Fam. GEORISSIDÆ.

GEORISSUS.


The genus Georissus is the only form known of the family Georissidæ, and has a wide distribution; the greater number of the twenty described species inhabit the Mediterranean region; one or two are known from Tropical Asia; from Australia and from North America single species are known. None have yet been described from South America; and I have no evidence that the genus exists there.

1. Georissus minor. (Tab. IV. fig. 17.)

Brevis, convexus, niger, antennis fuscis; prothorace elytris angustiore, parte anteriorie et capite forteriori granulatis, parte posterioriore punctis irregularibus impressis; elytris punctis majoribus, profundis, in series regulares digestis.

Long. \( \frac{2}{3} \), lat. \( \frac{1}{7} \) lin.

_Hab._ GUATEMALA, San Gerónimo 3000 feet (Champion).

This species is very similar to the European _G. similis_; but the individuals are probably only about half the size of those of the European species; the punctures of the series on the elytra are smaller and closer to one another; and there is on the middle of the basal portion, of the prothorax a conspicuous but scanty punctuation, the anterior part of the thorax being strongly lobed or hood-like and very rough.

A single individual only has been sent by Mr. Champion.

Fam. CYATHOCERIDÆ.

Antennae quadriarticulæ, articulo ultimo maximo ad apicem truncato et pubescente. 
Oris partes conditæ.
Tarsi sat elongati, rigiduli, uniarticulati, unguicule unico terminati.
Elytra integra.

I am obliged to propose a new family name for a single small beetle which shows no relationship of an evident character to any of the hitherto described Coleopterous families. The above very concise definition will not apply, I believe, to any other of the Coleopterous families; and fuller details of the structure will be found in the description of the genus.

The position of the family (I use this term only in deference to the custom of systematic biologists) may for convenience be near Georissus, to which it bears a certain similarity in size and sculpture, though on investigation it does not appear to be specially allied to that family.