a very distinct species: the raised lines on the metasternum distinguish it from all the species of *Cercyon* here described, except *C. subsignatus* and *C. armatus*; and from these the slight elevation of the prosternal carina and the well-marked striation of the elytra render it very distinct.

**PELOSOMA.**


*Cercyon*, pars, auct. plur.

This genus is closely allied to *Cercyon*, and indeed has not yet been accepted by entomologists generally. It has consisted hitherto of a single species, falsely supposed to be European, a second species, however, having been indicated by Leconte as pertaining to it. I find the characters by which it is distinguished from *Cercyon* to be quite constant in the series of Central-American species here enumerated, and I think therefore the genus will prove a good one. It is probable that it is specially characteristic of the Tropical-American fauna; and in that case it is likely that Leconte's South-Californian species (if it really belong to the genus, as to which I am very doubtful) will prove to extend its habitat southwards beyond California.

1. *Pelosoma lafertei*. (Tab. III. fig. 14.)


*Hab.* MEXICO, Cordova (Sallé); GUATEMALA, Guatemala city, San Gerónimo 3000 feet, Zapote, San Joaquin, Chacoj, Capetillo (Champion); NICARAGUA, Chontales (Janson); PANAMA, Volcan de Chiriqui 2500 to 4000 feet (Champion).—SOUTH AMERICA, Bahia (Castelnau); EUROPE, Central France (Laferté).

Although this species was described from an individual taken, or believed to have been taken, in Central France, yet I believe it is not a European insect; and I feel sure that the error arose from a mistake made by Laferté when he communicated his collection to Mulsant. The species has not been taken again in France, and is not included in Bedel's recent Synopsis of the *Cercyons* of France. Mulsant's type from Laferté's collection is now in my possession; and I cannot separate it specifically from the Tropical-American specimens. The species is apparently a very common one, and varies somewhat in the minor details of size, form, colour, and sculpture; and thus, though I have not seen a second specimen agreeing exactly with Mulsant's type, I believe it to be undoubtedly conspecific with the South-American individuals, from some of which it differs only by very minute and unimportant details.

2. *Pelosoma sordidum*.

Oblongo-ovale, subdepressum, supra nigrum vel rufum, nitidum, subitus piceosae, pedibus Rufis; tarsis antennarumque basi testacea, harum clava obscurior; fortiter punctatum; elytris æqualiter striatis, striis ad apicem parum profundioribus, sed internis haud subtilioribus.

Long. 1½, lat. ¾ lin.