these winged specimens for that memoir, in which figures shall be given of them which will enable the Society to form a better judgment upon the question.

The following are the descriptions of the two insects which I have hitherto regarded as the males of this genus.

Species 13. *Scleroderma?* (σ ?) *fuscicornis*.

Pl. XV. Fig. 12. 12 a, antenna, the last joint broken off.

Fulva; antennis (nisi articulis basalibus fulvis) fuscis; alis hyalinis, nubilâ pone medium, transversâ obscurâ; oculis cum regione ocellorum nigris; antennarum articulis subquadratis; pedibus fulvo-luteis.

Long. corp. $\frac{3}{4}$ lin. Expans. alar. lin. $1\frac{1}{2}$.

Habitat in Gallia meridionali.

In Mus. nostr. Communicat. Dom. Boyer de Fonscolombe.

Species 14. *Scleroderma?* (σ ?) *fulvicornis*.

Rufescenti-fusca, collare antice et basi abdominis pallidioribus; alis pallidè hyalinis, nubilâ transversâ pone medium obscurâ; antennis pedibusque pallidè rufescenti-fuscis, antennarum articulis apicalibus oblongis, pilosis.

Long. corp. lin. 1 (ferè). Expans. alar. lin. $1\frac{3}{4}$.

Habitat Berolini. D. Klug.

In Mus. Reg. Berol.

XXXIII. *On the Notions entertained respecting the Emblem Scarabæus. By the Rev. F. W. HOPE, M. A., F.R.S.*

[Read May 1, 1837.]

In Fosbroke's *Encyclopædia of Antiquities*, there is a short abstract of the opinions of authors respecting the *Scarabæus*, where he states as follows. The Egyptians worshipped this insect, and made it the symbol,—

1st. Of the world, because it rolled its excrements into a globe.

2dly. Of generation, because it buried the bowls in which it included its eggs.

3dly. Of an only son, because they believed every beetle was male and female.

4thly. Of valour and manly power, while they forced all soldiers to wear a ring on which a beetle was engraved: *i. e.* an animal perpetually in armour, who went his rounds during the night.

5thly. Of the sun ; 6thly. Of the moon from horns ; and

7thly. Of one-horned Mercury.

It is mentioned also by the same writer as an emblem adopted by the Romans, who made it a part of some of their legionary standards. Without entering into a discussion of the various opinions above stated, it may be asserted generally that they are gathered from the writings of antiquity ; some of them are too trivial to deserve a remark, while others have with some reason been accredited. After considering the origin of the emblem of the *Scarabæus* attentively, I am inclined to think that its primary signification has been strangely overlooked, while more weight has been attached to secondary, and sometimes visionary interpretations. I will therefore suggest another.

That the Egyptians believed in the immortality of the soul cannot be questioned ; now it is probable that the *Scarabæus* was the emblem denoting that belief, or a belief in the reanimation of the body ; and although I am little acquainted with the antiquities of Egypt, I think I shall be able to substantiate this interpretation. The *Hermitybies Calasiries* were the soldiery of Egypt ; and it is asserted by Plutarch that they carried a ring, on which a beetle was engraved ;* by others, “ It is said that the Egyptians hung *Scarabæi* round their necks when going to battle.” Now, if the *Scarabæus* was an emblem of a belief in the immortality of the soul, or of the reanimation of the body, the custom of putting them on previous to battle would imply that they were to act as a charm ; and what charm could possibly inspire the raw recruit, or even the veteran, with more enthusiasm and courage than a belief that after they were killed in battle they should yet, at a future period, rise to life again ? It may be probable that the Egyptians, who were exceedingly tenacious of the rites of burial, put these *Scarabæi* on before battle in order that if found on them when slain they might be distinguished from the enemy, and receive the rites of sepulture. It appears that the nobles and military, as well as the ladies of Egypt, wore the sacred *Scarabæi* about their persons while living ; and in the coffins of the dead of the lower orders, as well as the higher, these emblems are usually met with. They are seen sculptured on the funeral tablets buried with the deceased, and are repeatedly found on the ornaments of the ring and necklace, and sometimes in pendants attached to them. It appears, then, to have been an emblem universally adopted, and it is not unlikely that Egyptian females wore them in their necklaces in the same way and for the

* Vide *Plutarch's Treatise of Isis and Osiris*, p. 13. “ Of a like nature is that beetle which we see engraven on the signets of the soldiers.”

same reason that Catholics carry the crucifix or cross, as an emblem of the religion they profess, and the God they worship. The next argument I have to adduce, are the situations in which these *Scarabæi* were placed on the mummies: they are found on the chest next the flesh, and under the eyelids; and why placed there, near the pulsation of the heart, and the organ of sight, the very situations of all others most indicative of life and animation. In concluding these remarks, it will be admitted by persons acquainted with Egyptian literature, that the *Scarabæus* may be considered as the emblem of fertility, of fecundity, and of generation, influenced by the sun; and it is not carrying my argument too far to assert, as we find the *Scarabæi* applied to the dead body in such places as near the heart and eye, that they may be regarded, since placed there, as indicating a belief that the heart would throb again, and the eye regain its sight; in short, that the body should be reanimated, and the soul, having fulfilled its term of transmigration, should re-enter the body again, and become immortal.

XXXIV. *Description of a new Genus of Coleopterous Insects from Corfu.* By J. O. WESTWOOD, F.L.S.

[Read 3d October, 1836.]

Order COLEOPTERA, Linn.

Section PENTAMERA, Latr.

Tribe SERRICORNES, Latr.

Family MELYRIDÆ, Leach. MELYRIDES, Latr.

Genus AMAURONIA,* Westw.

Corpus parvum, oblongum, pilosulum, punctatum.

Caput cum oculis thorace paullo latius. *Antennæ* capitis latitudine vix longiores, articulis obconicis, versus apicem paullo incrassatæ, pilosæ; articulo 1mo majori, 2do parvo, reliquis sensim crescentibus, ultimo ovato. *Labrum* semicirculare, porrectum, setosum, margine coriaceo. *Mandibulæ* trigonæ, corneæ, ad apicem bifidæ. *Maxillæ* lobis duobus distinctis pilosis. *Palpi maxillares* maxillarum longitudine; articulo 1mo et 3tio brevibus, 2do mediocri, subclavato, 4to maximo, elongato-securiformi. *Mentum* transversum, brevissimum. *Labii membrana basalis* distincta; apicalis (labium verum) subquadrata, ciliata. *Palpi labiales* 4-articulati, articulo 1mo

* *Αμαυρίς*—obscurus, ab corporis colorem.