

same species; the wing-system alone, therefore, appears to form distinctive and satisfactory divisions of this remarkable family of Hymenoptera.

The immense variety of form observable in the apterous females of this genus renders it impossible to found any generic divisions upon such peculiarities. The relative proportions of the head, thorax, and abdomen vary greatly, the former being sometimes wider than the thorax, sometimes of the same width, and frequently narrower. The thorax is oblong-quadrate, narrowed anteriorly into a neck, or deeply strangulated in the middle, with various intermediate gradations. The abdomen, although usually wider than the head and thorax, is sometimes of the same width.

The very great dissimilarity existing between the winged males and the apterous females renders it a matter of impossibility to unite the sexes of a species with a certainty of correctness, without a positive observation of the living insects; but much has been done in this respect by Robert Bakewell, Esq., for some years resident in Australia, whose collection has been most liberally placed at my disposal for examination, and from which many new species have been presented to the Museum Collection.

### *Species of Australia.*

#### 1. THYNNUS DENTATUS.

*Thynnus dentatus*, *Fabr. Syst. Ent.* p. 360. 1 ♂; *Ent. Syst.* ii. 244. 1; *Syst. Piez.* p. 231. 1.

*Latr. Gen. Cr. et Ins.* iv. pl. 3. f. 1, & tom. i. t. 13. f. 2, 3, 4 ♂; *Encycl. Méth.* p. 382. f. 8.

*Guér. Voy. Coq. Zool.* ii. 222.

*Klug, Berl. Abhandl.* (1842) 15. 1.

*Don. Ins. New Holl.* pl. 41. f. 1.

*Ræmer, Gen. Ins.* t. 35. f. 8.

*Lamarck, Anim. sans Vert.* t. 4. f. 109.

*Hab.* Australia.

The Fabrician description of this species is not sufficiently minute in structural details to distinguish the insect amongst the multitude of species now brought together:—

“*Statura et magnitudo Vespæ vulgaris.* Antennæ porrectæ, fuscæ, basi piceæ. Labium flavum, dentatum. Maxillæ flavæ, apice nigræ. Thorax niger, striga antica, lobo postico scutelloque flavis. In medio dorsi lineolæ duæ impressæ, abbreviatæ. Abdomen glabrum, atrum, primo segmento basi, 2, 3, 4, punctis duobus flavis, reliquis immaculatis. Anus denticulis septem parvis serratus.”—*Fabr. Syst. Ent.*