

front by a transverse angular line; palpi and antennae dirty-yellow, the latter with a black knob: prothorax with a dark, discoidal, subquadrangular spot, which does not reach the anterior margin: shoulders with a dusky line: tibiae and tarsi dusky rufous.

Var. B. Larger, dusky rufous above, spots before the eyes larger and subtriangular: black spot on the prothorax wider but not so near the anterior margin; shoulders of the elytra without a dusky line. [This and the preceding are European species; Kirby's descriptions of them are not sufficiently definite to enable them to be identified with any of the species described by Le Conte in his "Synopsis of the *Hydrophilidae* of the United States." (Pro. Acad. N. S., Philada., June, 1855).]

[123.] FAMILY HISTERIDÆ.

172. *HISTER PAYKULII* Kirby.—Length of body $3\frac{1}{2}$ lines. One specimen taken in the journey from New York to Cumberland-house.

Body black, glossy. Head circumscribed by a rather deeply ploughed furrow; antennae piceous with a pale knob; mandibles longer than the head: prothorax rather wider behind, seemingly quite smooth, but under a strong magnifier it appears thickly covered with very minute lightly impressed punctures; it is circumscribed on all sides, by a deepish furrow, between this furrow and the lateral margin is another abbreviated one less impressed; elytra besides a distinct marginal furrow have three discoidal subpunctured ones running from the base to nearly the apex; between the external discoidal furrow and the margin is a series of punctures near the apex, representing what is called the marginal furrow, and between the internal one and the suture are the traces of three others, the first just discernible, drawn, but interruptedly, from the base to the apex; the second consisting of three or four punctures near the apex, and the third parallel with the suture, consisting also of punctures, sometimes confluent, and extending from the apex not quite half the length of the elytrum; the surface of the elytra is covered with minute punctures very lightly impressed, so as not to be discoverable except under a good magnifier: the cubit or anterior tibia is armed with three teeth, the last of which appears cleft from its being furnished at the apex with two short truncated transparent bristles, the two other teeth have only one such bristle.

[Synonymous with *H. depurator* Say (Ent. Works ii. 261), a species found in Canada, and taken by Agassiz's Expedition on the north shore of Lake Superior.]

173. *HISTER HARRISII* Kirby.—Length of body $3\frac{1}{4}$ lines. One specimen taken in the journey from New York to Cumberland-house.