

16. Prothorax in ventral aspect; *M. fissilis* Say.
17. Ventral view of mesothorax, metathorax and abdomen; *M. fissilis* Say.
18. Latero-ventral view of pleurites of mesothorax; *M. fissilis* Say.

PLATE 6.

19. Latero-ventral view of left pleurites of metathorax; *M. communis* Gyll. (partially diagrammatic).
20. Dorsal view of left epimeron of metathorax (showing parts not visible in fig. 19), and portion of notum of metathorax; *M. communis* Gyll.
21. Wing of *Melanotus* sp.; from balsam slide mount.
22. Dorsal view of abdomen with elytra and wings removed; *M. communis* Gyll. (fimbriation of last segment omitted).
23. Dorsal view of protusible abdominal segments of male *M. communis* Gyll. with aedeagus lying along the plane of the body axis; (fimbriation of 7th and 8th tergites omitted).
24. Lateral view of protrusible abdominal segments and aedeagus of male *M. communis* Gyll., with aedeagus directed forward over the tergum, the position assumed when fully extruded.
25. Ventral view of protrusible abdominal segments of male *M. communis* Gyll. In this figure only the bottom of the basal piece is visible, the aedeagus being held at right angles to the body axis in this instance.
26. Dorsal view of protrusible abdominal segments of female *M. communis* Gyll., with ovipositor fully extruded.
27. Apex of ovipositor; *Melanotus* sp.; drawn from balsam slide mount.

THE SPECIFIC NAMES OF TWO OTIORHYNCHID WEEVILS OF FLORIDA.

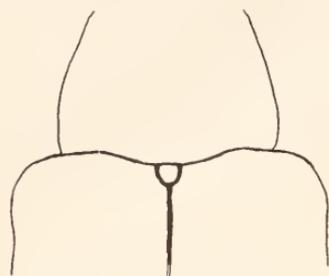
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Incorrect application of the names for our two species of *Pachnaeus* recently became apparent and the correction should be noted before the changes appear in forthcoming biological notes.

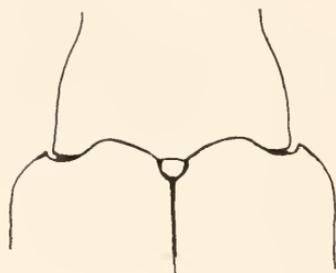
One species is abundant in tropical Florida from near Miami to Key West, and the other, common from central Florida (Tampa, Crescent City, Lake Poinsett, etc.) to Alabama and North Carolina, being recorded also from New Jersey. Simpson, in his very readable popular account of the natural history of southern Florida,¹ discusses the dual character of the fauna and flora, and it appears to us that the two species here considered offer a striking parallel to the cases he cites (pp. 144-5);—that our northern form of *Pachnaeus* was perhaps part of the pre- or interglacial fauna of north Florida long before the drift- or tempest-borne migrants from the West Indies (to which fauna the second species belongs) began to find lodgment on the newly forming reefs which now constitute the most southerly

¹"In Lower Florida Wilds" by C. T. Simpson, 1920, G. P. Putnam's Sons.

part of the U. S. The northern form seems to be very closely related to a species (*P. citri* Marshall 1918) recently described from Jamaica, and the southern form appears to be identical with a Cuban species. The two species are most readily distinguished by the degree of sinuosity of the suture between the pronotum and elytra, as shown in the accompanying figure.



P. opalus Oliv. (= *distans* Horn)



P. litus Germar (=*opalus* Horn, not Oliv)

When Horn, 1876, recognized that two species were to be distinguished among these green weevils, he appears to have committed an error in applying the old specific name to the wrong species and in describing the old species as new. At that time none of our American coleopterists knew much of the tropical forms living adjacent to our southern border, and even to-day we are just beginning to realize that many of the peculiar species of Florida, Texas or Arizona are only strays from complex tropical groups. Their nomenclatorial status can only be determined after study of the greatly involved and often very unsatisfactory literature and specimens representing our knowledge of the fauna of the American tropics.

Of the series in the National Collection we are unable to distinguish between those from south Florida and those from Cayamas, Cuba, which have been identified as the *Cyphus litus* of Germar 1824 (Ins. Spec. Nov. p. 451) except that the latter average slightly larger, but there seems to be considerable doubt as to Schoenherr's 1840 (Gen. et Spec. Curcul., vol. 6, p. 426) record of its occurrence in Mexico.

The synonymy of our two species of *Pachnaeus* may be indicated thus:

Pachnaeus opalus (Olivier 1807). Type data, Carolina (Bosc). Range, N. J. to Central Fla.

Syn. *Pachnaeus distans* Horn 1876. Type data, Cedar Keys & Capron, Fla. (Hubbard & Schwarz).

Pachnaeus litus (Germar 1825). Type data, Cuba. Range, Cuba, South Fla. (Mex.?)

Syn. *Pachnaeus opalus* Horn 1876 et auct.—non Oliv.