

NOTES ON AUSTRALIAN AQUATIC HEMIPTERA.

(No. 1.)

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[Plate XI.]

THE following are descriptions of two species of fresh-water Hemiptera, found commonly in the vicinity of Sydney, and which appear to be novelties. As opportunity occurs, the author hopes to supplement them with diagnoses of further species inhabiting the fresh-water creeks and ponds of New South Wales, and, if possible, of those of the neighbouring colonies:—

Family HYDROMETRIDÆ.*Genus* Hydrometra, *Fab.*HYDROMETRA AUSTRALIS, *sp. nov.*

(Plate xi. fig. 3.)

Above black or olive-black, shining; beneath yellowish-grey with a silvery bloom. Head with two longitudinal orange-yellow lines connected on the hind margin, and an orange spot or short line before the eyes. Antennæ black; first joint about one-third the length of the whole taken together. Pronotum parallel, coniform posteriorly, bordered with an orange-yellow line, and with a longitudinal line traversing about one-sixth of its length, and two very short (sometimes indistinct) longitudinal lines anteriorly; obtusely tuberculated anteriorly. Pleuræ and coxæ striped or spotted with orange-yellow. Elytra wanting. Abdominal segments with a more or less distinct interrupted median orange-yellow line.

Length.—8 mm.*Hab.*—Sydney, N.S.W.