

Abdomen: Sixth ventral segment nearly as long as the other five, the disk rather flatly depressed posteriorly.

Genital Segments: ♂ First below nearly as long as all the abdominal segments taken together, nearly as long as broad, hind margin straight, posterior angles rounded. Second below only visible at the sides; the right horn reaching nearly to the apex of the next segment (below); the left horn bent just above the base, and directed outwards and a little upwards (Pl. III. fig. 22). The horns (Pl. III. fig. 23) have thickened margins; the outer margin and the surface generally are covered with slight tubercles tipped with hairs; the apical margin is smooth; the inner is fringed at the base with long hairs, and from near the base to the apex is armed with tubercle-like teeth, arranged in several series on the thickened part, and pointing downwards. The hairs on the surface also point downwards. The posterior angles of this segment are prolonged into a broad tubercle-like process. The third segment above (Pl. I. fig. 1 *g*, and 1 *ga*) has the lateral angles somewhat produced.¹ The third segment below has apparently thickened margins.

♀. (Pl. I. fig. 1, ♀.) Similar in appearance to the male, but differs in the following particulars:—

Form more widely oval; femora of front legs and first joint of antennæ more distinctly steel-blue. Front femora less stout. Hind margins of ventral segments and apex of third genital segment indistinctly brownish-red. Below, the first genital segment about covers the second.

Halobates willerstorffi has been found from January to April, from June to August, and in October, and the larvæ from January to April, so that it probably occurs throughout the whole year.

The only note that I can find regarding the life history is in Dr. Cuthbert Collingwood's *Rambles of a Naturalist*, p. 358. The specimens referred to were given by him to Mr. J. W. Douglas, and by Mr. Douglas to me, and appertain to this species. "A notable circumstance occurred in the Indian Ocean, in lat. 25° S., just south of the Mauritius. For several days in succession the net produced *Halobates*, glass-crabs, *Velevæ*, and the beautiful oceanic shell *Janthina*, of a rich deep violet colour." A footnote is added as follows:—"The occurrence of this singular Hemipterous insect at sea is at least very remarkable. There appear to be several species, of which I met with two, one on the coast of China, and the other some 500 miles from the land, in the South Indian Ocean. That they are veritable marine insects I think cannot admit of a doubt, though how they exist in the open ocean is a mystery. They are of a deep bluish-black, with six legs, the two hindermost furnished with a delicate brush on the inner side of the tarsus. The abdomen is remarkably undeveloped. Although taken occasionally in the

¹ For the form of this segment in the present and succeeding species, the student is referred to the figures, which will give a much better idea of the shape than any description could do.