

Of this well-known species, which has been recorded not only from Europe but from India and Brazil, two specimens have been received from Mr. Forrer: thus the geographical range of *C. merdigera* seems to be one of the most extended amongst the Coleoptera. It is impossible to say, however, whether the species is indigenous in all these different parts of the World, or has been introduced accidentally. The complicated synonymy of *C. merdigera* is given in full in Lacordaire's monograph, as well as in Gemminger and Harold's catalogue. It is probable that the species will eventually be found in North America.

MEGASCELIS (p. 17).

It has already been remarked by Lacordaire in his excellent monograph, and by myself in speaking of the genus, that the determination of the numerous species of *Megascelis* is extremely difficult; and that the best descriptions cannot always convey a correct idea of the minute specific differences which separate so many variable and closely allied forms. A comparison with the types can only settle the many doubts which arise in the determination of these insects. I have fortunately been enabled to examine many of Lacordaire's types, those of Baly, Bates, and Clark, contained in the British Museum, but only a few of the species from Central America have I been able to identify with these. In many cases I have been obliged to found species upon single specimens, often females, and it is therefore quite possible that eventually some of those described here may prove to be synonymous with others of Lacordaire. There is scarcely a single structural character to be pointed out which can be relied upon in the separation of the species; the elytra are very similarly sculptured in all, their colour variable, and the same is the case with the underside; and the differences in the shape and sculpture of the thorax, which seem to be of a more constant kind, are often so slight that it is impossible to convey a proper description by words. Under these circumstances it will always be more satisfactory to treat the different species according to their localities, or, in other words, to monograph those of a certain region.

When the earlier part of this work was published I had not a single representative of the genus from either Mexico or the State of Panama before me, and the additional species are in consequence very numerous.

Megascelis dilecta (p. 17).

This species seems only to differ from the following in the more narrow and regularly-shaped sutural stripe, and in the darker green upper surface. Had Clark read Lacordaire's description of *M. suturalis* the very close affinity of *M. dilecta* with it could not have escaped him; instead of that he compares *M. dilecta* with *M. amabilis* (of which a type specimen is contained in the British Museum), with which it has no affinity whatever, and the type, which Clark could never have seen.