

### 8. *Sphenophorus reticulaticollis*. (Tab. VIII. fig. 4, ♀.)

*Sphenophorus reticulaticollis*, Boh. in Schönh. Gen. Curc. viii. 2, p. 257<sup>1</sup> (nec Chittend.).

? *Sphenophorus vestitus*, Chittend. Proc. Ent. Soc. Wash. vi. pp. 132, 134 (1904)<sup>2</sup>.

*Hab.* NORTH AMERICA, California<sup>1</sup>, Georgia, Florida, &c.<sup>2</sup>, Texas.—MEXICO (*Sallé*, *Mus. Brit.*), Guadalajara (*Höge*), Toluca (*Wickham*).

Seven N.-American species of the *S. venatus* and *S. reticulaticollis*-group of this genus are recognized by Prof. Chittenden (six of which he has kindly sent for examination), but it seems to me to be very doubtful if they can all be maintained as distinct. The muddy-looking incrustation frequently disguises the true coating of the surface and hides a great deal of the sculpture, and it will probably be found that too much reliance has been placed upon this character for distinguishing the insects in question\*. I follow him, however, in retaining *S. reticulaticollis*, Boh. (nec Chittend.) (the type† of which I have seen), as distinct from *S. venatus* and *S. placidus*, Say, for the present, and his *S. vestitus* seems to me to be inseparable from it. The present species is recognizable by the thin, rather dense, brownish-grey or olivaceous coating; the very coarsely punctured prothorax, with the Y-shaped median ridge, and the oblique curved ridge on each side of it, moderately prominent; the large, deep, scattered punctures along the elytral striæ; the small tuft of hairs on each side of the pygidium at the tip in both sexes; and the deeply excavate first ventral segment in the male. The elytra are more or less transversely wrinkled, or have the alternate interstices a little raised, and there is usually a bare, shining, oblong spot on the shoulder and another on the subapical callosity. The rostrum is compressed, and acutely dilated at the apex beneath (as seen in profile), strongly so in the female. The anterior and intermediate femora and coxæ have each a small tuft of hairs. The specimen from Guadalajara agrees very nearly with one of the two examples (that from Louisiana) of *S. vestitus* sent by Prof. Chittenden, the five others from Mexico before me having (as in the type) more rugose elytra. *S. phæniciensis*, Chittend., from Arizona, is also closely related to these insects.

### 9. *Sphenophorus hoegbergi*.

*Sphenophorus hoegbergii*, Boh. in Schönh. Gen. Curc. viii. 2, p. 254<sup>1</sup>; Chevr. Ann. Soc. Ent. Fr. 1885, p. 109<sup>2</sup>.

? *Sphenophorus coactorum*, Chittend. Proc. Ent. Soc. Wash. vi. pp. 132, 136 (1904)<sup>3</sup>.

*Hab.* NORTH AMERICA, Texas<sup>3</sup>.—MEXICO<sup>2</sup>, Vera Cruz<sup>1</sup>, Cordova (*Höge*).

This insect is probably an extreme form of the variable *S. reticulaticollis* with the incrustation thicker and denser, and extending to the scutellum; it mainly differs from the latter in the shallowly depressed first ventral segment of the male. The type,

\* The pruinosity of the scutellum often disappears in *Rhodobænus pustulosus* and its allies.

† It bears two locality-labels—"Mexico" and "Calif"