

*Hab.* MEXICO <sup>1-4</sup> (*Truqui*), San Andres Tuxtla, Parada (*Sallé*), Jalapa, Oaxaca (*Mus. Brit.*).

I have seen the types of the above forms and they certainly all belong to one variable species: *M. capitatus* has the sides of the prothorax less rounded than usual and *M. conicirostris* is simply a female of *M. depressus*. Specimens occur with the elytra and abdomen ferruginous. The males have the first and second ventral segments very broadly flattened down the middle.

### COSSONUS.

*Cossonus*, Clairville, Ent. Helv. p. 58 (1798); Schönherr, Gen. Curc. iv. p. 994, and viii. 2, p. 266 (part.); Wollaston, Trans. Ent. Soc. Lond. 1873, pp. 438, 483, 568; Leconte, Proc. Am. Phil. Soc. xv. pp. 337, 338 (1876).

*Borophlæus*, Wollaston, loc. cit. pp. 438, 484, 569.

About 140 members of this widely-distributed genus have been described, including a considerable number from Mexico. Schönherr's first section (Stirps 1, Cent. I.), to which the European type, *C. ferrugineus*, Clairv., belongs, is not represented within our limits, and his Stirps 2, based upon the Mexican *C. depressus*, Boh., has been separated by Wollaston under the name *Megalocorynus*. The pine-bark species (numerous in N. America, Mexico, and Guatemala) nearly all belong to *Borophlæus*, Woll., but they are connected with the typical *Cossoni* by intermediate forms. The tropical eastern representatives are extremely like some of those inhabiting Central and South America and might easily be confounded with them. Many of these insects vary greatly in size, and in some cases there is a considerable variation in the colour of the elytra. They have the rostrum more or less distinctly dilated anteriorly in both sexes, except in *C. catolethroides*, *C. convexirostris*, *C. latus*, and a few other forms. *C. spathula*, Boh., and its allies would perhaps be better placed in a separate genus. The sexual characters are not very pronounced, but the first ventral segment is often hollowed down the middle in the male. The Central-American forms may be grouped thus:—

*a.* Prothorax not abruptly excised near the apex.

*a*<sup>1</sup>. Rostrum (except in some specimens of *C. latus* and in *C. puncticollis*) more or less distinctly widened or dilated anteriorly.

*a*<sup>2</sup>. Prothorax without definite basal excavation, feebly bisinuate at the base.

*a*<sup>3</sup>. Head with the (globose) basal and anterior (inter-ocular) portions continuous above, closely punctured.

*a*<sup>4</sup>. Rostrum sulcate, strongly dilated anteriorly; elytra very long and cylindrical . . . . . Species 1.

*b*<sup>4</sup>. Rostrum not sulcate, strongly dilated anteriorly; elytra moderately long.

*a*<sup>5</sup>. Body almost glabrous . . . . . Species 2, 3.

*b*<sup>5</sup>. Body clothed with very minute hair-like scales, conspicuous beneath; prothorax densely punctate and sharply carinate . . . . . Species 4.