Crypturodesmus a subgenus of his later-described Trigonostylus; whereas if the type-species of the two be congeneric, the genus must take the name Crypturodesmus, with Trigonostylus as one of its subgenera, and Crypturodesmus, repeated, as the other. It appears to me, however, that the distinctive features of the two are worth full generic value. Trigonostylus, which has hitherto been recorded only from Venezuela, differs from Crypturodesmus in having the nineteenth segment normally constructed.

1. Crypturodesmus targionii.


Colour reddish-brown, paler beneath. Head with the antenna short and increscete, the fifth segment the largest, the seventh and eighth the smallest. Tergal plates granular, furnished above with four longitudinal rows of tubercles. First tergal plate semicircular; keels of the second very wide, with rounded, somewhat forwardly projecting anterior angle, the posterior angle acute; succeeding keels entire, the postero-lateral angle with a rectangular incision. Pores undiscovered. Anal sternal plate semicircular.

Length 28 millim., width 5.

Hab. Mexico 1.

Fam. SPHÆRIODESMIDÆ.

Body strongly convex, capable of being spherically coiled, the keels vertical or nearly so, with their lateral borders inferior. Head absent. Tergal plate of the twentieth segment quadrate, surrounded anteriorly and laterally by the suberosecent tergal plate and keels of the nineteenth segment. Either the third or the fourth or the fourth and fifth segments laterally expanded and exceeding in size the corresponding portions of the succeeding segments. The second segment always small and embracing the first like a collar.

Distribution. Southern States of N. America; Central America; West Indies.

I include in this family the genera which Cook referred to the Sphæriodesmidae, Desmonidae, and Cyclodesmidae, because the genera Sphæriodesmus and Cycloidesmus appear to be linked to a certain extent by Cyphodesmus, and because the essential feature upon which the Desmonidae were separated from the Cyclodesmidae is not known to occur in the one Central-American genus, Cyphodesmus, referred by Cook to the Desmonidae. Nevertheless, the genera in question may be conveniently classified in two subfamilies:—

a. Keels of third segment much smaller than those of the fourth, which are always larger than those which follow the fifth segment, and sometimes larger, sometimes a little smaller, than those of the fifth . . . . . Sphæriodesmineæ.

a'. Keels of the third segment larger than those of the rest of the series, rarely equalled by those of the fourth; keels of the fifth not enlarged . . . . Cyclodesmineæ.