

thorax is nearly semicircular, but with the length not much shorter than the breadth at the base.

PYRECTOMENA.

Pyrectomena (Dejean), Motschulsky, Etud. Ent. 1852, p. 37; Leconte, Synops. 336; Gorham, Trans. Ent. Soc. 1880, p. 32.

This is the only one of Motschulsky's divisions of *Photinus* I have felt able to retain. It is a natural genus, composed of species with, on the whole, a very uniform and distinct aspect. The shape of the thorax and the shortness of the antennæ are especially characteristic. About nine species are now known to me, all from North America or the West Indies. Cuba has one, St. Domingo one or two; the remainder from the United States as far north as Lake Superior to Texas. I have seen as yet only three species from Central America.

1. *Pyrectomena angulata*. (Tab. IV. fig. 19, ♂.)

Photinus angulatus, Say, Journ. Ac. Phil. v. p. 162.

Hab. NORTH AMERICA, Texas (*Belfrage*).—MEXICO, Puebla (*Sallé*).

I cannot find sufficient difference between a single specimen in Sallé's collection and a representative pair of this species sent me by Mr. Belfrage, to warrant their separation. The Mexican specimen which we figure has less fuscous marking at the sides of the thorax; the seventh or subapical ventral plate of the abdomen is pitchy in the middle; and the whole specimen is larger. The thorax is somewhat foreshortened in the plate.

2. *Pyrectomena vexillaria*. (Tab. IV. fig. 20.)

Oblongo-parallela, antice et postice angustata, fusca, capite, antennis basi, prothorace, coxis, femoribus basi, scutello, elytrorum margine et sutura abdominisque segmentis ventralibus, quarto excepto, flavis. Thorace lateribus parallelis, antice producto, disco macula pallide fusca, angulis posticis acutis, carinula subintegra antice minus distincta flava. Long. 15 millim. ♂.

Hab. MEXICO, Vera Cruz (*Sallé*).

This has more the form of the very few specimens of this genus I have seen from the West-India Islands than of those from the United States; that is, the thorax is more advanced in front, and the elytra are more sharply acuminate behind. The underside is generally yellow; but the antennæ from the fourth joint, the breast, the tibiæ, tarsi, and part of the thighs, the fourth ventral plate and sides of the first three are more or less pale fuscous. The pronotum is very long, rather roof-shaped, the ridge being a delicate but distinct carina. The basal margin slopes away on each side from the centre, meeting the straight sides acutely, and forming a "gable" when viewed horizontally. The elytra are fuscous, margined entirely (narrowly at their base) with yellow. Two nervures are distinct, but are scarcely visible at the base, and vanish before the apex. The antennæ are shorter than the thorax.

A single specimen only is in Sallé's collection.