P. amœnus, P. cyanescens, and P. cupreus, Guérin-Mén., and Trigonopselaphus violaceus and T. venustus, Shp. The insects of this genus are all remarkable for the brilliancy and beauty of their colours; but the species are very closely allied and form a most difficult study. In certain of them the impressed lines on the basal dorsal segments, which when well developed are considered of generic importance in the Xanthoppygina, exist in a rudimentary state, and appear to me to offer great assistance in discriminating the species. The genus is confined to Tropical America, and has its headquarters in the northern and north-western portions of South America. Mr. Buckley informed me that a very brilliant species he brought from Ecuador was common under dried dung; Mr. Champion found most of the few individuals he met with on the wing, I believe; and Mr. Flohr finds a species amongst moss and dead leaves, so that it would appear that the habits of these lovely creatures are somewhat varied. It is impossible in the Plate to do justice to their polished and brilliant metallic colours.

1. Phanolinus obsoletus.

Minor, fulgidus, auratus; elytris, pedibus antennisque basi purpureo-metallicis, antennis extrorsum tarsisque fuscis; thorace seriebus dorsalis parum punctatis, punctis lateralibus perpaucis; abdomine parce punctato, segmentis 2–4° profunde transversum impressum.

Long. 18 millim.

Hab. MEXICO (ex coll. Guérin-Ménéville).

This insect has, compared with most of its congers, but little punctuation on the head and thorax. The palpi are rufescent at the extremity; the distant punctures on the head and thorax are coarse; the thoracic series of punctures on each side consists of about six, with two or three others nearly intercalated; there are also a few irregularly placed punctures near the front on each side, but the posterior parts are destitute of punctures except at the margins.

Although closely allied to P. flohr, I am inclined to think this may be a distinct species, the punctuation of the elytra and hind body being not quite so effaced, and the tarsi and terminal joints of the palpi are paler. The unique individual is a male, and has a broad shallow notch at the extremity of the last ventral plate.

2. Phanolinus flohr. (Tab. IX. fig. 7.)

Cupreo-auratus, fulgidus; elytris purpureo-metallicis, antennarum basi pedibusque nigro-cyanæis, antennis extrorsum tarsisque nigro-fuscis; thorace perparum punctato; elytris obsolete punctatis; abdomine parce obsoleteque punctato, segmentis 3–4° transversim impressis.

Long. 21 millim.

Hab. MEXICO, Jalapa, Almolonga (Flohr).

The punctures on the head are very distant and not numerous, moderately coarse. The palpi are piceous; the punctures of the thoracic series are only four or five in number, and besides this there are only five or six other punctures on each side near