iridescent; the head and thorax closely and coarsely punctured; the base of the abdomen roughly punctured, the two following segments much more finely so; the apical segment armed with six teeth, the outer ones subacute.

Hab. Celebes.

3. CHRYSIS SUMPTUOSA. *C.* fortiter punctata, metallico-viridis auro lavata; thoracis disco, abdominis segmentis secundo et tertio basi purpureis; segmento apicali margine integro.

Length $3\frac{1}{4}$ lines. Golden-green; the thorax at the sides and posteriorly with bright coppery effulgence; an oblong purple spot on the disk of the thorax; the metathorax and its lateral teeth vivid green, the vertex and prothorax splashed with gold. Abdomen: the basal segment bright green, with a bright coppery or golden effulgence at the sides; the second segment purple at the base, coppery at the apex, and with a suffusion of green between these tints; the third segment is similarly coloured, with the apical margin entire; the insect closely and strongly punctured throughout.

Hab. Celebes.

Description of a new Genus of Crustacea, of the Family Pinnotheridæ; in which the fifth pair of legs are reduced to an almost imperceptible rudiment.

By THOMAS BELL, Esq., Pres. L. S.

[Read June 3rd, 1858.]

Fam. PINNOTHERIDÆ, *Edwards.*

Genus AMORPHOPUS, *Bell.*

CHAR. GEN.:—Corpus subcylindricum. Testa semicircularis, margine posteriore recto.—*Antennæ externæ minimæ*, articulo basali orbitam subtus partim claudente.—*Antennularum fossulæ* transversæ, continuæ, et ab orbitis haud separatæ.—*Pedipalpi externi* articulo quarto ovato, palpo tri-articulato, ad angulum antico-interiorem articuli quarti inserto.—*Oris apertura* antice arcuata.—*Orbitæ* apertæ, margine inferiore carente, superiore integro.—*Oculi* transversim positi.—*Pedes antici* robusti, inæquales; *pedum paria secundum, tertium et quartum* longa, subcompressa; *par quintum* exiguum, simplicissimum, rudimentarium, in incisura articuli basalis paris quarti insertum.—*Abdomen* MARIS segmentis tertio cum quarto, et quinto cum sexto coalitis; FŒMINÆ ?

Sp. unica. *Amorphopus cylindraceus*, mihi.

Description.—The body is nearly cylindrical, somewhat depressed, the carapace very much curved from the point to the back, quite

straight from side to side; the anterior and lateral margins forming nearly a semicircle, the posterior margin straight; the orbits are deeply cut in the anterior margin of the carapace, looking upwards; the inferior margin wanting; the oral aperture much arched anteriorly; the external footjaws with the third articulation somewhat rhomboid, the fourth irregularly oval, and the palpi three-jointed, inserted at its anterior and inner angle. Epistome extremely small, transversely linear; the external antennæ placed directly beneath the orbits, the basal joints partly filling them beneath. The antennules folded transversely in large open fossæ, which are scarcely at all separated from each other, and are open to the orbits, the eyes lying transversely; the peduncles short and thick; the sternum is semicircular, the segments separated by very deep grooves; the abdomen very long and narrow, the first and second joint transversely linear, the third and fourth united and forming a triangle truncated anteriorly at the articulation of the portion formed by the fifth and sixth joints united, and which with the seventh form a very narrow and linear piece extending forwards to the posterior margin of the oral aperture; the first pair of legs robust, unequal (the right being the larger in the only specimen at present observed); the hand in each as broad as it is long; that of the smaller conspicuously tuberculated, that of the larger much less so; the former with the fingers nearly meeting throughout their length, those of the latter only at the tips; the second, third, and fourth pairs of legs are long, somewhat compressed, the third joint tuberculated on the under side, the third pair the longest; the fifth pair is reduced to a mere rudiment, in the form of a minute tubercle inserted in a little notch at the base of the first joint of the fourth pair, and scarcely discernible by the naked eye.

Observations.—The relation of this genus to the Pinnotheridæ is tolerably obvious, in the smallness of the antennæ, the direction and arrangement of the eyes, and particularly in the form of the oral aperture, and of the external footjaws. I shall not, however, enter upon the consideration of these relations, as I am about shortly to offer to the Society a review and monograph of the whole of this family. The most remarkable peculiarity in the genus is the apparent absence of the fifth pair of legs, which can only be discovered to exist at all by examination with the help of a lens. In this respect I doubt not that the Fabrician genus *Hexapus*, adopted and figured by De Haan, will be found to agree with it, although it is very remarkable that the anomalous condi-

tion of this part never excited any particular attention on the part of either of these distinguished naturalists; and De Haan describes Fabricius's species, *Hexapus sexpes*, as if there were nothing especial or abnormal in a Decapod having only six pairs of legs besides the claws. Mr. White made a similar mistake on one occasion, when he described an anomourous genus allied to *Lithodes*, in which the fifth pair of legs were not visible; but when, at my suggestion, a more careful examination was made, they were found, as was anticipated, in a rudimentary form, concealed under the edge of the carapace. I believe that I can discover even in De Haan's figure something like a little tubercle at the base of the fourth leg, which is probably the rudimentary representative of the fifth.

Death of the Common Hive Bee, supposed to be occasioned by a parasitic Fungus. By the Rev. HENRY HIGGINS. Communicated by the President.

[Read June 3rd, 1858.]

ON the 18th of March last, Timpron Martin, Esq., of Liverpool, communicated to me some circumstances respecting the death of a hive of bees in his possession, which induced me to request from him a full statement of particulars. Mr. Martin gave me the following account:—

"In October last I had three hives of bees which I received into my house. Each doorway was closed, and the hive placed upon a piece of calico; the corners were brought over the top, leaving a loop by which the hive was suspended from the ceiling. The hives were taken down about the 14th of March; two were healthy, but all the bees in the third were dead. There was a gallon of bees. The two hives containing live bees were much smaller; but in each of them were dead ones. Under whatever circumstances you preserve bees through the winter, dead ones are found at the bottom, in the spring. The room, an attic, was dry; and I had preserved the same hives in the same way during the winter of 1856. In what I may call the dead hive there was abundance of honey when it was opened; and it is clear that its inmates did not die for want. It is not a frequent occurrence for bees so to die; but I have known another instance. In that case the hive was left out in the ordinary way, and possibly cold was the cause of death. I think it probable that my bees died about a month before the 14th of

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