

APPENDIX.

The Ventral Tubercle.

Since the description of the "ventral tubercle" was printed (pp. 31 and 32) it has occurred to me that this peculiar structure may possibly be the orifice of the canals leading from the odoriferous glands. These orifices are usually situated on each side of the metasternum near the posterior coxæ. If this be the case, it is possible that what we have considered to be the first abdominal ventral segment may be the metasternum, though this seems very improbable.

Excluded Species.

1. *Halobates albinervus*, Am. et Serv. (Hist. Nat. des Insectes, Hémiptères, p. 412, 1843), is a fresh-water Brazilian species, for which Mayr (Verh. zool. bot. Ges., 1865, p. 445; and Reise d. Freg. Novara, Zool., Band ii., Abth. 1, p. 177, 1866) founded the genus *Brachymetra*. It is to be noted that some authors write the specific name *albinervis*, but the original is *albinervus*.
2. *Halobates pictus*, Germ. (Herrich-Schäffer, Die wanzenart. Insecten, Band viii. p. 108, 1848), is another fresh-water North American species, which we take as the type of the new genus *Stephania*.¹ A winged form of this is said to have

¹ *Stephania*, n. g. Body oval, moderately pubescent. Head (with eyes) subtriangular. Antennæ four-jointed, with two intermediate jointlets. Eyes large, situated at the back of the head, and resting partly on the pronotum. Ocelli absent. Prothorax transverse, broader than long, distinct from the mesothorax. Mesothorax and metathorax together cylindrical, subcoalesced, the suture between them distinct on the upper surface. Mesonotum with a narrow free process (scutellar), posteriorly overlapping the base of the abdomen. Metasternum not visible. Elytra and wings? Front legs short, rather slender: tibia without an apical process; tarsus two-jointed, the second joint excavated beyond the middle, but without a process, furnished with claws. Middle and hind legs rather long and slender, inserted at the posterior end of the thorax; the hind legs inserted above the middle legs. Middle legs without a fringe of long hairs; tarsus? Hind legs with one-jointed tarsus clawed before the tip. Abdomen short, sides furnished with a conspicuous connexivum; apex of male abdomen without a conspicuous rhomboidal appendage.

Type.—*Halobates pictus*, Germ. *Halobates platensis*, Berg., also probably belongs to this genus, but I have seen larvæ only, and they have not the scutellar process of the mesonotum, which serves at once to separate this genus from *Halobates*. I have also seen but one specimen of *Stephania picta*, and that a female, and not quite perfect, so that the generic diagnosis is not so complete as it might be. *Metrocoris*, Mayr (with a single species, *Metrocoris brevis*, Mayr, found in Ceylon and India), is in many ways closely allied to *Stephania* and *Halobates*. So also is *Platygeris*, mihi (with a single species—*Platygeris depressa*, mihi—from Mexico).