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very doubtful at present, the animal being unknown. A small
dried portion of it was attached to the shell, but no odonto-
phore could be discovered in it. Some minute, glassy, grain-
like objects adhering to it proved on examination under the
microscope to be minute shells and doubtless the young of
this species; there is therefore every reason to believe that it
is viviparous.

The genus and species may be described thus:

Robillardia.

Animal parasiticum, Echinus incolens, vivi-
parum. Testa vitrea, depressa hemic-
iformis; spira brevis; apertura lunata,
magna; peristoma simplex, tenue.

Robillardia cornica *.

Testa tenus, pollicida, vitrea, nitens, im-
perforata, depressa globosa; anfractus 5
celeriter crescentes, loricae sulcatae levibus spiralibus striisque
incrementi arcuatis sculpti, convexi, sutura canaliculata sequenti;
ultimus magnum, ad peripheriam rotundatum, inferne concentric
leviter liratum et sororinetatum, in recta umbilici plus minus
tenuerer callolus; apertura lunata; peristoma tenue, margine
inferiore recessente, columnellae supra leviter expanso.
Diam. maj. 8 mm., min. 6½; alt. 5.

Hab.: Mauritius.

This delicate shell has the glassy texture of Carinaria and
somewhat the form of certain species of Hyalinia.

XXVIII.—Synopsis of the Rhynchetal Genus Plisthenes.
By W. L. Distant.

This genus of Tesseratomina, founded by Stål in 1864, is
liable by the large size and general resemblance of its repre-
sentatives with their almost common area of distribution to
have its different species unrecognized. This was absolutely
the case with Stål, who, in enumerating the genus (En. Hem.
i. p. 63), included the second species, P. dilatatus, Montr.,
more fully redescribed by Vollenhoven, as a synonym of P.
Merriae, Fabr. I was subsequently (Trans. Ent. Soc. 1880,

* From “Caro,” an old name of the island of Mauritius.

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p. 151), by the acquisition of specimens, enabled to structurally and otherwise separate these two species, and am now, by the possession of three examples from South-west New Guinea, received through Mr. E. P. Collett from Mr. J. C. Melvill, in a position to add a third species to the genus. The following is a rough synopsis of the same:

Scutellum unicocular and with the lateral margins straight and not distinctly sinuate near apex.
Sternal spine not reaching anterior coxae.
Antenna with the second joint considerably shorter than the third.
Abdomen beneath with a central, longitudinal picaceous fascia ........................................ P. Meriana.

Sternal spine reaching anterior coxae.
Antenna with the second joint very little shorter than the third.
Abdomen beneath with a central and two submarginal picaceous fasciae .......................... P. dilatatus. 

Scutellum with the apex ochraceous and with the lateral margins distinctly sinuate near apex .... P. scutellatus.

Plithenes scutellatus, n. sp.

Allied to P. dilatatus, but differing by having the lateral margins of the scutellum distinctly sinuate near apex, which is broadly ochraceous, with the tip black. The second and third joints of the antennae are almost subequal in length, and the apex of the third joint is ochraceous (fourth joint mutilated). The sternal spine about reaches the anterior coxae, as in P. dilatatus.

Long. 28 to 33 millim.

Hab. South-west New Guinea (J. C. Melvill).

The three species vary very much in the size of their representatives, and P. Meriana in the colour of the antennae, which in typical examples have only the last joint ochraceous, whilst in some Australian specimens, as pointed out by Stål, and in some from Murray Island, as already described by myself, both the third and fourth joints are ochraceous.

The following are the localities of the specimens in my own collection:

P. Meriana, Fabr.—Amboina, Torres Straits, Port Moreby, Murray Island.
P. dilatatus, Montr.—Port Moreby, Celebes.
P. scutellatus, Dist.—South-west New Guinea.