

8. **Thyreocoris quadrisignatus.** (Tab. II. fig. 17.)

Thyreocoris quadrisignatus, Stål, Stett. ent. Zeit. xxiii. p. 94. 44¹; En. Hem. v. p. 24. 16.

Hab. MEXICO¹; BRITISH HONDURAS, Rio Hondo (*Blancaneaux*).

9. **Thyreocoris incertus.** (Tab. III. fig. 4.)

Corimelæna incerta, Uhler, Proc. Ent. Soc. Phil. ii. p. 156. 3¹.

Hab. NICARAGUA.—CUBA¹.

The specimen figured is from Nicaragua, for which I am indebted to the kindness of Prof. Uhler.

CYRTASPIS.

Cyrtaspis, Stål, Rio H. i. p. 9 (1860); En. Hem. v. p. 25 (1876).

Megaritis, Stål, Rio H. ii. p. 57 (1862).

The orbicular and hemispherical body, with the small head carried almost in the same perpendicular plane with the anteriorly sharply truncated pronotum, are alone characters sufficient to distinguish this genus from any other of the Cydninæ here enumerated.

1. **Cyrtaspis atratula.** (Tab. IV. fig. 13.)

Megaritis atratula, Stål, Stett. ent. Zeit. xxiii. p. 84. 16¹.

Cyrtaspis atratula, Stål, En. Hem. v. p. 25.

Hab. MEXICO (*Mus. Berol.*), Tabasco¹.

Subfam. SCUTELLERINÆ.

The Scutellerinæ of Central America, roughly calculated, are in genera about two fifths and in species rather higher, in comparison with the number of genera and species respectively of the whole Nearctic and Neotropical Regions. With few exceptions these two regions approximate to the Palæarctic in the paucity of the number of species found in them, the smallness of their size, and the obscurity of their colour as compared with those of the Ethiopian, Oriental, and Australian Regions. If to these last three we add the Palæarctic and compare the number of genera and species with those of the Nearctic and Neotropical Regions, the last are found to contain only about two thirds the number of the former in genera, and less than half in species.

The great amount of colour-variation, and even of size, to be observed in the species of this subfamily has added much to the difficulty of proper specific identification, and therefore necessarily increased the synonymic nomenclature. But the more interesting and much more difficult problem is to find the biological explanation of so many representatives of different genera all varying in one peculiar and uniform direction. Thus in the genera *Homæmus*, *Sphyrocoris*, and *Symphylus* there are species always