

most parallel behind; margin behind the middle with a yellow spot. Elytra less convex at the base than in *A. pulchella*, with rows of large points, becoming striæ behind the middle; interstices with a single series of small distant punctures; the ordinary yellow bands are more numerous, and those before the middle are confluent, so only the suture, a large humeral spot and a transverse spot one fourth way from the base, remain bronzed. The two posterior fasciæ are oblique; the anterior one of them includes a small marginal spot; the tip is yellow. Beneath immaculate, bronzed, punctured. Varies with the anterior spot of the elytra large and confluent with the suture.

12. *Dicerca Woodhousii*, ænea, nitida, chalybeo-variegata, thorace cribratim punctato, brevi, lateribus valde rotundatis, antrorsum angustato, angulis posticis rectis, elytris apice integris, seriatim crenatis, maculis irregularibus opacis transversis profunde impressis. Long. .72—.97.

I take great pleasure in dedicating this fine species, to the enterprising traveler to whom we owe its discovery.

Body coppery-bronze, varied with bluish reflections, moderately stout and convex; head strongly punctured, with three faint confluent elevated lines on the front, labrum green; thorax cribrate, more than twice as broad as long, narrowed in front, very strongly rounded on the sides, narrowed a little towards the posterior angles, which are rectangular and sharp. Elytra with rows of large points, and with numerous deep impressed subconfluent spaces, which are opaque, densely punctured and finely pubescent; tip entire. Legs green bronzed, knees, tip of the tibiæ, and tarsi steel blue. Tip of the abdomen of the male very slightly truncate; of the female rounded.

13. *Pristilophus puncticollis*, niger, nitidus, thorace antrorsum subangustato, lateribus confertim, disco minus dense punctato, elytris crenato-striatis, interstitiis paulo convexis, distinctius punctulatis. Long. .75—.9

This species is tolerably abundant in every part of Missouri Territory. It is closely allied to *P. morio* Germ. Zeitsch. 4, 85, but the elytral striæ are not so deep, and the interstices are but very slightly convex. Head strongly punctured. Thorax longer than wide, somewhat narrowed in front, slightly rounded on the sides, which are strongly margined; disc moderately punctured, sides very densely punctured, scarcely impressed towards the anterior angles, posterior angles slightly diverging. Elytra as wide as the thorax, striæ punctured, not deeply impressed, interstices scarcely convex, finely and irregularly punctured.

14. *Arhopalus charus*, Lec. Journ. Ac. Nat. Sci. 2d ser. 2, 17. Among those brought by Dr. Woodhouse is a variety, in which the yellow tip of the elytra is much larger, inclosing a black spot.

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The Committee to which was referred a paper by Prof. Baird and Mr. Charles Girard on the characteristics of some New Reptiles in the Museum of the Smithsonian Institution, reported in favor of publication in the Proceedings.

*Characteristics of some New Reptiles in the Museum of the Smithsonian Institution.*

By SPENCER F. BAIRD and CHARLES GIRARD.

Full descriptions and figures of these species will shortly appear in Capt. Stansbury's Report to Congress on the great Salt Lake (Utah.)

SIREDON LICHENOIDES, B.—Body uniform blackish brown, covered all over with licheniform patches of grayish yellow; snout rounded; tail compressed, and lanceolated; toes broad and short. Caught by R. H. Kern, Esq., in a lake at the head of Santa Fé Creek in New Mexico.

*CNEMIDOPHORUS TIGRIS*, B. and G.—Scales on the subguttural fold small in size; four yellowish indistinct stripes along the dorsal region. From the Valley of the great Salt Lake. Collected by Capt. Stansbury.

*CROTAPHYTUS WISLIZENII*, B. and G.—Head proportionally narrow and elongated; cephalic plates and scales on the back very small; yellowish brown, spotted all over with small patches of deeper brown or black. Caught near Santa Fé, by Dr. Wislizenius; specimens of the same species sent in by Lieut. Col. J. D. Graham, collected between San Antonio and El Paso del Norte.

*UTA* (nov. gen.) B. and G.—Upper part of body covered with small scales; a pectoral fold of the skin; auditory apertures; femoral pores present, whilst anal pores are wanting.

*UTA STANSBURIANA*, B. and G.—Tail slender, elongated and conical, provided with large scales disposed in verticils; a subgular fold in advance of the pectoral one. From the valley of the great Salt Lake; brought home by Capt. Stansbury.

*SCELOPORUS GRACIOSUS*, B. and G.—Head subconical; scales of the back larger than in any other part of the body; tail of medium size, slender and conical. From the valley of the great Salt Lake.

*ELGARIA SCINCICAUDA*, B. and G.—This is the *Tropidolepis scincicaudus* of Mr. Skilton as published in Silliman's Journal vii. 1849, 202. The specimen there described and figured is immature. From full-grown individuals we have drawn the following characters: Dusky green above, light ash colored below. Eleven transverse black bands on the back interrupted on the dorsal line, white dotted on their posterior margin. There are six or more of these bands on the tail. Thirteen to fourteen rows of scales, all of which well carinated. This species inhabits Oregon and California.

*PLESTIODON SKILTONIANUM*, B. and G.—Head small, continuous with the body; tail stout, very long and subquadrangular. Olivaceous brown, with one broad band of black on each side. Inhabit Oregon in company with the preceding. Collected by Rev. George Geary.

*PHRYNOSOMA PLATYRHINOS*, G.—Snout truncated, flattened, concave; nostrils situated within the internal margin of the superciliary ridge; occipital and temporal spines of middle size; one row of pyramido-horizontal and abdomino-peripheric scales, smaller than in *Phr. Douglassii*. Lower surface of head covered with small and nearly uniform scales; on the sides and near the neck a series appears a little more conspicuous, slightly raised and acute. Inframarginal series of plates large, of stout appearance, sharp and acute, above which two rows of small plates are seen lining the margin of the lower jaw. Scales of the body of middle size. Femoral pores very conspicuous, but more apart than in *Phr. Douglassii*. The lower surface of the body is unicolor. From Great Salt Lake; collected by Capt. Stansbury's party.

*PHRYNOSOMA MODESTUM*, G.—Snout truncated, flattened, but not concave. Nostril openings situated within the internal margin of the superciliary ridge. Occipital and temporal spines but little developed. No pyramido-horizontal scales at the periphery of the abdomen. Lower surface of head covered with minute, generally uniform, scales. Row of inframarginal plates resembling that in *Phr. platyrhinos*, above which, however, one single series of smaller plates is observed, lining the margin of the lower jaw. Scales on the belly proportionally larger than in any other species, smooth, subquadrangular or trapezoidal. Femoral pores conspicuous, the series from right and left meeting on the middle line of the belly and forming a curve, the convexity of which is turned backwards towards the vent; the lower surface of the body is unicolor. Brought from the valley of the Rio Grande west of San Antonio, by Gen. Churchill, and from between San Antonio and El Paso del Norte, by Lieut. Col. J. D. Graham.

CHURCHILLIA (nov. gen.) B. and G.—Three pairs of frontal plates, one more than in *Coluber* and *Tropidonotus*; a very small loral, and several small post-orbitals. Scales carinated.

CHURCHILLIA BELLONA, B. and G.—Body yellowish, with a series of large sub-hexagonal patches of brown bordered with black, and two or three rows of smaller patches on the sides; a brownish black band across the eyes from top of head to the angle of the mouth. Collected by Gen. Churchill on his march along the Rio Grande in 1846.

COLUBER MORMON, B. and G.—Posterior frontal plates very large; vertical plate long and narrow on its middle; eyes very large. Found in the valley of the Great Salt Lake by Capt. Stansbury.

HETERODON NASICUM, B. and G.—Numerous minute frontal plates instead of two large pairs; two brown stripes over the head; temporal patches very broad. Collected in Texas by Gen. Churchill.

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The Committee to which was referred a paper by Dr. Leidy, entitled "On the Osteology of the Head of the Hippopotamus and a description of the osteological characters of a new genus of Hippopotamidæ," reported in favor of publication in the Journal.

#### ELECTION.

The following gentlemen were elected *Members* of the Academy, viz.: J. C. Trautwine, Esq.; J. Forsyth Meigs, M. D.; Jacob G. Morris, Esq.; Rev. Henry W. Ducachet; Frederick A. Genth, M. D.; Elias Durand, Esq.; J. M. Allen, M. D.; James Aitken Meigs, M. D.; William Camac, M. D.; Mr. Henry J. Boller; Mr. George Yeager; all of Philadelphia.