

carination. The mesosternal elevation does not form any angle, but displays only a gentle curve.

The two individuals before me, agreeing in these structural characters, are discrepant in size, the smaller variety being only $1\frac{3}{4}$ lin. long, and being rather paler in colour and a little more finely punctate.

7. *Philydrus ochraceus*.

Philydrus ochraceus, Melsh. Proc. Ac. Phil. ii. p. 101¹; Lec. op. cit. 1855, p. 371²; Horn, Trans. Am. Phil. Soc. 1873, p. 129³.

Hab. NORTH AMERICA¹, from Massachusetts to Florida^{2 3}.—MEXICO; GUATEMALA, Dueñas, Paso Antonio (*Champion*).

The specimens from Guatemala appear to form a variety in which the punctuation of the upper surface is diminished, and there is an indistinct stripe of dark colour along the suture. As *P. ochraceus* is variable in respect of its sculpture, and as the Guatemalan individuals quite agree with it in structure, they cannot be looked on as a distinct species. The resemblance to those varieties of *P. æqualis* that have a slight punctuation on the wing-cases is very great; but the slight development of the mesosternal carina in *P. ochraceus* is quite sufficient to validate its specific distinction. The species appears to be variable even in Guatemala; for the two specimens from Paso Antonio have the wing-cases almost without punctuation, and wanting the obscure stripe of dark colour existing in the more numerous specimens from Dueñas.

HYDROCOMBUS.

Genus *Philydri* affine, sed tarsi posteriores quadriarticulati, mesosternum ante coxas lamina transversa armatum, pronotum basi immarginatum palporumque maxillarum articulus pseudo-basalis aliter arcuatus.

Palpi maxillares quadriarticulati, articulo basali brevissimo fere nullo, secundo margine anteriore haud convexo sed subconcavo, tertio quam secundus brevior sed quam articulus quartus longior. Palpi labiales perbreves. Mesosternum lamina transversa paulo ante coxas intermedias plus minusve elevata armatum. Tarsi anteriores quinquearticulati, intermedii et posteriores quadriarticulati, hi articulo basali elongato, quam secundus duplo longior; ungues simplices, tenues, leviter arcuati. Elytra punctata, striaque suturali impressa.

This genus has some species in North America; but they have not yet been distinguished from *Philydrus*, though the genus is a remarkably distinct one and is well defined by its structural characters; all the species, however, have very much the external appearance or facies of *Philydrus*. *Hydrocombis* is quite distinct from the genus just mentioned, as well as from *Helochares*, by the truly four-jointed middle and hinder tarsi: this character is not illusory; for even when the tarsi are mounted in Canada balsam no trace of a division of the basal joint can be perceived. *Hydrocombis* has this peculiar character in common with the European genus *Cymbiodyta*, Bedel; and the two genera also agree in that they have the pseudo-basal joint of the maxillary