

head greyish-white, pale fuscous on middle of face; hair of thorax white, with a creamy tint above, and no dark hair intermixed; tegulae piceous, with a greenish spot in front; wings dusky hyaline, reddish, distance from base of first s.m. to insertion of first r.n. as great as length of first t.c.; b.n. going just basad of t.m.; legs reddish black, not at all metallic, with pale pubescence, reddish on inner side of tarsi; abdomen closely but rather shallowly punctured, the punctures going nearly to the margins of the segments; sub-lateral region with quite long black hair; ventral scopa black. The clypeal margin is entire, and the mandibles are 3-dentate; the area of metathorax is densely granular basally, but more shining apically.

Hab.—Nova Scotia (Ent. Club), 44–12. I have been much perplexed to decide whether this could be the female belonging to the male from Nova Scotia described as *O. simillima* by Smith. This may indeed be the case, but the type of *simillima* must be considered to be the female, which may not be conspecific with the male. Smith says that the female *simillima* is so like the European *O. caerulescens* that it is difficult to distinguish; but *novaescotiae* is easily separated from *caerulescens* by the broader, less deeply punctured abdomen, without white marginal fringes or bands. In our fauna it is *O. purpurea* Cresson, which closely resembles *caerulescens*.* In my brief notes on Smith's types, I observed that according to Robertson's tables the female type of *simillima* was an *Osmias* str., while the male was a *Monilosmia*. Dr. Graenicher has, however, obtained at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, what he regards as true *simillima*, and has both sexes from the nest. The male of this species is a *Monilosmia*, but the female has a black ventral scopa and clypeus with entire margin, quite contrary to Robertson's definition of *Monilosmia*. The Milwaukee females are larger than *novaescotiae*, with a dark greenish abdomen, and the hind margins of the segments more broadly smooth. They are very unlike *O. caerulescens*. They have the hair on inner side of middle tibiae black; in *novaescotiae* it is pale, with a reddish tint. The b.n. goes more broad of the t.m. than in *novaescotiae*. There is no doubt, I think, that the Milwaukee "*simillima*" is distinct from *novaescotiae*, but I find that except for the smaller amount of dark hair on the head (a variable character) it is scarcely or not to be separated from the western *O. densa* Cresson. This probably explains why we have never been able to find a male for *densa*;

*Can it be that *O. purpurea* is *caerulescens*? From the British Museum I have a female marked North America, 40, 4-2, 484, and it is quite impossible to distinguish it from European *caerulescens*, while, at the same time, it agrees with Cresson's description of *purpurea*. It has the shiny metathoracic area of *caerulescens*, which Smith expressly says is wanting in *simillima*.