

sides rather more distinct. Elytra of a dark brassy colour, with rather numerous spots of a delicate green colour; they are without a sutural stria, and are sparingly and rather finely punctate.

The only individual sent by Mr. Champion of this species is in a fragile condition, but seems to be closely allied in structure to *O. brevicornis*; the abbreviation of the palpi is extreme; the prosternum is only very finely carinate, and the two spines with which it is armed in front are quite minute; the front coxæ are destitute of spines.

## HYDROBIUS.

*Hydrobius*, Leach, Zool. Misc. iii. 1817, p. 92.

Considerable discrepancy of opinion exists as to the extension to be allowed to this genus, many authors (probably with reason) separating from it the genera *Paracymus* and *Anacæna* of C. J. Thomson. I have, however, decided here, merely as a matter of temporary convenience, to use the generic name in its wider sense, as is done in the Munich Catalogue of Coleoptera. As thus understood it consists at present of some forty or fifty species distributed in most of the temperate parts of the world, but scarcely entering the tropics. I here register three species under the name, all of them belonging to the group or subgenus *Paracymus*.

### 1. *Hydrobius subcupreus*.

*Hydrophilus subcupreus*, Say, Journ. Acad. Phil. v. p. 189<sup>1</sup>.

*Hydrobius subcupreus*, Lec. Proc. Ac. Phil. 1855, p. 373<sup>2</sup>; Horn, Tr. Am. Phil. Soc. xiii. p. 135<sup>3</sup>.

*Hab.* NORTH AMERICA<sup>2</sup>, from Canada and Oregon southwards.—MEXICO, Guanajuato (*Dugès, coll. Sallé*); GUATEMALA, Dueñas and Guatemala city, Paso Antonio, Quiche Mountains 7000 to 9000 feet (*Champion*); NICARAGUA, Chontales (*Janson*).

The specimens before me show much variation in size; but I have not been able to find any satisfactory character of specific distinction; the individuals from Chontales and Paso Antonio form, however, a well-marked variety, characterized by very small size and more finely punctate upper surface. The front, or free angle, of the mesosternal lamina projects downwards in this species as a sort of tooth or spine.

### 2. *Hydrobius armatus*.

Oblongus, sat convexus, supra ænescens, nitidus; antennarum basi palpisque testaceis, his apice leviter infuscato; prothoracis lateribus anguste, elytrorum apice late flavescentibus; pedibus rufo-testaceis, elytris parce obsolete punctatis.

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

*Hab.* GUATEMALA, Dueñas, Cahabon (*Champion*); NICARAGUA, Chontales (*Janson*).

Upper surface of a brilliant brassy colour; the head indistinctly punctate, the thorax almost impunctate, the elytra very sparingly and somewhat obsoletely punctate and with