REMARKS ON ZETHUS SLOSSONÆ.

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In the CANADIAN ENTOMOLOGIST for May (page 140) there appears an article by Mr. Wm. H. Patton, entitled "Zethus Aztecus in Florida," in which the author attempts to prove that *Zethus Poeyi*, *Slossonæ* and *aztecus* are the same species. As I am the authority for one of these species, it was but natural that I should make a study of the trio, in order to ascertain if Mr. Patton's assertions were correct. An examination of the material in my possession convinces me that Mr. P. is mistaken, and that his conclusions have no facts to enforce them. In my studies I have had a series of eight female and seven male specimens of *Slossonæ*, three females and one male of *Poeyi*, and a female of *aztecus*. In the first mentioned species, notwithstanding Mr. P.'s statements that the described differences are but variations, the only variations noticed in my series are that sometimes the yellow on clypeus and at apex of petiole are wanting. There is no yellow on the vertex of *Slossonæ*, while *Poeyi* (at least in the specimens before me) has always two large spots there; in general appearance *Slossonæ* is a much more robust insect than *Poeyi*, particularly the head and thorax, and the yellow markings thereon are by no means so promiscuous. *Z. aztecus* is quite a different insect in appearance from both the other species, and scarcely requires a comparison with them. Excluding the characters Patton regards as variations, the species differ as follows:—

POEYI.

Posterior face of metathorax smooth, velvety, not at all striated; enlargement of petiole rather finely punctured.

AZTECUS.

Abdomen black, greater part of legs black, petiole with exceedingly coarse punctures; collar above, anteriorly, with a prominent crest; second ventral, abdominal segment with large shallow punctures.

SLOSSONÆ.

Posterior face of metathorax very coarsely striated; enlargement of petiole tolerably coarsely punctured.

POEYI AND SLOSSONÆ.

Abdomen, except petiole, ferruginous, or claret brown; greater part of legs ferruginous * * * *; collar above, anteriorly, scarcely crested; second ventral segment with fine, sparse punctures.