24. Chelymorpha oblitterata. (Tab. VII. fig. 21, ♀.)

Subrotundate (♂), ovate (♀), convex, glabrous, shining; rufous-testaceous or testaceous, the head, the prothorax with a median vitta behind (usually extending narrowly forwards to the apex) and sometimes the sides broadly from the middle to the base, and the scutellum, black; the elytra with the suture for a short distance below the scutellum, the entire exterior limb, a small spot on the humeral callus, and sometimes a similar spot in a line with it about the middle, in one example with two other very small spots placed one behind the other nearer the suture (the anterior one nearly in a line with the median spot, when present), black; the antennæ and legs, the exterior limb of the elytra rather broadly, and the under surface of the body black, the antennæ with the four or five basal joints rufous-testaceous beneath. Head rugosely punctured and canaliculate between the eyes, the lower part with a few scattered punctures; antennæ about reaching the base of the prothorax, the five basal joints smooth and shining. Prothorax convex, twice as broad as long, areolate-emarginate in front, the sides rounded from the base and rapidly converging from the middle forwards, the base deeply emarginate on either side externally, the median lobe broad and obtuse, the hind angles sharp and produced behind; the disc with an interrupted faint median groove, sparsely, minutely punctate; the margins moderately expanded, concave, coarsely, confluentlily punctured, the outer edge very narrowly reflexed. Scutellum smooth. Elytra regularly convex, in the ♀ about three, in the ♂ more than four times as long as the prothorax, and wider than it at the base, rounded at the sides anteriorly, widest before the middle, the humeri rounded; the margins rather broadly expanded and deflexed; the entire surface thickly, rather coarsely punctate. Beneath almost glabrous, smooth, the metapleurae with scattered coarse punctures; prosternum very deeply sulcate posteriorly. Claws appendiculate.

Length, ♀ 9–10½, breadth 7–8 millim.

Hab. GUATEMALA, Tactic in Vera Paz (Conradt), San Gerónimo in Vera Paz (Champion).

A pair from Tactic and a female from San Gerónimo. This insect closely resembles Boheman’s var. e of the Mexican C. juvenca; but may easily be known from it by the entirely glabrous upper surface. It is more nearly allied to C. guttifera, C. epilachnoides, &c. The species is probably a variable one.

SELENIS.

Selenis, Hope, Ann. Nat. Hist. iii. p. 96, t. 4. fig. 3 (1839); Boheman, Monogr. Cassid. ii. p. 94.

A Tropical-American genus containing four described species, one of which occurs within our limits, remarkable from having the humeral angles of the elytra acutely prolonged forwards in the male sex, the elytra themselves often perforated.

1. Selenis sparsa. (Tab. VII. figg. 22, ♂; 23, ♀.)


Hab. ?MEXICO 1–3; NICARAGUA, Chontales (Belt, Janson); COSTA RICA (Sallé); PANAMA, Bugaba, David, Tolé (Champion), Chiriqui (Ribbe), Matachin (Thiême)—COLOMBIA 1–3; ?BOLIVIA 1.

Found in abundance by myself on low plants on the river-banks at David. The localities "Mexico" and "Bolivia" require confirmation; both are probably given in mistake by Boheman 1, the second not being quoted by him in his subsequent works.