10th, 1909; Twitchen, August 12th, 1908, and August 21st, 1909. The first two specimens strongly suggested "Clear-wing" moths; of the third I noted that during life the movements of the abdomen and a general fidgettiness were very like a wasp, but that the insect's antennæ remained prorected and motionless.

*Physocephala rufipes*, F.—A specimen by sweeping, Shaly Hills, July 25th, 1908.

*Oncomyia atra*, F.—One at Borough, July 29th, another at Twitchen, August 26th, 1909.

*Sicus ferrugineus*, L.—One at Borough, July 24th, 1906; another, July 29th, 1909; one at Twitchen, August 12th, 1908.

#### TACHINIDÆ.

*Echinomyia grossa*, L.—Very scarce; two specimens in my garden, August 22nd, 24th, 1907, a third, August 9th, 1909. This enormous fly in appearance, voice, and manner much resembles *Bombus hortorum*, L., var. *harrisellus*, but I have not yet found the latter in this part of the parish; *E. fera*, L., common, July 24th—September 23rd.

*Fabricia ferox*, L.—Common, July 18th—September 30th.

*Siphona geniculata*, Deg.—Twitchen, two specimens, July 24th, 1909, one of them the prey of *Empis livida*, L.

*Alophora hemiptera*, F.—This very strange looking fly appears to be extremely local; I have met with but six specimens, all taken quite close together upon flowers of *Ænanthe* and *Heracleum* at Borough, July 29th—August 2nd, 1909.

*Sarcophaga carnaria*—Very common.

*Devia rustica*, F.—A few at Twitchen, August 4th—25th.

#### MUSCIDÆ.

*Pollenia? vespillo*, F.—As prey of *Scatophaga stercoraria*, L., July 19th, 1909.

*Graphomyia maculata*, Scop.—One at Twitchen on *Angelica*, August 19th, another September 15th, 1909.

*Musca domestica*, L.—Perhaps because the house is so isolated the Common House-Fly is almost scarce!

*Morellia hortorum*, Fln.—Abundant, May 28th, July 20th—August 19th.

*Mesembrina meridiana*, L.—Very abundant, May 15th—October 7th.

*Calliphora erythrocephala*, Mg.—I have identified but one specimen, Twitchen, August 20th, 1909; *C. vomitoria*, L. Blue-bottles visit my peach houses and vinery in immense numbers: those examined have (with one exception) proved to be this species.

*Euphoria cornicina*, F.—Three at Twitchen, July 28th—August 13th, 1909.

*Lucilia cæsar*, L.—Very abundant; *L. illustris*, two at Twitchen, May 29th, August 21st, 1909.

#### ANTHOMYIDÆ.

*Hyetodesia basalis*, Ztt.—Common, July 27th—September 15th; *H. pallida*, F., two at Borough, July 29th, August 2nd, 1909.

*Mydæa? impuncta*, Fln.—August 15th, 1906.

*Hydrotæa irritans*, Fln.—This pest, which thoroughly earns its name, swarms at the end of July.

*Homalomyia canicularis*, L.—In the house, August.

#### CORDYLURIDÆ.

*Scatophaga stercoraria*, L.—A few, one of them eating *Pollenia? vespillo*, F. The victim was not dead, only stupified.

#### SCIOMYZIDÆ.

*Neuroctena anilis*, Fln.—Twitchen, September 7th, 1907.

*Tetanocera coryleti*, Scop.—[Two at Vention, George Ham parish, July 21st, 1909]; *T. punctulata*, Scop., a pair taken in copulâ by Mr. T. B. Fletcher at Twitchen, July 21st, 1909.

#### TRYPETIDÆ.

*Acidia lychnidis*, F.—Of this rare little fly, with prettily banded wings (represented in the National Collection by a single specimen), I took one on a sycamore leaf at Twitchen, July 28th, 1909.

*Tephritis miliaria*, Schrk.—One at Borough flying close to the ground amongst herbage, July 29th, 1909.

#### CHLOROPIDÆ.

[*Chloropisca? glabra*, Mg.—Common by sweeping at Vention, George Ham parish, July 21st, 1909].

Highlands, Putney Heath:

December, 1909.





