In *P. elatior* (Jacq.) the capsule is linear-oblong, as long as, or even slightly longer than, the calyx, the seeds forming round flattened discs, their surface rotundo-papillose, the style glabrous, the ovato-lanceolate teeth of the calyx curved outwards.

Luciefelde, Shrewsbury, June 6th, 1848.

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XVII.—Notes, &c. on the genera of Insects *Erirhinus*, *Notaris*, and *Procas*; with descriptions of two new species. By John Walton, F.L.S.

Fam. CURCULIONIDÆ.


It will be useful to remark, that the females of this genus have the rostrum long, slender, somewhat smooth, shining, minutely punctured in rows, and indistinctly striated; the males have it shorter, rather thicker, less shining, rugose-punctate, distinctly striated, and the antennæ placed nearer the apex.


There are two foreign specimens of this insect labelled 'Festuca' in the collection of Mr. Kirby from Gyllenhal, and I possess a British specimen returned to me by Schönher with the same name; it is accurately described by Gyllenhal and Stephens, and chiefly differs from *Er. Nereis* in being much larger (length $2\frac{1}{2} - 3$ lines); specimens however sometimes occur of the same size as that species, which are consequently extremely difficult to distinguish. It is recorded to be rare in England, but its rarity appears to arise from its habitat being strictly local; I believe a British specimen did not exist in any collection until I discovered its 'metropolis.'

I have found it plentifully by brushing the salt-marsh club-rush (*Scirpus maritimus*) on both sides of the Thames, about low-water mark, between Blackwall and Woolwich, in July; and also near Lyndhurst on aquatic plants. "Ditches below Gravesend," Mr. Smith.


— *inquisitor*, Steph. Illustr.

— *lunula et Arundineti*, Kirb. MSS.

I have British specimens returned to me from Schönher as *Er. Nereis*. It is generally about half the size of the preceding insect (length $1\frac{1}{2} - 2\frac{1}{2}$ lines), and also differs in having the rostrum and antennæ shorter, with the articulations of the latter also shorter, rather stouter, and somewhat different in
form; the elytra linear-elongate; these differences however are very slight when compared with specimens of equal magnitude, and require a practised eye to catch them.

Frequently found upon aquatic plants, in ponds and ditches, in June.


Gyllenhal was undoubtedly correct in the subsequent change of his opinion as to the specific identity of this insect, by elaborately describing it under the first name*; it evidently differs in its general form from *Er. Nereis*, and the rostrum is decidedly stouter and more distinctly rugose; the thorax more deeply and closely punctured, with the punctures confluent; the elytra profoundly crenate-striate, especially on the interior towards the suture, clouded with testaceous and piceous black; and clothed with flavescent scales variegated with fuscous.

British specimens were identified by Schönherr as *Er. scirrhosus.*

I purchased five specimens from a dealer at York of the name of Chapman, who obtained them with a collection of British insects taken in the neighbourhood of Cambridge. Mr. S. Stevens has a specimen taken by Mr. Bond near Kingsbury; these are all that I have seen of this insect.

**Genus Notaris, Germ., Latr., Dej., Steph.**


A very common and well-known species.


Foreign specimens in the collection of Mr. Kirby from Gyllenhal, and others in my possession from Schönherr, confirm the name of this very distinct insect.

First discovered in Yorkshire by the late Rev. G. T. Rudd, who kindly furnished my cabinet with specimens.


A rare and very distinct insect.


Elongate-ovate, piceous, sparingly clothed with elliptical-lanceolate pale scales. Head small, punctulated; eyes subdepressed; rostrum rather longer than the head and thorax, moderately curved, black, shining, carinated above, distinctly striated and

punctured. Antennæ as long as the rostrum and head together, slender, rufo-piceous. Thorax rather broader than long, a little narrowed in front, emarginated behind the eyes, rounded at the sides, convex above, piceous, thickly and coarsely punctured, the punctures confluent; a smooth narrow line in the middle; and an oblique slightly curved line on each side composed of pale scales. Scutellum ovate, densely covered with cinereous scales. Elytra elongate-ovate, almost twice as broad as the base of the thorax, and three times the length, rather convex above, deeply punctate-striate towards the suture, indistinctly so towards the sides, interstices convex, transversely rugulose on the back, and thickly granulated towards the sides; decorated with scattered small spots of pale ferruginous scales, and a round patch on each elytron a little behind the middle towards the suture; the pleura and the margin of the abdomen densely clothed with minute tufts of whitish hairs or scales. Legs rather long, moderately stout, rufo-piceous or testaceous, thinly clothed with short depressed hair-like scales. Length 2½—4 lines.

The striated rostrum and elytra, with the white pleurae, will at first sight distinguish this new British insect from *N. bimaculatus*.

First discovered by Mr. S. Stevens in a marshy place near Hammersmith, where it hybernates with numerous other insects in the dead stems of the great reed-mace (*Typha latifolia)*.

Genus Procas, Steph., Schönh.

*Erirhinus*, Schönh. olim.

This genus was constructed by Mr. Stephens, and subsequently adopted by Schönherr; it is founded upon *Curc. picipes* of Marsh, and chiefly distinguished by having the rostrum subclavate, or according to Schönherr slightly incrassated towards the apex; its other generic characters assimilate so closely to the insects in the genus *Notaris*, that its claim to rank as a new genus appears to me rather questionable; but I have not ventured to differ from the above-named eminent entomologists.


I transmitted a specimen as *Curc. picipes* of Marsh. and Steph. to Schönherr, who remarked, "*Erirhinus Steveni*, iii. p. 287, idem genus."

Very rare: there are specimens in the collections of the British Museum, Entomological Society, and of Mr. Stephens.

2. *P. granulicollis*, Walt.

Oblong-ovate, black, opake, clothed with cinereous and fuscous hairs. Head subglobose, closely punctured; front with a deep fovea; eyes subdepressed; rostrum as long as the head and tho-
rax united, stout, moderately curved, absolutely carinated above, thickly and closely punctured, the punctures confluent, sparingly pilose, slightly incrassated towards the apex. Antennae rather long, rufo-piceous, pilose. Thorax transverse, abruptly narrowed in front, greatly dilated and rounded at the sides a little before the middle, slightly convex above, absolutely carinated and thickly and closely granulated. Scutellum elevated, tuberculiform. Elytra oblong-ovate, the shoulders elevated, rounded, the sides not distended, moderately convex above, punctate-striate, the interstices broad, plane, closely granulated; rather thickly clothed with hairs, variegated with cinereous and fuscous. Legs moderate piceous-black; femora subclavate, simple; tibiae straight, densely pilose, rufo-piceous, dentate at the apex internally; tarsi rufo-piceous. Length 3 lines.

Formerly I referred this to the preceding insect, but upon a closer examination I think it is sufficiently distinct, and may be discriminated, independent of minor differences, by having the head foveolated, the rostrum slightly incrassated at the apex, and the thorax granulated. P. Steveni of Schonherr agrees with this insect in many of its essential characters, and possibly may turn out a variety; but the thorax is described by Gyllenhal as very closely punctured, and the interstices between the striæ on the elytra as coriaceous.

The only specimen I have seen was found amongst moss and decayed vegetable matter from a wood at some distance from Carlisle in December by T. C. Heysham, Esq., who kindly presented it to me.


[With a Plate.]

Some remarks under the above title formed the subject of a communication read at a meeting of the Aberdeen Philosophical Society, March 6th, 1841. Not having since that time, in the course of my reading, met with any recorded facts of a similar nature, they are now offered, with some additions, as a contribution to that branch of ornithology termed Oology. Through the liberality of my friend Professor MacGillivray of Marischal College, I have recently had an opportunity of examining eggs not previously in my possession.

In Carpenter’s ‘Manual of Physiology’ the following statements are made respecting the development of the outer cover-
https://doi.org/10.1080/03745485809494681.

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