2. Deinopsis angusta.
Fusca, antennis pedibusque testaceis; angustula, posterius acuminata; omnium densissime subtilissimeque punctata, subtiliterque pubescenta, peropaca; prothorace basi utrinque subtruncato, angulis posteri-oribus parum prolongatis.
Long. 2½ millim.

Hab. GUATEMALA, Coatepeque 1300 feet (Champion).

Antennæ excessively slender, quite as long as head and thorax. Head narrower than the thorax. This latter with the base only slightly sinuate on each side, about as long as the elytra. Hind margins of the abdominal segments rather inconspicuously crenulate.

Only a single individual has been found of this species, the most insignificant of the genus*.

Subfam. CEPHALOPLECTINÆ.

I am constrained to place as a separate subfamily a curious insect that presents somewhat the appearance of Conosoma or Erchomus, but which cannot be placed in the subfamily Tachyporinae on account of the extraordinary structure of the head. It also presents other highly anomalous characters which will be gathered from the description of the generic characters, a description, however, which is made from a single decayed individual and is therefore very imperfect. The following points are amply sufficient to serve as characters to validate the subfamily:—

Caput in medio abrupte subitus inflexum, ore omnino in facie inferna corporis sito; antennae occultae; oculi nulli. Prosternum posterius in processu maximo productum.

CEPHALOPLECTUS.

Corpus depressum, posterius acuminatum, anteriis rotundatum, caput vix conspicuum. Prosternum post coxas anteriores in processu maximo productum. Pedes breves, femoribus tibialis laminato-dilatatis; tarsi breves, forae occulti.

This insect is the most anomalous of the Staphylinidae yet discovered, and will be at once recognized by the fact that the prosternum is produced backwards over the anterior coxae to form a large, broad process, similar to what exists in Hydrocanthus of the Dytiscidae, except that it is even larger than in the genus of water-beetles I have mentioned. This is, however, only one of its peculiarities, for the condition of the head is even more remarkable; when the upper surface of the insect is examined, there seems to be no head, the large thorax, rounded in front, being apparently the most anterior part of the body; but a more careful inspection reveals that there is really an

* At the conclusion of the Central-American Aleocharinae I will call attention to the description noted below; its modern genus cannot be identified, nor can we conclude with any certainty to what group of the Aleocharinae the insect should be referred; and as Say's types are, I fear, not now in existence, it would appear that the description cannot be utilized.