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George Lewis F.L.S.

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XXX.—On new Species of Histeridæ.

By GEORGE LEWIS, F.L.S.

THIS paper is the fifth of a series published in this periodical relating to the Histeridæ. The first appeared in 1884, the second and third in 1885, and the fourth in 1888. The aggregate number of species treated of in the several memoirs is 181.

List of Species now noticed.

Phylloma exutum.	Hister circularis.
Platysoma palmipes.	— pyxidatus.
— Gorhami.	— tenuistriatus.
— baliolum.	Stictostix californicus, <i>Horn.</i>
— punctulatum, <i>Lewis.</i>	Carcinops currax, <i>Mars.</i>
— delicatum.	— ovatula.
— scitulum.	Triballus catenarius.
Eblisia convexa.	Sternocœlis Sedilloti.
Epierus rufulus, <i>Lewis.</i>	Saprinus aterrimus, <i>Er.</i>
Pachycrærus modestus.	Teretrius basalis.
Cœlocræra nitida, <i>Lewis.</i>	Teretriosoma cyaneum.
Hister africanus.	— facetum, <i>Lewis.</i>
— sulcipygus.	Trypanæus bipustulatus, <i>F.</i>

Phylloma exutum, n. sp.

Oblongo-ovatum, depressum, nigrum, nitidum; fronte antice transversim impressa, medio subtuberculata; mandibulis latioribus; pronoto utrinque obscure punctulato, linea ante scutellum, stria laterali integra; elytris margine inflexo parum rugoso, striis 2 dorsalibus brevibus; propygidio bifoveolato, circum punctato, in medio linea longitudinaliter elevata; pygidio dense punctato, margine anguste lævi; prosterno plano; mesosterno late emarginato, haud striato; tibiis anticis 5-dentatis.

Long. $9\frac{1}{2}$ millim.

This species is nearly as broad again as *P. mandibularis*, Mars. (with the type of which it has been compared), but its general similarity is greater to that than to any other known species. The frontal median elevation or tubercle is not conspicuous, otherwise it might be said to correspond with *P. monodon*, Mars., in this particular. The elevated median line on the pygidium is very distinct between the two foveæ, but it is evanescent at the centre. The pygidium is punctured in the middle, with a smooth margin somewhat like that of *P. facetum*, Lewis, figured in Biol. Centr.-Amer., Col. vol. ii. pt. 1, pl. iv. fig. 17 a, but narrower. *Phylloma* is a genus erected by Erichson in 1834 for *Hololepta corticalis*, Paykull,

which is a very different species from the others included in *Phylloma*; and whether the characters which are now held to separate them from *Lioderma* and *Hololepta* will permanently be regarded as satisfactory, it seems too early in the study of the group to decide. Paykull first published *Hololepta* in 1811, and the first species referred to the genus is now known as *Platysoma depressum*, F., and the second as *Paromalus complanatus*, Panz.; the type of *Hololepta* is now considered to be *plana*, Fuessly.

Hab. Ecuador.

Platysoma palmipes, n. sp.

Oblongo-ovatum, subdepressum, nigrum, nitidum; fronte impressa, stria transversa recta; pronoto stria integra; elytris striis 1^a-3^m integris parum late impressis, 5^a ante medium, 4^a valde abbreviatis, suturali obsoleta, epipleura valde bicarinata; propygidio utrinque impresso, punctato; pygidio apice marginato, dense ocellato-punctato; prosterno haud striato, subparallelo, vix convexo; mesosterno antice emarginato, stria integra; tibiis late dilatatis, anticis et posticis fortiter 4-dentatis.

Long. 6-6½ millim.

This fine species is apparently similar to *P. Hageni*, Mars., a species I know only by description. The first three striae of the elytra are wide, the epipleura bicarinate, the anterior angles of the thorax obtusely produced, and all the tibiae are remarkably dilated, corresponding in this respect to *Hister latitibius*, Mars. In *P. Hageni* the mesosternal stria is interrupted and the insect only measures 4 millim.

Hab. Lampongs, Sumatra (*Van de Poll*).

Platysoma Gorhami, n. sp.

Oblongo-ovatum, subdepressum, nigro-nitidum; fronte tenuissime punctulata, leviter depressa, stria sinuata; pronoto angulis anticis valide productis, stria integra vix profunde impressa, ante scutellum minute foveolato; elytris striis 1^a-2^a integris validis, 3^a in medio parum interrupta, 4^a apicali; propygidio biimpresso, transversim punctato; pygidio grosse et dense punctato, posterius marginato; prosterno medio vix angusto, haud striato; mesosterno leviter sinuato, stria integra; tibiis anticis 4-, posticis 3-dentatis.

Long. 5¾ millim.

This species is one third smaller than *P. Murrayi*, Mars., from Old Calabar, and the mesosternal stria leaves only a narrow margin in the first, but in *Murrayi* it is broad.

Hab. Zanzibar.

This is a capture made by Dr. Livingstone, and I am indebted to my friend the Rev. H. S. Gorham for the specimen.

Platysoma baliolum, n. sp.

Ovatum, subdepressum, nigrum, nitidum, punctulatum; fronte impressa, stria integra supra oculos valida; pronoto transverso, stria integra pone oculos crenata; elytris striis 1^a-4^m integris, 5^a basi, 6^a medio abbreviatis; propygidio transversim, pygidio undique, grosse punctatis; prosterno haud striato; mesosterno leviter emarginato, stria integra tenuiter impressa; tibiis anticis 4-dentatis.

Long. 2½ millim.

This little species is about one third of the stature of *P. capense*, Wiedem., and resembles it in form and sculpture. In *baliolum* the punctuation of the elytra is much finer than that of the thorax, the fourth elytral stria is complete, and the fifth nearly so; the prosternum is narrow beyond the coxa, the basal lobe being almost circular in outline. In *capense* the prosternum is narrow and the basal lobe scarcely widened out at all, and the surfaces of the sterna are much more conspicuously punctulate.

Hab. Zanzibar (*Raffray*).

Platysoma punctulatum, Lewis, is a variety of *P. capense*, Wiedem., and the locality given for it—Assam—is probably an error.

Platysoma delicatum, n. sp.

Oblongo-ovatum, parum convexum, rufo-piceum, nitidum; fronte vix concava, punctata, supra oculos elevata; pronoto in medio levissime longitudinaliter impresso, sparse et minime profunde punctato, stria pone oculos interrupta, parte in medio utrinque hamata; elytris apicibus punctulatis, striis dorsalibus 1^a-6^m integris; propygidio pygidioque sparse punctulatis; prosterno lobo grosse punctato, bistriato, striis utrinque junctis; mesosterno late emarginato marginatoque; tibiis anticis 7-8-dentatis, posticis 3-4-spinosis.

Long. 2 millim.

This species is unlike any other I know, but it may be a type of *Platysoma* peculiar to South America, in which country, however, the genus is very poorly represented. In the form of the thoracic stria it corresponds with some of the cylindrical species, such as *P. Aubei*, Mars. (Mon. 1861, p. 152, t. iii. fig. 12). The thoracic punctures are shallow, somewhat oblong, and finely cut, and the elytral striæ are all complete.

Hab. Tambillo, Brazil (*Reitter*).

Platysoma scitulum, n. sp.

Ovato-parallelum, subdepressum, nigro-piceum, nitidum; fronte concava, vix dense punctulata, stria transversa tenuiter impressa in medio sinuata; pronoto subquadrato, lateribus late punctato, stria pone oculos interrupta (ut in *P. delicato*); elytris striis 1^a-3^m integris, 4^a-6^m brevibus; propygidio grosse et prave punctato; pygidio utrinque impresso, undique punctato; prosterno plano, parum lato, haud striato; mesosterno valide marginato, late emarginato, lateraliter bistriato, metasterno medio leviter impresso; tibiis anticis 3-dentatis.

Long. 4 millim.

Platysoma scitulum is remarkable in having the thoracic stria interrupted behind the eyes, with the median portion hamate at either end. The three abbreviated striæ of the elytra are feebly impressed and are placed before the apex, the middle one being the shortest and most faint and the sutural one in front of the others. The propygidium is irregularly punctured, the punctures inclining to ocellation, and some are deeper anteriorly than behind. The species may be inserted in the catalogue near *P. paugami*, Mars.

Hab. Borneo (Wallace).

EBLISIA, nov. gen.

This genus is proposed to receive *Phelister lunaticus*, Mars., and its allies *celebius*, *speculipygus*, and *convexa*—species which have no frontal depression such as would authorize their inclusion in *Platysoma*, and yet at the same time the mesosternum is emarginate in front, a salient character which must exclude them from *Phelister*. The type of *Phelister* is *venustus*, Mars., an insect which has the mesosternum produced in front, and the generic character “mesosternum bisinuatum” is conspicuous. But in *lunaticus* the prosternum corresponds with that in *Platysoma*, inasmuch as one of the essential characters of the genus is “prosternum compressum, basi rotundatum in mesosterno receptum.” The genus *Platysoma* at present contains some species which I think must ultimately be detached from it; I speak of species such as *decemstriatum*, Motsch., and *exiguum*, Lewis; but I think these may be assigned at present to the genus *Nicotikis*, Mars., suggested for *Platysoma incisipygus* (Bull. Soc. Ent. Fr. (6) iii. p. 67).

Eblisia convexa, n. sp.

Ovata, convexiuscula, nigra, nitida; fronte impunctata, convexa, stria

transversa valida ; pronoto stria integra lateraliter valida, post oculos leviter impressa, margine lato ; elytris striis 1^a integra, 2^a basi abbreviata, 3^a postice late interrupta, 4^a-5^a apicalibus, suturali nulla ; propygidio utrinque late impresso, medio longitudinaliter anguste elevato ; pygidio convexo, impunctato, basi utrinque profunde excavato ; prosterno basi subimpresso, haud striato, parce et tenuissime punctulato ; mesosterno stria marginali arcuatim integra ; tibiis anticis 4-5-dentatis.

Long. 4 millim.

This species has something of the facies and is of the size of *Hister ruficornis*, Grimm, and is therefore longer and more convex than its near allies *Phelister lunaticus* and *celebius*, Mars. The fossettes in the pygidium are very large and round, after the manner of those in *Apobletes diopsipygus*, Mars., and the space between them and the apex of the segment is smooth.

Hab. Borneo (*Doherty*).

Note.—I have placed a remarkable Histerid in *Epierus*, viz. *Epierus rufulus*, Lewis (Biol. Centr.-Amer., Coleopt. vol. ii. pt. 1, p. 208), because, although it has the facies of a *Phelister*, except perhaps in the forehead, the mesosternum is emarginate anteriorly, and Marseul's definition of *Phelister* is that the mesosternum is "bisinué en devant, avec une petite pointe médiane qui répond à l'échancrure de la base du prosternum." In *Phelister*, *Pachycrærus*, *Trypanæus*, and allies the projecting mesosternum is a valid and salient character, and I think it cannot be desirable to associate species together which differ so essentially in this respect as *Epierus rufulus*, Lewis, and *Phelister venustus*, Mars.

Pachycrærus modestus, n. sp.

Oblongo-ovatus, subconvexus, nigro-piceus ; antennis pedibusque rufis ; fronte impressa, stria valida integra ; pronoto sat fortiter punctato, stria post oculos late interrupta ; elytris apicibus punctatis, striis 1^a-3^m dorsalibus integris, 4^a interrupta, 5^a et suturali abbreviatis ; propygidio pygidioque punctatis ; prosterno bistriato, striis parallelis ; mesosterno marginato, stria integra ; tibiis anticis 7-, posticis 3-dentatis.

Long. 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ millim.

This species is similar to *P. arabicus*, Lewis, in colour, and to *P. Bocandei*, Mars., in size and form. The prosternal striæ widen out at the base, but are almost parallel beyond the coxæ, and terminate at the transverse stria which divides the main part of the sternum from the lobe.

Hab. Zanzibar (*Raffray*).

Pachycærus arabicus, Lewis, is less convex and more oval than *modestus*, with the three abbreviated elytral striæ more lightly impressed and shortened also posteriorly. The forehead is more convex within the area of the stria, the pronotum is more transverse and less punctured in the centre, and the prosternal striæ are wider apart, not quite so parallel, and the interstice between them is more truncate in front.

Cœlocæra nitida, Lewis.

This species should be placed in *Phelister* until the genus is more fully revised; the insect is allied to *P. circulifrons*, Mars., from Senegal. It differs especially from the latter by the fourth elytral stria being complete and the fifth reaching the middle. The sutural stria is similar in both insects.

Hister africanus, n. sp.

Ovatus, parum convexus, niger, nitidus; fronte plana, stria integra antice subrecta; pronoto striis duabus pone oculos coalescentibus; elytris striis 1^a-5^m integris, 6^a basi abbreviata, 7^a magis longa; propygidio pygidioque dense et parum grosse punctatis; mesosterno submarginato, stria marginali integra; tibiis anticis 3-dentatis. Long. 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ millim.

The figure of *Hister afer*, Paykull, given in his monograph, tab. xiii. f. vi., agrees well with this species, except that in *africanus* the thorax is impunctate, the propygidium and pygidium are densely punctate, and the fifth dorsal stria is longer and the sixth shorter. Paykull's species came from Guinea, mine is labelled by Mr. Bates (to whom I am much indebted for a unique example) "River Lujenda, East Africa." Both the species mentioned above have the elytral striæ arranged on a similar plan to *Contipus didymostrius*, Mars., and *Hister mtesa*, Ancy, but the last has the mesosternum very curiously sculptured. The punctuation of the pygidium and the form of the mesosternum in *H. africanus* and *Mechowi*, Schmidt, are almost identical.

Hab. E. Africa.

Hister sulcipygus, n. sp.

Ovalis, convexus, niger, nitidus, lævis; fronte antice biimpressa, stria elevata antice recta; mandibulis bidentatis, extus marginatis; pronoto striis 2 lateralibus validis ante basin terminatis; elytris striis 1^a-3^m integris, 4^a apicali brevi vel obsoleta; propygidio pygidioque sat dense et grosse punctatis; pygidio utrinque profunde sulcato; prosterno haud striato; mesosterno antice parum lato,

recto, stria integra; tibiis anticis valide tridentatis, posticis biserialiter spinosis.

Long. $7\frac{1}{4}$ millim.

Hister sulcipygus should be placed in the list next to *ignavus*, Fähr., as it agrees with it in several characters, such as the subhumeral stria, general contour, and punctuation. The differences are that the epistoma is round and marginate anteriorly, mandibles marginate, frontal stria elevated, and the thoracic striæ are but two in number. The propygidium is wholly punctured, and the two sulci on the outer margin of the pygidium are deep, somewhat oval, and unlike anything yet seen in the genus *Hister*.

Hab. Mombas.

I am much indebted to Mr. H. W. Bates for a specimen of this singular insect.

Hister circularis, n. sp.

Breviter ovalis, depressus, niger, nitidus; fronte triangulariter excavata, stria transversa elevata, utrinque angulata, mandibulis extus marginatis; pronoto stria externa dimidiata, interna integra, antice crenulata; elytris striis 1^a-3^m integris validis, 4^a et 5^a apicalibus brevissimis, tenuiter impressis, suturali basi abbreviata; propygidio utrinque leviter impresso, parce punctulato; prosterno parum brevi; mesosterno haud sinuato, stria integra tenuiter impressa; tibiis anticis valide 3-dentatis.

Long. $6\frac{1}{2}$ millim.

Macrosternus circularis, Mars., has a similar outline and convexity to this species, and I have adopted the same trivial name for it. At present the species, although it is very dissimilar to any hitherto described except *H. circulus*, Schmidt, the description of which is in the press, may be placed in the same group as *æquatorius*, Mars. The prosternum is divided into two nearly equal parts by a transverse line; the anterior lobe is punctured and has three well-marked striæ on each side. The anterior outline of the mesosternum is feebly bow-shaped.

Hab. Senegal.

There is one specimen in the British Museum, another in my own cabinet.

Hister pyxidatus, n. sp.

Ovalis, parum convexus, niger, nitidus; fronte stria valida antice recta; pronoto tenuissime punctulato, stria laterali interna integra, externa brevi; elytris striis 1^a-3^m integris, 4^a et 5^a brevissimis, suturali dimidiata; propygidio utrinque impresso parum dense pygidio

subtiliter punctatis ; prosterno ut in *helluone* ; mesosterno sinuato, stria integra ; tibiis anticis 3-dentatis, posticis multispinosis.
Long. 6 millim.

This species is extremely like *H. helluo*, Mars. The differences are : the head is broader, the lateral punctures of the thorax are absent, the fourth elytral stria is apical and very short, and the sutural much abbreviated at the base, but very clear, and it is curved outwards towards the apex. Beneath, the mesosternum is feebly emarginate and the stria is nearly straight anteriorly. In *H. helluo* the stria follows the course of the anterior emargination. The anterior tibiæ also are tridentate. I have seen the type of *Hister helluonides*, Mars., and it differs from *helluo* much more than the present species.

Hab. Abyssinia (*Raffray*).

Hister tenuistriatus, n. sp.

Ovalis, parum convexus, niger, nitidus ; fronte longitudinaliter impressa stria valida ; pronoto antice utrinque sinuato, stria interna valida integra, externa tenuissime impressa, basi vix abbreviata ; elytris striis 1^a-3^m validis integris, 4^a dimidiata vix interrupta, 5^a apicali brevissima, suturali basi late abbreviata ; propygidio parce punctato, pygidio probe lævi ; prosterno vix brevi transversim sulcato, lobo antico impunctato ; mesosterno haud emarginato, stria integra, sed tenuiter impressa.

Long. 6½ millim.

The shape of the thorax behind the head gives an outline which corresponds with the outline given in the figure of *Terapus*, Mars, Mon. 1862, t. 7, no. 45, f. 1. The outer thoracic stria is very fine, close to the marginal edge, and it terminates just before the base, and between it and the inner stria there is a broad interstice. To be placed in the catalogue near *Hister singalanus*, Mars.

Hab. Borneo (*Doherty*). Two examples.

STICTOSTIX, Marseul, Ann. Soc. Belg. xiii. 1870, p. 92.

Triballus californicus, Horn, may be placed in this genus provisionally, for although its outline is very different from that of *S. parra*, Mars., its general characters seem to be the same.

Carcinops currax, Marseul, 1870 = *C. geminata*, Leconte, 1859. Specimens are extant in collections which have been labelled "Oran, Algeria," and this has no doubt misled Marseul. This species, with *C. radula*, Mars., *Garbigliettii*, Mars., *conjuncta*, Say, *multistriatus*, Lewis, and *punctinotus*, Lewis, belong to the genus *Xestipyge*, Mars. Mon. 1862, p. 6.

Carcinops radula, as suggested in the Biol. Centr.-Amer., Col. vol. ii. pt. 1, p. 209, is probably a native of California, whence I have lately received a specimen sent with a series of *C. consors*.

Carcinops ovatula, n. sp.

Late ovalis, parum convexa, nigra, subnitida; fronte sparse punctulata, stria supra oculos subelevata, antice late interrupta; pronoto stria marginali integra, sparse punctato; elytris striis humerali et 5 primis integris, suturali antice parum abbreviata; pygidio rufo, subtilissime punctulato, basi utrinque foveolato; prosterno vix lato, bistriato, striis basi conjunctis; mesosterno antice recto et marginato; antennis pedibusque rufis.

Long. $2\frac{3}{4}$ millim.

This species closely resembles *C. consors*, Leconte, but it is much broader, and the mesosternum is not sinuate in front. The two foveæ in the pygidium are distinctive characters in *ovatula*, and will serve to separate it from *consors* and *gilensis*, Leconte.

Hab. Blumenau, S. Brazil.

(There is a reference to this species in the Biol. Centr.-Amer., Col. vol. ii. pt. 1, 1888, p. 210.)

Triballus catenarius, n. sp.

Breviter ovalis, convexus, brunneus, nitidus; antennis pedibusque ferrugineis; supra tenuiter et minutissime punctulatus; fronte impressa stria supra oculos valida, antice interrupta; pronoto stria laterali integra, basi transversim punctata, ante scutellum subfoveolato; elytris stria humerali integra, dorsali nulla; prosterno bistriato et undique minutissime tessellato; mesosterno stria antice late interrupta, postice recto perspicue impresso.

This species is the size of *T. Kænigius*, Mars., but it is more oval, brown in colour, the dorsal punctures are barely visible, and the prosternum is not punctured, but very finely and closely tessellate, and the stria which indicates the base of the mesosternum is not crenulate but very clearly catenulate, agreeing in this respect with *T. Ogieri*, Mars., and *colombius*, Mars.; but in *colombius* the stria is feebly arcuate.

Hab. Pulo batu (*Semper*).

Sternocælis Sedilloti, n. sp.

Breviter ovalis, supra parce pilis fulvis erectis, brunneus, nitidus; pedibus dilutioribus; fronte dense punctata, stria utrinque valida; pronoto angulis obliquis, antice vix dense ocellato-punctato, postice parce punctulato; elytris disperse punctulatis, tristriatis,

stria 3^a dimidiata; propygidio vix dense ocellato-punctato; pygidio obscure punctato; prosterno probe lato, inter striis plano, undique grosse et minime profunde punctato, stria laterali ante coxas parum divaricata; tibiis valide triangulariter dilatatis. Long. $1\frac{3}{4}$ millim.

In colour this species agrees with *politus*, Schmidt, and it is pilous in the same way, but the prosternum is on a different plan. In *Sedilloti* the prosternum between the striæ is on one plane, the surface is sculptured with large shallow punctures closely set together and more or less rugose anteriorly, the rugosity being most apparent on the lobe; and the base, as in *pluristriatus*, Fairm., is narrowly smooth. The prosternal striæ are one third wider apart than in *pluristriatus*, and they diverge slightly in front of the coxæ.

In many species of this genus the prosternum has a transverse bulge or ridge across the centre of the keel; it may be observed well in *S. cancer*, *Bedeli*, *punctulatus*, and *pluristriatus*. But in the *hispanicus* and *arachnoides* group there is a transverse sulcus which divides the main part of the prosternum from the lobe. In these last species the lobe is said to be reflexed. Monsieur Sédillot, whose labours in connexion with the Mediterranean fauna are well known, captured this species at Kef Kourrat, in the Province of Constantine, in 1886.

Saprinus aterrimus, Erichson.

A long series of this insect, recently brought from S. Cathérine, shows that the species possesses somewhat similar sexual characters to those in *Saprinus æneicollis*, Mars., and *cæso-pygus*, Mars. The female has a very deep sulcus in the apex of the pygidium, formed like a widened-out V, and the intermedian angle is prominent.

Teretrius basalis, n. sp.

Cylindricus, subelongatus, subrufus, nitidus, undique punctulatus et minutissime strigosus; fronte parum convexa, haud striata; pronoto stria integra; elytris transversim basi rufo-marginatis; prosterno basi impresso striis obscuris divaricatis, lobo antice marginato; mesosterno marginato, parum acute producto; tibiis anticis 7-dentatis.

Long. $2\frac{1}{4}$ millim.

This species is about the size of *picipes*, F., but rather more cylindrical. The elytra are without the smooth bases so commonly seen in the genus, but immediately behind such

corresponding areas is a narrow reddish band. The prosternum is margined in front, and has a lateral sinuate stria which passes from the anterior margin, from a point nearly behind the eyes, to the coxæ. The ordinary striæ between the coxæ are very faint and gradually diverge from their bases.

Hab. Australia.

I am much indebted to Mons. Antoine Grouvelle for a unique example he has received from Adelaide.

Teretriosoma cyaneum, n. sp.

Subcylindricum, cyaneum, nitidum; antennis pedibusque rufis; supra subocellato-punctatum; fronte plana haud striata; pronoto stria integra, margine laterali vix elevato; propygidio pygidioque æqualiter punctatis; prosterno mesosternoque latis et immarginatis; tibiis anticis intus parve flavo-ciliatis, extus 6-7-, intermediis 7-spinosis.

Long. $3\frac{1}{4}$ millim.

This species is less brilliant than *T. festivum*, Lewis; it may be distinguished by the scape of the antennæ having long flavous hairs which are very conspicuous. The prosternum has a small impression at its base, and the mesosternum is very obtusely produced in front.

Hab. Brazil (*Dr. Sahlberg*), no. 2788.

Teretriosoma facetum, Lewis.

This species has the prosternum covered with large punctures, and it is not striated. The mesosternum has similar punctures, but they are not set so closely together, and the anterior margin is bordered by a stria. The concave portion of the pygidium is rugose.

Trypanæus bipustulatus, F.

“Cylindricus, ater, nitidus, thorace elytris longiore; elytris punctis rufis. Affinis præcedenti [*proboscideus*], at minor et elytra macula magna rufa.

“*Hab.* in America mer.”

This memorandum refers to a species about the size of *miles*, Mars.; but as the description is of no value, it will be best to consider the name a manuscript one.