and abdomen of the same colour: first pair of legs the longest, then the fourth, second and third: length $\frac{1}{10}$ of an inch: females captured in November and December on rails and under stones, near Llanrwst. (Id. 626).

19. *Theridion albens.* Nearly white, except a small, oblique oval, formed by a fine black line, which occurs near the middle of the upper part of the abdomen, on each side of the median line: first pair of legs the longest, then the fourth, second and third: length $\frac{1}{6}$ of an inch: found in July among strawberry plants at Hendre House, near Llanrwst. (Id. 627).

20. *Theridion callens.* Cephalothorax pale yellowish brown, its lateral margins, a triangular central spot which projects a line to the base of the eyes, and a small triangular spot immediately behind each lateral pair of eyes black: legs long, slender, yellowish brown, with numerous darker bands, first pair longest, then the fourth, second and third: abdomen variegated with black, red and white: length $\frac{1}{8}$ of an inch.

"It constructs a very remarkable cocoon of a balloon shape, measuring about $\frac{1}{8}$ of an inch in diameter; it is composed of soft silk of a slight texture, and a pale brown colour, enclosed in a loose irregular network of strong, dark red-brown silk; several of the lines composing this network are united near the apex of the cocoon, leaving intervals there through which the young spiders pass when they quit it, and, being agglutinated together throughout the remainder of their length, form a slender stem, varying from $\frac{1}{16}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch in length, by which the cocoon is attached to the under surface of stones and fragments of rock, appearing by its figure and erect position like a small fungus or some minute production belonging to the vegetable kingdom. The eggs are very large, considering the small size of the spider, five or six in number, spherical, not agglutinated together, and are of a brown colour. I have not been able to procure an adult male of this species, which frequents woods in the west of Denbighshire."—(Id. 627).

EDWARD NEWMAN.

(To be continued).

ART. XLII. — *Description of Lagenoderus gnomoides, a rare species of the Orthoceratous Curculionidæ from Madagascar.* By ADAM WHITE, Esq., Assist. in the Zool. Dep. of the Brit. Mus.

FEW tribes of insects are more extensive than the Curculionidæ, and among these, the Orthoceratous division contains as interesting and curious forms as are to be found among the Coleoptera. All the genera of Brenthidæ, Anthribidæ and Bruchidæ are, in this respect, most singular: while in what the scientific Schoenherr has called the

genuine part of the order, we find such genera as Antliarhinus, with its prodigiously elongated beak, Ulocerus, with its dead-stick appearance, the round Cassida-like or lady-bird-formed Camarotus, and all those genera, with their few or many species, so admirably described in the distinguished Swede's 1st and 5th vols. of the 'Genera et Species Curculionidum.' Not a few other genera might be mentioned, but perhaps the above list will suffice as an apology for introducing to notice another curious form which will come close to Attelabus, and which most probably the great monographer of this fearfully extensive group would have classed as a "*grex*" or subgenus of that set of insects.

Those who know only our British Apoderi and Attelabi, will bear with me when I tell them that in the former genus many species from Madagascar, India and the eastern islands, have singularly long strangulated necks, (Apod. Camelus, Giraffa, and other species named after long-necked beasts or birds); whilst others have the elytra most curiously spined, (A. Hystrix, spinosus, echinatus, dumosus): while in the latter many hardly less curious species occur. The Attelabus longimanus from Cayenne, described by Olivier in 1789* (with its fore legs elongated and much developed, the femora of the male being armed with a terminal simple hook, while in the female there is a double one), in some respects approaches our insect, while in others it is very different. Of the genus, briefly and but imperfectly described here, I have seen only four specimens, three apparently males, the other a female. These specimens are in the well-known collections of MM. Chevrolat, Gory and Dupont: the last-mentioned entomologist has the female also in his unrivalled collection.

The following description may serve to distinguish this from other subgenera.

Genus.—ATTELABUS, *Linn.* Subgenus.—LAGENODERUS.

Antennæ in foveâ insertæ, 11- (12 ?) articulatæ, articuli quinque ultimi crassiores, perfoliati, clavam formantes, (articulus terminalis minutus): rostrum capite brevius, apice subincrassatum: thorax lageniformis, parte anticâ in mare valdè elongatâ, in feminâ curtiore crassioreque, suprà subconvexus, transversèque profundis lineis insculptus: pedes antici elongati, femora carssa, dentibus diversis instructa; tibiæ intùs bisinuatæ unco apicali: elytra subquadrata, chlamydiformia, anticè truncata, apice dehiscentia, gibbere parvo subapicali singulatim instructa.

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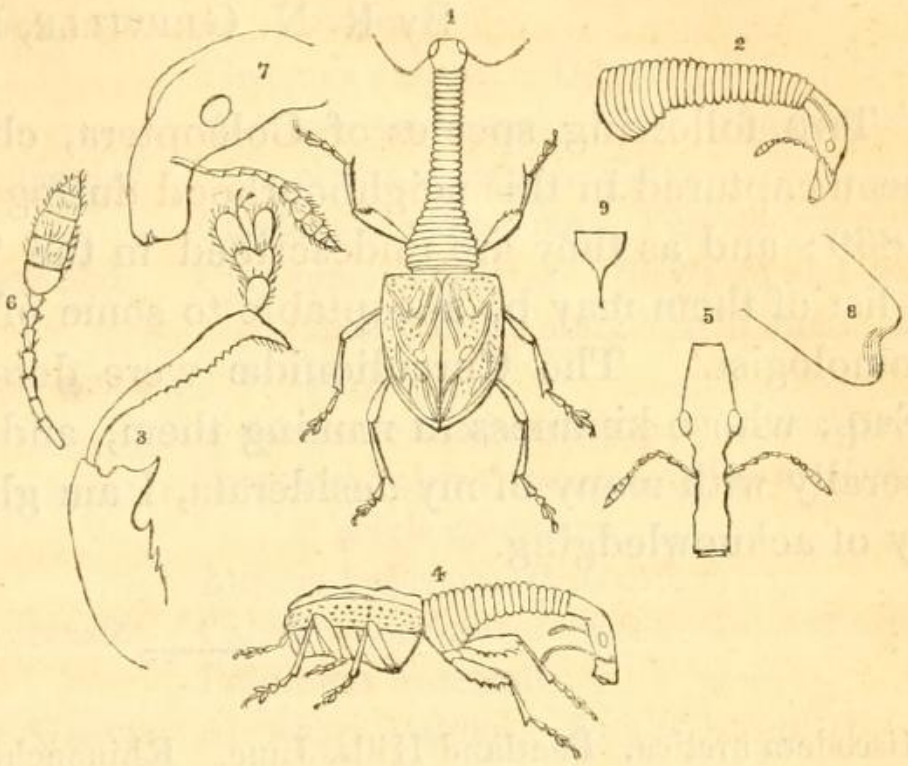
* 'Encycl. Méth.' iv. 278, No. 1. Ent. v. 81. (Attelabe), p. 7, No. 4, pl. 1, fig. 4, a, b. Schoen. 'Syn. Ins. Curc.' I. i. p. 205, sp. 17. This, with several other species, has been formed into a subgenus by Germar, under the name of Euscelus; but both Schoenherr and Dejean regard it merely as a section: see Schoenh. l. c. and Dej. Cat.

Attel. (Lag.) gnomoides. Species unica: obscurè ænescente purpurea, pedibus lucidioribus.

Hab. Madagascar ("à L'Antanguin? sur un arbrisseau"). ♂ Mus. Chevrolat, Dupont, Gory. ♀ Dupont.



Head rugose, above furrowed, the beak and head are gradually and slightly bent, the eyes are large, rather prominent, and situated about midway between the extremity of the thorax and the end of the beak, which is narrower immediately in front of the eyes. The thorax is somewhat cruet-shaped, being broadest at the base, and towards the head attenuated, especially in the male; it is transversely much wrinkled, a longitudinal furrow extending down the middle; the base, at the sides especially, is deeply punctured. The scutellum is distinct and pointed at the end. The elytra, taken together, are somewhat square, but are rounded at the end and rather narrower behind than in front, where they are truncated and broader than the base of the thorax; they are rugose, resembling in sculpture and appearance some species of the American genus Chlamys; at the base, near the suture, is a line somewhat bent inwards, two oblique lines beneath this run from the middle of the dorsal surface towards the suture. The impressed spots on the epipleura run in longitudinal lines; each elytron at the end is punched in near the suture, and has a rather distinct protuberance there; the apex of the elytra is rufescent with short reddish hairs. Femora of forelegs much thickened; tibiæ flattened and curved, hooked at the tip, and slightly dentated on the waved or sinuated inner edge, which bends out in the middle; the terminal joints of the tarsi are more or less heart-shaped and furnished with hairs; in the two specimens I more particularly examined the ungues were destroyed.

I have to thank MM. Chevrolat, Dupont and Gory for the loan of this species to describe; in the cabinets of the two first-named gentlemen it was ticketed with different specific names, which both kindly cancelled, as it would only create confusion to give unpublished names as synonymes.

To M. Blanchard the father, a most distinguished Natural-History draughtsman, I am indebted for the illustrations in figs. 1, 2, 4 and 5; figs. 7 and 8 are by M. Guerin-Meneville; and figs. 3 and 6 by myself.

ADAM WHITE.

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1. At. (Lag.) gnomoides, ♂. 2. Thorax and head of ♂ viewed sideways. 3. Foreleg of ditto. 4. ♀ viewed sideways. 5. Head of ditto viewed from above. 6. Antenna. 7. Head viewed sideways. 8. Apex of elytron. 9. Scutellum.