

in numerous characters, and, owing to their size and hemispherical form, having a superficial resemblance to *Cyclonotum*. The antennæ are very short, the basal joint reaching but little beyond the side of the head; the second joint is very closely connected with it, appears, indeed, to be only incompletely divided from it, and is longer than its exposed portion; the third and fourth joints are very minute, while the fifth forms an obscure auricular appendage to the base of the very laxly articulated club. The maxillary palpi are stout and very short, the apical joint about equal in length to the second joint, while the third joint is considerably shorter; the mandible is so abruptly curved that its apical portion forms a long slender process placed at right angles to the broad basal portion, and is bifid at the extremity; the mentum is large, flat, smooth and shining, and nearly truncate at the extremity; the labial palpi are small. The prosternum and front coxal cavities are formed much as in *Hydrobius*; the former is rather obscurely carinate along the middle. The mesosternum bears in front of the coxæ a large prominence elevated to the level of the metasternum, and having its lower face scabrous. The metasternum sends off in the middle in front an elongate slender process separating the middle coxæ and articulating with the mesosternal process; the breast is finely pubescent; but the femora are glabrous beneath, except that the middle ones bear some coarse punctures and rough setæ. The tibiæ are armed with long spines. The ventral segments are shining and bear rather numerous fine, erect hairs.

The characters are drawn from *O. brevicornis*. The genus is in certain respects one of the most interesting of the Hydrophilidæ; the sculpture of the upper surface in *O. brevicornis* and *O. vestitus* is remarkable; and the maculation of the surface in *O. maculatus* with brilliant metallic spots is unique. I am not acquainted with any species other than those here described; and they all three appear to be rare, two of them, indeed, being unique.

The nearest ally of the genus is probably the genus or subgenus *Anacæna*, C. J. Thoms.; but *Oocyclus* differs by the absence of the fine pubescence on the femora and ventral segments, and by the structure of the pieces at the middle of the breast, which approximate much to the structure of these parts exhibited by *Cyclonotum*.

1. *Oocyclus vestitus*.

Subrotundus, supra viridescens, crebre irregulariter punctatus, in thorace elytrisque setulis sat elongatis haud dense vestitus; palpis antennisque testaceis, pedibus rufis; prosterno carinato, mesosterno lamina magna irregulari armato.

Long. 2, lat. $1\frac{1}{4}$ lin.

Hab. MEXICO, Orizaba (*Sallé*).

Head very short and broad, closely and rather coarsely punctate; palpi yellow, stout, and very short, considerably shorter than the antennæ. Thorax forming a continuous outline with the afterbody, much narrowed towards the front in a curve, the surface evenly, moderately closely and coarsely punctate, and bearing rather numerous fine