

I have only examined a few specimens of each species in more detail, but I believe that there are certain other distinctions discernible under the microscope. For instance, it appears to me that the metanotum of *unguicularis* is more heavily built than that of *affinis*, and also that the five basal joints of the antenna of *affinis*, male or female, measured together, are longer than the same number of joints in an antenna of the same total length in *unguicularis*. These differences, however, if truly specific, are so small as to be of no value for ordinary purposes. For purposes of identification, therefore, I should consider the following characters:—

1. Form more parallel, colour black; metasternal wings less sharply pointed; reflexed margin of elytra black, and apex more sharply pointed. In male, anterior claw on anterior tarsi with a triangular tooth, apex of which is directed neither forward nor backward; stridulatory files shorter, with ridges very fine and close together. Less reliable characters: Legs more infusate; antennæ less infusate; occipital spots more distinct. = *affinis*, Payk.

2. Form more oval; colour of a slightly æneous cast; metasternal wings more sharply pointed; reflexed margin of elytra obscure-red, and apex less sharply pointed; in male, anterior claws on anterior tarsi with a tooth, in which apex is directed forward towards apex of claw; stridulatory files longer, with ridges stronger and farther apart. Less reliable characters: Legs less infusate; antennæ more infusate; occipital spots less distinct. = *unguicularis*, Thoms.

DESCRIPTION OF PLATE XII.

Fig. 1.—Metasterna of *Agabus affinis*, Payk., and *A. unguicularis*, Thoms. (scale noted).

Fig. 2.—Underside of elytra of *Agabus affinis*, Payk., and *A. unguicularis* Thoms. (scale noted).

DESCRIPTION OF PLATE XIII.

Fig. 1.—Anterior claw on anterior right tarsus of *Agabus affinis*, Payk., ♂, and on anterior left of *A. unguicularis*, Thoms., ♂ (×400 about).

Fig. 2.—Stridulating file of male *Agabus unguicularis*, Thoms., and *A. affinis*, Payk.

***Cryptomorpha desjardinsi*, Guér.—A probable Cosmopolitan beetle in Britain.**

By RICHARD S. BAGNALL, F.E.S.

Last month (September 18th, 1906), whilst searching the cellar at home, I found a beetle, easily recognised as something unusual, and which Mr. Donisthorpe kindly identified as *Cryptomorpha desjardinsi*, Guér., an insect that has been taken in New Zealand, Mauritius, Madeira, etc., and of which Mr. E. A. Waterhouse took a single example, fifteen years ago, out of a bunch of bananas in London.

C. desjardinsi is a striking insect, about 4mm. in length, linear, and, in colour, reddish-testaceous; antennæ yellow, with joints 7-10 darker, the latter two (9-10) being almost black, whilst the apical joint is clear yellow; the head (with eyes) is slightly wider than thorax, the eyes being large, black and prominent. Thorax with sides crenulate, longer than broad, widest at apex, and from the middle gradually narrowed to base, where it is much less wide than the base of the elytra. Elytra with strongly punctured striæ and wide interstices; pubescence short and strong, arranged in parallel rows, longer and more confused at sides; a dark patch around scutellum, and a dark inverted V-mark on apical third; apex and middle of elytra testaceous, darkening to edges. Legs testaceous. It is most likely that this beetle falls into the same category as certain cosmopolitan *Cucujidae*, etc., and therefore may, in



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