

dilated in the female. This last character is of much importance, as we have a division of *Harpalus* having the elytra punctured in three rows; to you who have this insect named in your collection, the above will enable you to verify it; to others it is of little importance, as it is one of the more difficult forms to determine. *Bradycellus* has the mentum strongly toothed, but with the exception of the two first species in the list, they are quite small, less than .25 long. The species of *Stenolophus* are also small and slender beetles, with the thorax rounded before and behind, which distinguishes them from *Harpalus*. With a common glass you will make but little progress with the two last named genera, for although they are both quite common, their small size and the excellent paper on *Agonoderus*, *Stenolophus* and *Bradycellus* (which is as perfect as the long experience of our greatest American Entomologist can make it), renders it undesirable to treat of them in this paper. There is a division of the Genus *Harpalus* (*Selenophorus*) which, as Dr. Le Conte says, should be a separate genus, and which has the paraglossa flat, longer than the ligula, without lateral bristles, and the ligula is narrow, not dilated at the tip. Nearly all of this division are small and oval, having the form of the smaller common *Amaræ*, but have three rows of punctures on each elytron; only two species are commonly found at the north, *H. gurgatus* and *H. iripennis*, which resemble in general form the true *Harpalus*, having the paraglossæ rather thick, not longer than the ligula, and furnished at the sides with a few bristles; the ligula is truncate; they are mostly of medium or large size, and are found in the middle of summer; the mentum tooth is usually wanting, or quite small, except in three or four species, which are quite rare and inhabit the extreme west. The thorax is sub-quadrate (nearly square); the proportions of this part of the insect are quite deceptive, it appearing much longer than it really is, therefore you should measure it accurately until your eyes are familiar with this seeming difference. These beetles are rather broad and oval, varying from brown to black; two or three of the species are metallic green, more or less shining. The anterior and middle-tarsi of the male are dilated, covered beneath with two rows of squamiform papillae. The posterior tarsi of the male are like all of those of the female. Some have the elytra reticulate in both sexes, others in the female only. The apex of the elytra of the female in some species is prolonged into a short spine called the sutural spine, as it is a prolongation of the suture.

In my next paper I shall commence the description of the species, having given you here an outline of the genera.

1. The Watchmakers' common jewelling glass, having two lenses of about a half-inch focus, will answer for all but the most minute forms. It costs less than one dollar, U. S. The Smithsonian Classification of the Coleoptera of N. A., by John L. Le Conte, M. D., 1861-1862, and the List of Coleoptera of N. A., 1863-1865, are indispensable; be particular to get the latest edition; these pamphlets can be had at the Naturalists' Book Agency, Salem, Mass.