

# FURTHER NOTES ON AUSTRALIAN COLEOPTERA, WITH DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW GENERA AND SPECIES.

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## XXXI.

### STAPHYLINIDÆ.

#### LEUCOCRASPEDUM.

*L. lugens*, Blackb. In describing this species (supra, p. 18) I accidentally omitted to state that I met with it in N.S. Wales, on the Blue Mountains. Mr. Lea reports it from Tasmania.

### SILPHIDÆ.

#### CLAMBUS.

*C. Simsoni*, sp. nov. Brevis; sat latus; nitidus; setis brevibus subtilibus aureis sparsius vestitus; antica lævis sed elytris pone medium sat fortiter minus crebre punctulatis; supra rufo-brunneus, elytris versus margines infuscatis; subtus, capite prothorace et coxis posticis testaceis; antennis palpis pedibusque testaceis; antennarum articulis 2° quam 3<sup>us</sup> fere duplo longiori, 3° 4° que sat elongatis inter se sat æqualibus, 5°—7° brevibus, 7° quam 6<sup>us</sup> sat latiori, 8° magno vix transverso quam præcedentes 3 conjuncti vix breviori, 9° quam 8<sup>us</sup> vix breviori subangustiori; elytrorum stria subsuturali nulla. Long.,  $\frac{1}{2}$  l.

Smaller than the European *C. armadillo*, DeG., and less narrowed behind, the colour very different, and the puncturation of the hinder part of the elytra very evidently stronger. This genus has not hitherto been recorded as Australian.

Tasmania; sent to me by Mr. A. Simson.

*C. Tasmani*, sp. nov. Minus brevis, postice angustatus; nitidus; setis elongatis fulvis sparsim vestitus; vix manifeste punctulatus; rufo-brunneus, elytrorum disco infuscato; pedibus testaceis; elytrorum stria subsuturali postice sat profunda. Long.,  $\frac{7}{10}$  l.

I am not able to examine the antennæ of this species, of which I have only a single specimen. It is however very distinct from all the other Australasian *Clambi* known to me by the very long and very sparse fine setæ of its upper surface. In build it resembles *C. armadillo*, but it is a trifle larger and especially broader.



The puncturation of its upper surface is scarcely traceable, though under a microscope each seta is seen to spring from a small puncture.

Tasmania.

*C. tierensis*, sp. nov. Minus brevis, postice angustatus; nitidus; supra lævis; niger, antennis (clava infusca excepta) palpis pedibusque testaceo-brunneis, marginibus lateralibus anguste rufescentibus; antennarum articulis 2° quam 3<sup>us</sup> haud multo longiori, 4° 5° que inter se sat æqualibus quam 3<sup>us</sup> manifeste brevioribus, 6° brevi, 7° sat majori transverso, 8° quam 7<sup>us</sup> multo majori (quam præcedentes 2 conjuncti vix longiori) sat fortiter transverso, 9° subquadrato quam 8<sup>us</sup> vix breviori manifeste angustiori. Long.,  $\frac{7}{10}$  l.

Easily distinguished from the preceding two species by its dark colour, non-punctulate upper surface, and absence of pubescence.

Tasmania (The Tier, also sent by Mr. A. Simson).

#### PHALACRIDÆ.

##### LITOCRUS.

*L. plagiatu*s, sp. nov. Ovalis; nitidus; supra niger, capite antice pronoti marginibus et in elytris macula magna communi rufis; subtus cum antennis palpis pedibusque testaceo-brunneis; antennarum articulis 3° quam 4<sup>us</sup> dimidio longiori, 4° longiori quam latiori, 5° 4° æquali, 6° 7° que inter se æqualibus quam 5<sup>us</sup> sat brevioribus, 8° 7° paullo longiori haud transverso, 9° quam 8<sup>us</sup> multo majori leviter transverso, 10° quam 9<sup>us</sup> breviori fortiter transverso, 11° quam 9<sup>us</sup> sat longiori; capite pronotoque subtilissime confertim punctulato, hoc latera versus puncturis paullo majoribus nonnullis impresso; pronoto fortiter transverso, stria laterali pone marginem anticum intus curva et marginem anticum oblique attingenti; elytris seriatim (pro genere *Litocro* sat fortiter) punctulatis, puncturis antice obsoletis, interstitiis crebrius subtilissime (sed plane perspicue) punctulatis, alternis sparsim seriatim puncturis majoribus (his puncturis serierum æqualibus sed inter se multo magis distantibus) impressis; tarsis posticis sat robustis, articulo basali quam 2<sup>us</sup> circiter duplo longiori. Long.,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  l.; lat.,  $\frac{9}{10}$  l.

This species I confused with *L. maculatus*, Blackb., when I described that species, from which it differs in size (being constantly larger), in the very evidently larger eighth joint and club of its antennæ, and in the shape of the common red spot on its elytra (the front margin of which is triangularly concave, while in *maculatus* it is triangularly convex). A specimen from Sydney



does not seem to differ except in the larger size of the red blotch on the elytra, which however does not differ in shape. A specimen from Tamworth (N.S.W.) is quite like the Victorian example. The lateral marginal stria of the pronotum turns obliquely inward and forward at a short distance behind the front of the segment and runs across to the front margin, so as to cut off the front corner of the segment by a fine line. Colour being disregarded this species resembles *L. major*, Blackb., but differs *inter alia* by its feebler puncturation which on the elytra is obsolete on the front three-quarters of their length.

Victoria and N.S. Wales.

*L. lautus*, sp. nov. Ovalis; nitidus; supra piceus vel rufopiceus, capite antice prothoracis marginibus elytrorum macula communi magna et elytrorum apicibus (late) rufis vel testaceo-brunneis; subtus cum antennis palpis pedibusque testaceo-brunneis; cetera fere ut præcedentis (*L. plagiati*) sed ex puncturis elytrorum interstitiorum minoribus quam *L. plagiati* multo minus parvis sicut majores (seriatæ) vix perspicue apparent. Long.,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  l.; lat.,  $\frac{9}{10}$  l.

The markings on the elytra (which are constant in the six specimens I have seen) are very different from those of any other *Litocrus* known to me. Regarding the darker as the ground colour of the elytra there is presented a large common well-defined lighter area (which looked at with the head of the insect towards the observer resembles a side view of an open umbrella) with a narrowed prolongation on and around the suture attaining the scutellum. Hence the blotch in *lautus* is triangularly produced in the middle part (only) of its front, while in *plagiatus* the front of the blotch is triangularly emarginate all across its width and in *maculatus* triangularly produced all across its width; moreover in *maculatus* and *plagiatus* the actual suture is linearly infuscate so that there is a slight appearance of what I have called a common blotch being two spots divided on the suture from each other, and this is not the case in *lautus*. Disregarding colour and markings *lautus* is at once separable from the other two by the difference between the finer (confused) punctures of the elytral interstices and the larger (seriate) punctures of the alternate interstices being so slight that seriation is not distinctly traceable in any of the interstices.

N.S. Wales; Tamworth (Mr. Lea).

*L. sparsus*, sp. nov. Ovalis; nitidus; supra niger, capite antice et pronoti marginibus rufescentibus; subtus, cum antennis palpis pedibusque testaceo-brunneus; antennis fere ut *L. plagiati*, sed articulo ultimo quam 10<sup>us</sup> manifeste angustiori et quam 9<sup>us</sup> parum longiori; cetera fere ut *L. plagiati*,



sed elytrorum puncturarum seriebus minus subtilibus et interstitiis aliter punctulatis,—puncturis parvis sparsim inæqualiter et (in alternis interstitiis) puncturis multo majoribus seriatis insigniter impressis. Long.,  $1\frac{3}{5}$  l.; lat., 1 l.

Differs from the preceding two species by the absence of markings on its elytra and also by the elytral puncturation,—the systematic rows of close punctures consisting of distinctly larger punctures, the finer (confused) puncturation of the interstices being very evidently less close and less fine, and the seriate punctures of the alternate interstices being notably larger and more conspicuous. Also resembles *L. major*, Blackb., in size and colour; but that species is of wider build and less narrowed behind, the interstices of its elytra are notably more closely and evenly punctulate, the seriate punctures of its alternate interstices are considerably less conspicuous, and the eighth joint of its antennæ is much more elongate. *L. alternans*, Blackb., is smaller, of a different colour, with all the elytral puncturation (except the seriate punctures of the interstices) much finer and with the club of its antennæ very much narrower.

Victoria; Dividing Range.

*L. perparvus*, sp. nov. Ovalis; nitidus; minus convexus; niger, pronoto picescente, palpis antennis pedibusque rufo-testaceis; antennarum articulis 3° quam 4<sup>us</sup> dimidio longiori, 4° longiori quam latiori, 5° 4° æquali, 6°—8° inter se sat æqualibus brevibus transversis, 9° sat magno vix transverso, 10° quam 9<sup>us</sup> paullo breviori sat transverso, 11° quam 10<sup>us</sup> 9<sup>us</sup> que conjuncti paullo breviori nec angustiori; capite subtiliter confertim punctulato; prothorace fortiter transverso, supra fere ut caput punctulato sed minus crebre et puncturis multo majoribus nonnullis intermixtis, stria laterali fere ad apicem continua et breviter secundum marginem anticum producta; elytris seriatim subtiliter punctulatis (basin versus fere lævibus), interstitiis fere lævibus sed alternis puncturis distinctis inter se distantibus seriatim impressis; tarsis posticis sat robustis, articulo basali quam 2<sup>us</sup> circiter duplo longiori. Long., 1 l. (vix); lat.,  $\frac{3}{5}$  l.

This minute *Phalacrid* seems to be rather an isolated *Litocrus*. Its undersurface of dark color together with its small size separate it superficially from most of its congeners. In the species with which it is associated by the presence of well defined seriate puncturation on its alternate elytral interstices the lateral stria of the pronotum does not nearly follow the outline of the segment but turns obliquely inward and meets the front margin considerably within the front angle, so that the front corner is cut off into the form of a triangle, but in this species it nearly reaches the front margin before bending, and



then runs along for a short distance parallel with the front margin. It is perhaps nearest to *alternans*, Blackb., from which it differs however in size and colour, also in the lateral stria of its pronotum (as described above), also in its evidently less convexity (viewed from the side), also in the absence of puncturation on the elytral interstices (except the seriate puncturation of the alternate interstices). Its antennæ are like those of *alternans*,—differing from those of *major* by the very much shorter eighth joint and from those of *sparsus*, *plagiatus*, &c., by the much more elongate ninth joint and the much less dilatation of the club as a whole. Its small size, dark colour, and obsolete elytral puncturation render it very distinct from the Tasmanian *Litocrus* that I believe to be *brunneus*, Er.

Victoria (Dividing Range).

*L. obscuricollis*, sp. nov. Ovalis; sat brevis; nitidus; rufo-testaceus, capite pronoto (hoc ad latera, illo antice, dilutioribus) et in elytrorum disco postico umbris indeterminatis nigro-piceis; antennarum articulis 3° quam 4<sup>us</sup> duplo longiori, 4°—7° inter se sat æqualibus, 8° breviori transverso, 9° 10° que multo majoribus quam latiori sublongioribus, 11° quam præcedentes 2 conjuncti parum breviori; capite pronotoque lævibus; hoc fortiter transverso, stria ut præcedentis (*L. perparvi*); elytrorum sculptura vix manifesta (pone medium paullo magis perspicua), sub microscopio subtilissime striatis et in interstitiis sparsim subtilissime (alternis seriatim magis perspicue) punctulatis; tarsis posticis quam præcedentis minus robustis, articulo basali quam 2<sup>us</sup> vix duplo longiori. Long., 1 l.; lat.,  $\frac{7}{10}$  l.

In colouring extremely like *Parasemus victoriensis*, Blackb., but widely different structurally (e.g. by its much more slender hind tarsi, the basal joint of which is much longer, and by its metasternum much longer and narrower between the intermediate coxæ). From its described congeners the proportional length of its antennal joints (especially the sixth not transverse) readily distinguish it. It is perhaps generically distinct from *Litocrus*, but the uncertainty of M. Guillebeau's *Phalacrid* genera and especially the doubt mentioned by him (Ann. Soc. Ent. Fr. 1894, p. 279) as to the characters of the type of *Litocrus* render it unwise for the present to form new *Phalacrid* genera. My own opinion is that M. Guillebeau is wrong in his conjecture as to the tarsal characters of *L. brunneus*, Er.; he is certainly wrong if the Tasmanian species that I take to be *L. brunneus*, Er., is really that species; but as it is certainly possible that my identification is incorrect I do not feel justified in definitely disputing his conjectured characters. I have already discussed this matter and defined the aggregates of characters to which it appeared to



me at present necessary to limit oneself in distributing species among the Australian *Phalacrid* genera in Tr. Roy. Soc. S.A., 1895, pp. 205, &c. It is extremely difficult to discern the sutures between the joints of the hind tarsi in this species.

N.S. Wales ; Mr. Lea (Clifton).

*L. baccæformis*, sp. nov. Ovalis ; nitidus ; obscure brunneus, antennis palpis pedibuset subtus capite prothoraceque testaceo-brunneis ; antennarum articulis 3° quam 4<sup>us</sup> sat longiori, 4° 5° que inter se sat æqualibus haud transversis, 6°—8° latioribus transversis, 9° multo majori sat fortiter transverso ad basin modice angustato, 10° quam longiori duplo latiori, 11° quam 10<sup>us</sup> sublitori, quam præcedentes 2 conjuncti haud multo breviori ; supra vix manifeste punctulatus, sed elytrorum partibus lateralibus apicalibusque (sub lente forti) subtiliter seriatim punctulatis, in partibus dorsalibus puncturis nonnullis (sub lente forti) sparsissime impressis ; tarsis posticis sat robustis, articulo basali quam 2<sup>us</sup> manifeste longiori. Long.,  $\frac{4}{5}$  l.; lat.,  $\frac{1}{2}$  l. (vix).

This minute *Phalacrid* has much the appearance of a small shining seed. From the other species almost devoid of puncturation it differs notably by its colour and shape. On the dorsal portions of the elytra a few moderately distinct scattered punctures are discernible under a Coddington lens, which appear to me to represent the seriate punctures of the interstices that are so conspicuous in some of the other species of the genus.

N.S. Wales (from Mr. Lea, Galston).

*L. noteroides*, Blackb. This species together with *pulchellus*, Blackb., and *coloratus*, Blackb., can hardly be considered genuinely congeneric with the species that I believe to be *L. brunneus*, Er., on account of *inter alia* the different sculpture of their pronotum and the greater length of the basal joint of their hind tarsi. They, however, out of all the Australian *Phalacridæ* known to me come nearest to what M. Guillebeau conjectures to be the typical form of *Litocrus*. Although I do not share his opinion, the matter is perhaps sufficiently uncertain to render it unadvisable at present to confer a new generic name on these species. I incline to regard *Litocrus* and *Micromerus* as synonyms, but even if they are not I do not think these species could confidently be referred to either of them,—certainly not to *Micromerus*.

*Micromerus amabilis*, Guilleb. I have still been unable to find among the many *Phalacridæ* from various parts of Australia that I have examined any specimens to which I can apply this name with any confidence. *L. tinctus*, Blackb., is no doubt very near it but differs in size. The smallest specimen that I have seen is Long., 1 l., whereas *amabilis* should be Long.,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mm.



*L. tinctus* also has an infuscation on the elytra, of which there is no mention in the description of *amabilis*.

It seems desirable, in view of the additions that have been made to the genus *Litocrus* since 1895, to furnish a revised tabulation of the characters of the Australian species (omitting *amabilis*, Guilleb.),—as follows,—

- A. The lateral stria of the pronotum reaches the front margin and there ends. Basal joint of hind tarsi about three times length of second joint.
  - B. Elytra without transverse sculpture.
    - C. Colour entirely testaceous ... .. *noteroides*, *Blackb.*
    - CC. Elytra dark, with well-defined light markings ... .. *pulchellus*, *Blackb.*
    - BB. Elytra with close transverse very fine scratch-like sculpture ... .. *coloratus*, *Blackb.*
  - AA. Not combining the characters attributed to "A."
    - B. Joint 8 of the antennæ notably larger than in the species under "BB," and not transverse.
    - C. Joint 9 of the antennæ scarcely wider than long. Puncturation of elytral interstices strong ... .. *major*, *Blackb.*
    - CC. Joint 9 of antennæ quite strongly transverse. Puncturation of elytral interstices very fine ... .. *plagiatus*, *Blackb.*
    - BB. Joint 8 of antennæ quite small, transverse.
    - C. Elytra with the second stria as strong as the subsutural one, and quite different from the others ... .. *frigidus*, *Blackb.*
    - CC. Elytra not as in *frigidus*.
    - D. Elytra without dorsal striæ (though usually with rows of punctures).
    - E. Alternate interstices of elytra (especially the first and seventh) with rows of distant punctures).
    - F. The non-seriate puncturation of interstices comparatively strong.
    - G. This puncturation very sparse and irregular. Colour of elytra wholly black ... .. *sparsus*, *Blackb.*
    - GG. This puncturation closer and even. Elytra with large well-defined pale markings ... .. *lautus*, *Blackb.*
    - FF. The non-seriate puncturation on the elytra much finer.
    - G. Under surface testaceous - red. Elytra not uniformly black.
    - H. Joint 9 of antennæ strongly transverse, wide at base. Form obtuse behind... .. *brunneus*, *Er.*
    - HH. Joint 9 of antennæ less transverse and much narrowed at base. Form more narrowed behind.
    - I. Upper surface non-iridescent; elytra dark, with a large common red spot ... .. *maculatus*, *Blackb.*



- II. Upper surface iridescent;  
elytra unicolorous ... alternans, *Blackb.*
- GG. Under surface dark; elytra black  
or dark piceous (size very  
small) ... perparvus, *Blackb.*
- EE. Rows of distant punctures absent  
from (or scarcely traceable on) the  
alternate interstices.
- F. Elytra with clearly traceable rows of  
punctures between the interstices.
- G. Pronotum dark; elytra dark, with  
well defined pale markings ... læticulus, *Blackb.*
- GG. Upper surface entirely pale  
testaceous except a little infus-  
cation on the elytra ... tinctus, *Blackb.*
- F. Elytra with practically no seriate  
puncturation on the disc.
- G. Highest part of outline (viewed  
from the side) considerably in  
front of middle of elytra. Upper  
surface not even nearly unicolor-  
ous.
- H. Elytra variably variegated with  
well-defined black and yellow-  
ish markings ... consors, *Blackb.*
- HH. Elytra sanguineous, usually  
vaguely clouded with fuscous ... obscuricollis, *Blackb.*
- GG. Highest part of outline (viewed  
from the side) behind middle of  
elytra. Upper surface unicolor-  
ous dark brown ... baccæformis, *Blackb.*
- DD. The sculpture of the elytra includes  
numerous fine striæ.
- E. Joint 9 of antennæ very strongly trans-  
verse, only moderately narrowed at  
base.
- F. Elytral striæ and interstices scarcely  
perceptibly (excessively finely)  
punctulate ... Palmerstoni, *Blackb.*
- FF. Elytral striæ and interstices very  
distinctly and not excessively  
finely punctulate ... Koebelei, *Blackb.*
- EE. Joint 9 of antennæ much less strongly  
transverse, and very much narrowed  
at base... Sidneyensis, *Blackb.*

## PARASEMUS.

To this genus I refer (as indicated in Tr. Roy. Soc., S.A., 1895, p. 206) all the Australian *Phalacri læ* presenting the following combination of characters, viz.,—mesosternum appearing (unless the prosternum be displaced from its natural position) as merely a narrow margin of the metasternal lobe, epistoma emarginate close to the eye (distinguishing it from the genus *Phalacrus*), metasternal lobe wide and short (not passing the front of the intermediate coxæ), basal joint of the hind tarsi shorter than the



second joint. I think it quite possible that the species presenting the above characters might with advantage be divided into several genera, but it would be better for such division to be made by someone having a larger collection of *Phalacridæ* from all parts of the world than I possess. Meanwhile no difficulty is likely to occur through my treating the genus in this manner if students referring to my descriptions will bear in mind the sense in which I use the name *Parasemus*. I do not think any of the species I call by the name are members of any other genus yet characterized.

*P. adumbratus*, sp. nov. Sat late ovalis, postice obtusus; nitidus; obscure rufo-brunneus, pronoti et elytrorum disco plus minusve infuscato; antennis sat robustis, articulis 3°—6° subcylindricis, 3° quam 4<sup>us</sup> dimidio longiori, 4° 6° que inter se sat æqualibus, 5° quam 4<sup>us</sup> nonnihil longiori, 7° nonnihil latiori (5° longitudine sat æquali), 8° quam 7<sup>us</sup> paullo breviori sed huic latitudine sat æquali, 9° quam 8<sup>us</sup> multo majori sat fortiter transverso, 10 9° sat simili sed paullo latiori, 11° turbinato quam præcedentes 2 conjuncti vix breviori vix latiori; clypeo subelongato antice sat angustato, ad apicem subtruncato; prothorace fortiter transverso, supra subtilissime crebre punctulato, puncturis nonnullis minus subtilibus impresso, stria laterali apicem haud attingenti sed intus oblique ad marginem anticum curva; elytris seriatim subtilius punctulatis (seriebus basin versus sat obsoletis), interstitiis puncturis quam serierum parum minoribus minus crebre impressis; tarsis posticis sat robustis, articulo basali quam 2<sup>us</sup> multo breviori; tibiis sat latis compressis. Long.,  $1\frac{3}{4}$  l.; lat., 1 l.

Of described species *P. torridus*, Blackb., is that to which the present one is nearest, but *P. torridus* is very much smaller, with its hind tibiæ shorter and wider, the difference in size between the seriate and interstitial punctures of its elytra considerably more marked, &c. In the present species the spine at the apex of the metasternal episterna is very strong and sharp, the apical joint of the maxillary palpi is scarcely shorter than the preceding two together and is subcylindric, and the front and intermediate tarsi are dilated. A specimen from the Dividing Range, Victoria, scarcely differs but seems to be a little more strongly punctured on the interstices of the elytra. In my tabulation of the species of *Parasemus* (Tr. R.S., S.A., 1895, p. 214) *P. adumbratus* finds its place beside *P. lateralis*, Blackb., and *victoriensis*, Blackb., from both of which it differs *inter alia multa* by the form of its clypeus.

N.S. Wales (Mr. Lea, Galston).



*P. pallidus*, sp. nov. Ovalis; nitidus; rufo-testaceus, elytris pallide brunneo-testaceis; antennis ut præcedentis (*adumbrati*) conformatis; capite brevi, clypeo antice rotundato; prothorace ut præcedentis; elytris fere ut præcedentis puncturatis sed puncturis multo magis subtilibus, puncturarum seriebus nisi in disco medio vix manifestis; tibiis quam præcedentis minus late compressis; tarsis posticis minus elongatis. Long., 1 l.; lat.,  $\frac{3}{5}$  l.

Entirely of testaceous colour, inclining to reddish except on the elytra. The puncturation of the upper surface is very fine throughout and there is but little distinctly seriate arrangement of the punctures except on the middle part of the disc of the elytra. In general appearance it closely resembles *P. modestus*, Blackb., beside which is its place in my tabulation of the species of *Parasemus* (Tr. R.Soc., S.A., 1895, p. 214). It differs however from *modestus* by its hind tibiæ longer and less compresso-dilatate, and by the sculpture of its elytra, the seriate puncturation in *modestus* being even better defined behind the middle than on the disc and also being quite distinct on the lateral portions.

N.S. Wales.

#### PHALACRINUS.

*P. compressus*, sp. nov. Nitidus; subcircularis; antrorsum visus valde convexus (subcompressus); a latere visus modice convexus; nigropiceus, capite prothorace elytrorum lateribus pedibusque rufescentibus; antennarum articulo 9° longiori quam latiori quam 10<sup>us</sup> manifeste longiori, 11° 9° longitudine æquali; capite prothoraceque fere lævibus; scutello fortiter transverso; elytris subtiliter sat æqualiter striatis, striis dorsalibus vix manifeste (lateralibus subtiliter perspicue) punctulatis, interstitiis subtilissime vix manifeste punctulatis. Long.,  $1\frac{1}{5}$  l.; lat., 1 l.

Resembles in colouring the typical form of *P. notabilis*, Blackb., but is of much more circular form. Looked at from in front the sides are much less vertical. The apical joint of the antennæ is much shorter in comparison with the ninth joint. The lateral striæ of the elytra are very much finer and very much more finely punctulate. Probably the colouring is variable. Viewed from the side there is an evident appearance of the apex of the elytra being sub-spiniform, which is caused, however, merely by the somewhat expanded form of the extero-apical portion.

N.S.W. (Blue Mountains).

*P. umbratus*, sp. nov. Nitidus; modice latus; obovatus, postice minus acuminatus; antrorsum visus valde convexus; a latere visus modice convexus; testaceo-brunneus, elytris plus minusve fusco-umbratis; antennarum articulo 9° 10°



longitudine sat æquali quam 11<sup>us</sup> sat breviori; capite prothoraceque lævibus; scutello fortiter transverso; elytris subtiliter sat æqualiter striatis, striis vix perspicue punctulatis, interstitiis fere lævibus. Long., 1 l.; lat.,  $\frac{3}{5}$  l.

The scarcely visible puncturation of the lateral striæ of its elytra separates this species from all its previously described congeners except *obtusus*, Blackb., from which latter it differs *inter alia* by its very much greater convexity and the ninth joint of its antennæ notably shorter as compared with the tenth. Mr. Lea has also forwarded a *Phalacrinus* from W. Australia which is extremely close to *P. umbratus* but apparently distinct, as the apical joint of its antennæ is considerably more elongate. It is, however, not in fit condition for description, its elytra being open and the wings exposed, so that its shape cannot be determined.

N.S. Wales (Dalmorton, Mr. Lea).

*P. comis*, Blackb. Since describing this species I have met with examples both in Victoria and Tasmania considerably larger than the type, the largest Long., 1½ l.

*P. navicularis*, sp. nov. Nitidus; modice, latus; postice fortiter acuminatus; antrorsum visus modice convexus; a latere visus subplanatus; testaceo-brunneus, elytris piceo-umbratis; antennarum articulo 9° fere transverso quam 10<sup>us</sup> vix longiori; 10° transverso; 11° quam 9° fere duplo longiori; capite prothoraceque lævibus; scutello fortiter transverso; elytris subtiliter striatis, striis vix perspicue punctulatis; interstitiis subtilissime punctulatis. Long., 1½ l.; lat.,  $\frac{4}{5}$  l.

The elytra of the unique type of this species are almost wholly piceous, a common somewhat diamond-shaped ill-defined testaceous spot being placed behind the suture, and the disc of the prothorax also is infusate. Probably however the infuscation varies. In shape the species resembles *australis*, Blackb., but is a little wider and differs *inter alia* by the absence of distinct punctures in its elytral striæ, and by the apical joints of its antennæ, the ninth joint in *australis* being evidently longer than wide, evidently longer than the tenth (which however is scarcely transverse), and scarcely shorter than the eleventh.

Victoria (Dividing Range).

The following table shows characters by which the described species of *Phalacrinus* may be distinguished *inter se*:—

- |  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| A. Lateral striæ of elytra very much more deeply impressed than in the other species ... | notabilis, Blackb.  |
| AA. Lateral striæ of elytra normal.  |                     |
| B. Lateral striæ of elytra very distinctly punctulate.                                   |                     |
| C. Form nearly circular,—obtuse behind.  |                     |
| D. Form (viewed from in front) extremely convex (compressed) ...                         | compressus, Blackb. |



- DD. Form (viewed from in front) but little convex ... .. rotundus, *Blackb.*  
 CC. Form much more elongate,—acuminate behind.  
 D. Form (viewed from in front) very strongly convex, Elytral interstices very evidently punctulate ... .. comis, *Blackb.*  
 DD. Form (viewed from in front) feebly convex. Elytral interstices scarcely punctulate ... .. australis, *Blackb.*  
 BB. Elytra without any distinctly punctulate striæ.  
 C. Joints 9 and 10 of antennæ of equal length.  
 D. Form strongly acuminate behind. Head extremely wide ... .. navicularis, *Blackb.*  
 DD. Form much more obtuse behind. Head much narrower ... .. umbratus, *Blackb.*  
 CC. Joint 9 of antennæ very evidently longer than 10 ... .. obtusus, *Blackb.*

## NITIDULIDÆ.

## NOTOBRACHYPTERUS.

*N. lutescens*, sp. nov. Ovalis; breviter pubescens; minus nitidus; totus luteo-pubescens, capite prothoraceque nonnihil rufescentibus; capite æquali confertissime asperatim (quam *Brachypteri gravidi*, Illig., multo magis crebre multo magis rugulose) punctulato; prothorace quam elytra vix angustiori, fortiter transverso, antice angustato, confertim subasperatim minus fortiter (quam *B. gravidi* magis confertim magis leviter) punctulato; scutello sat magno (quam *B. gravidi*, Illig., et *Notobrachypteri australis*, Blackb., manifeste minore), ut pronotum punctulato; elytris quam prothorax fere ut 4 ad 3 longioribus, confertim sat leviter vix asperatim punctulatis; propygidii margine postico (exempli typici) leviter emarginato. Long., 1 l.; lat.,  $\frac{3}{5}$  l. (vix).

Among the species resembling it in size and colour this species is recognisable by the very close strong asperate puncturation of its head. The surface of its clypeus is without impressions; the puncturation of its pronotum is more lightly impressed than is usual in the genus; the hind outline of its propygidium is continuously (though lightly) emarginate all across (not angulate in the middle as in *creber*, Blackb., nor sinuate as in *australis*, Blackb.).

N.W. Australia; taken by Mr. E. Meyrick.

*N. crassiusculus*, sp. nov. Ovalis; breviter pubescens; sat nitidus; lurido-brunneus, capite pronoto et elytrorum partibus scutellaribus marginalibusque variabiliter infuscatis, antennis pedibus prosterno et pronoti marginibus lateralibus testaceo-brunneis; capite æquali subgrosse sub-



rugulose minus crebre (*Brachyptero gravido*, Illig. comparato) punctulato; prothorace quam elytra paullo angustiori, fortiter transverso, antice angustato, ut caput punctulato; scutello magno (fere ut *B. gravidi*) ut caput punctulato; elytris quam prothorax fere ut 3 ad 2 longioribus, quam pronotum magis leviter magis crebre (nec magis subtiliter) punctulatis; propygidii margine postico fortiter sinuato. Long., 1 l.; lat.,  $\frac{3}{5}$  l.

Perhaps nearest to *N. australis*, Blackb., which it resembles in its stout robust build, differing however in its darker colouring (especially on the under surface) and the notably coarser puncturation of its upper surface.

Tasmania; also Victoria (Dividing Range).

*N. (Brachypterus) testaceus*, Bohem. The specimen referred to by me in a former memoir (Tr. R.S., S.A., 1892, p. 28) as possibly this species is that which I have now described as *N. lutescens*. Unfortunately Bohemann mentions few characters of value to distinguish *testaceus* from its subsequently described congeners, but if he had had *N. pubescens* before him I think he would certainly have called its pronotum "creberrime" rather than "sat crebre" punctulatum; moreover the extreme remoteness *inter se* of the places of capture renders it unlikely that the two species are identical. M. Grouvelle has sent me a specimen of *N. bifoveatus*, Blackb., as *testaceus*; it is from Adelaide (the known habitat of *bifoveatus*) and has the two foveæ on the head extremely distinct. Bohemann describes the head of *testaceus* somewhat fully but does not mention any foveæ. I suspect that there is a *Notobrachypterus* of testaceous colour found near Sydney (distinct from both *bifoveatus* and *lutescens*) which I have not seen.

*N.?* (*Brachypterus*) *metallicus*, Reitt I have not seen any specimen to which this name can be referred.

*N. pauxillus*, sp. nov. Ovalis; breviter pubescens; sat nitidus; obscure brunneus, antennis pedibusque testaceis; capite antice transversim arcuatim leviter impresso, sparsius minus fortiter punctulato; prothorace quam elytra vix angustiori, fortiter transverso, antice minus angustato, fere ut caput (sed disco postice magis subtiliter magis sparsim) punctulato; scutello minore, antice sparsius subtilius punctulato, postice lævi; elytris quam prothorax fere ut 3 ad 2 longioribus, sat crebre leviter nec subtiliter (quam *B. gravidi*, Illig. multo magis leviter minus crebre, fere ut *N. bifoveati*, Blackb., sed magis leviter) punctulatis. Long.,  $\frac{4}{5}$  l.; lat.,  $\frac{2}{5}$  l.

The comparatively small scutellum with its hinder part smooth and the punctures of its front part sparse and somewhat fine distinguishes this species from most of its allies. *N. lilliputanus*



and *lutescens* resemble it in this respect, but have their puncturation throughout (including that of the scutellum) very much finer still. In the present species the punctures of the scutellum are scarcely so fine as in the European *B. gravidus* and very much less close. This is the insect that in a former paper (Tr. R.S., S.A., 1892, p. 28) I called a var. of *N. nitidiusculus*. I now find that besides the notable colour differences its head is less even, and less closely punctulate, and that its general puncturation is less strongly impressed.

W. Australia; taken by Mr. Meyrick.

The species of *Notobrachypterus* are now sufficiently numerous to call for a tabular statement of their distinctive characters, as follows:—

- |  |                                   |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| A. Pronotum very distinctly (in no instance very finely) punctulate.   |                                   |
| B. Hindmargin of propygidium strongly and angularly produced in the middle   | ... creber, <i>Blackb.</i>        |
| BB. Hindmargin of propygidium at most sinuate.   |                                   |
| C. Upper surface black (puncturation of head a little closer than in <i>australis</i> )                                  | ... nitidiusculus, <i>Blackb.</i> |
| CC. Upper surface brown or testaceous.   |                                   |
| D. Puncturation of head fine and close (about as in the European <i>Brachypterus gravidus</i> , Illig. but more asperate | ... australis, <i>Blackb.</i>     |
| DD. Puncturation of head very much closer, quite confluent   | ... lutescens, <i>Blackb.</i>     |
| DDD. Puncturation of head very distinctly less close than in <i>australis</i> .  |                                   |
| E. Pronotum closely punctulate throughout, continuously with scutellum.  |                                   |
| F. Colour of body dark brown above and beneath; elytra more coarsely and closely punctulate                              | ... crassiusculus, <i>Blackb.</i> |
| FF. Colour of body testaceous or rufotestaceous above and beneath; elytra less coarsely and closely punctulate           | ... bifoveatus, <i>Blackb.</i>    |
| EE. Pronotum about base and front of scutellum quite sparsely punctulate; scutellum lævigata behind                      | ... (? testaceus, <i>Bohem.</i> ) |
| AA. Pronotum very finely (scarcely distinctly) punctulate  | ... pauxillus, <i>Blackb.</i>     |
|  | ... lilliputanus, <i>Blackb.</i>  |

#### BRACHYPEPLUS.

This genus contains a good many species that probably appear under two names in Masters' Catalogue. *B. Haagi*, Reitter, must, as I have already pointed out (Tr. R.S., S.A., 1894, p. 203) almost certainly be regarded as a synonym of *Murrayi*, MacL. I have no doubt that *B. blandus*, Murr., is a mere variety (scarcely deserving to be called even that) of *B. binotatus*, Murr. It is really difficult to determine from the descriptions what the author regarded as the difference between the two species. I



can discover nothing except that *blandus* is a little wider than *binotatus* (no doubt due to sex—the male *Brachypepli* are usually narrower than the females), has a more rufous club to its antennæ, and has more rufous colouring on its abdomen. I have before me a large number of specimens from various parts of Victoria (the locality cited for both species) among which I find slight variable differences such as Murray mentions, and including both forms, but I can see no reason whatever to separate them specifically. *B. castanipes*, Murr., the author thinks is perhaps only the Victorian form of the Tasmanian *B. planus*, Er., and suggests that his readers may consider it a variety. The only difference he definitely specifies is that *B. castanipes* is smaller than *planus*. I have collected specimens in Victoria and Tasmania which are undoubtedly all *B. planus*, and there is no distinct closely allied species among them. They vary considerably in size. The above corrections of nomenclature reduce the number of described Australian *Brachypepli* to six (viz., *auritus*, Murr.; *basalis*, Er.; *binotatus*, Murr.; *Macleayi*, Murr.; *Murrayi*, MacL.; and *planus* Er.). I know all these species except *Macleayi*, Murr., a name that I cannot identify with any insect. Most of the characters Murray cites in his description would apply to several species, but the colouring of the elytra seems to be different from that of any other *Brachypeplus* I have seen (piceous, with a narrow basal margin of red). I conclude therefore that *Macleayi* is not before me. *B. auritus*, Murr., is so unlike the other species in general appearance and in the structure of its head that it ought I think to be formed into a new genus (not merely a subgenus, as Murray suggests) but for the present it is perhaps better to let that question stand over, more especially as I have before me several other species that differ from *B. planus*, &c., in isolated structural characters on the value of which from a generic point of view I am not prepared to give a decided opinion, not having many *Brachypepli* from other parts of the world for comparison. I will therefore on the present occasion merely describe these new species placing them provisionally in *Brachypeplus* and furnish a tabulation of the distinctive characters of the species that must now stand as *Brachypepli*. The Australian *Carpophilides* known to me I regard as all belonging to *Brachypeplus* and *Carpophilus*, which may be readily distinguished *inter se* by the form of the labrum (among other characters), that organ being in *Carpophilus* deeply emarginate in front while in *Brachypeplus* it is nearly straight or slightly rounded. It should be noted that immature examples of *Brachypepli* are somewhat common in collections, and these are usually of an uniform ferruginous colour.

*B. Olliffi*, sp. nov. Elongatus; subparallelus; minus latus



depressus; parum pubescens; testaceus, elytris postice infuscatis; supra confertim subtiliter (quam *B. planus*, Er., sat multo magis subtiliter) punctulatus; capite (præsertim in parte mediana) granulis insignibus minus crebre instructo; prothorace ut caput granulato, transverso, antice modice angustato emarginato, angulis anticis acutis posticis acute rectis, marginibus lateralibus ciliatis; elytris quam prothorax vix latioribus quarta parte longioribus, vix manifeste striatis, inæqualiter obtuse leviter costulatis; abdominis segmenti basali elytris tecto, ceteris apertis.

Maris segmento dorsali 5° apice truncato, 6° brevi transverso. Long.,  $3\frac{4}{5}$  l.; lat., 1 l.

The large size, depressed form, and abdomen with only the first dorsal segment covered by the elytra suggest a doubt whether this species might not be regarded as the type of a new genus *Brachypeplus* as characterised by Lacordaire has not more than three dorsal segments exposed, but there are Australian species (e.g., *binotatus*, Murr.) in which a portion of the second segment is exposed dorsally. In the present insect the exposed abdomen is distinctly longer than the elytra. I do not think the abdomen is artificially drawn out, but as I have only a single specimen I cannot be quite certain on the point. Apart from the characters just mentioned this species is at once distinguishable from its described Australian allies by the conspicuous little granules thinly dispersed over its head and pronotum. The outline of its prothorax is scarcely different from that of the prothorax of *B. planus*, Er., but the sides are slightly more rounded near the front.

S. Australia; Eyre's Peninsula.

*B. wattsensis*, sp. nov. Sat elongatus; sat parallelus; sat angustus; minus convexus; pubescens; rufo-testaceus, capite pronotoque (hujus lateribus exceptis) rufo-piceis, elytrorum sutura et parte postica tertia infuscatis vel nigricantibus; supra minus nitidus; capite pronotoque creberrime sat aspere (quam *B. basalis*, Er., fere magis crebre) punctulatis; hoc transverso, antice haud perspicue angustato vix emarginato, marginibus lateralibus ciliatis, angulis anticis obtusis posticis rectis, lateribus sat rectis; elytris quam prothorax vix latioribus tertia parte longioribus, fere ut *B. binotati*, Murr. (subtiliter striatis, interstitiis anguste lineatim prominentibus, sed his quam *B. binotati* paullo magis prominentibus); abdominis segmentis basalibus 2 elytris tectis. Long., 2 l.; lat.,  $\frac{3}{5}$  l.

The Australian *Brachypepli* are so little variable in colour and markings that this insect might perhaps be reliably distinguished



from its Australian congeners by its entirely testaceous abdomen in conjunction with the form of the luteous portion of its elytra which occupies the anterior portion to somewhat behind the middle, the suture however being widely but not very strongly infusate; the hind part of the elytra for nearly a third part of its length is nearly black. Of the species having the lateral margins of the pronotum ciliate those most resembling *wattsensis* are *basalis*, Er., and *binotatus*, Murr.; from the former it differs *inter alia* by its prothorax scarcely wider at the base than in front and from the latter by the straightness of the sides of the prothorax and the considerably more crowded puncturation of the upper surface of that segment. Compared with *B. Murrayi*, Macl. (identified by Mr. Lea by comparison with the type) the pronotum is considerably more closely punctulate and less narrowed in front, &c., &c.

Victoria; Watts River district.

*B. Cowleyi*, sp. nov. Minus elongatus; modice latus; sat parallelus; minus convexus; pubescens; subnitidus; piceus, elytrorum humeris luteis (horum colore retrorsum producto sed gradatim obscurato), antennis pedibusque fulvis; capite crebre (fere ut *B. basalis*, Er.), pronoto subfortiter minus crebre (quam *B. basalis* multo minus subtiliter multo minus crebre), abdomine fere ut pronotum, punctulatis; prothorace transverso, antice sat fortiter (ut *B. basalis*) angustato leviter emarginato, marginibus lateralibus ciliatis, angulis anticis obtusis posticis subacutis retrorsum inclinatis, lateribus leviter arcuatis; elytris quam prothorax vix latioribus tertia parte longioribus, abdominis segmentum 2<sup>um</sup> vix omnino tegentibus, punctulato-striatis, interstitiis planatis uni-seriatim sat fortiter punctulatis. Long.,  $1\frac{4}{5}$  l.; lat.,  $\frac{3}{5}$  l.

The colouring of the elytra is not much different from that of the preceding species (*B. wattsensis*). In general appearance this species resembles *B. basalis*, Er., and *binotatus*, Murr., from both of which it is very distinct by the stronger and sparser puncturation of its pronotum and especially of the dorsal segments of its abdomen and by the uniformly flattened interstices of its elytra. The outline of its prothorax is similar to that of *B. basalis*. Compared with *B. Murrayi*, Macl., *inter alia* the abdomen is very much more strongly punctulate.

Queensland (sent from Cairns by the late Mr. Cowley).

*B. Koebelei*, sp. nov. Sat elongatus; minus latus; parallelus; minus convexus; pubescens; subnitidus; piceo-niger, humeris luteis, antennis pedibusque fulvis; capite pronotoque subfortiter minus crebre (ut *B. Cowleyi* pronotum), abdominis segmento 3<sup>o</sup> ut pronotum 4<sup>o</sup> magis subtiliter, punctulatis; prothorace transverso, antice sat fortiter (tu



*B. basalis*, Er.) angustato leviter emarginato, marginibus lateralibus ciliatis, angulis anticis obtusis posticis subacutis retrorsum inclinatis, lateribus leviter arcuatis; elytris quam prothorax haud latioribus vix tertia parte longioribus, abdominis segmentum 2<sup>um</sup> nullo modo tegentibus, punctulato-striatis, interstitiis planatis uni-seriatim sat fortiter punctulatis. Long.,  $1\frac{3}{5}$  l.; lat.,  $\frac{1}{2}$  l.

The markings of the elytra consist of a small but very conspicuous red patch on each shoulder. The species is somewhat close to the preceding (*B. Cowleyi*) but is smaller and narrower and notably more parallel, and is readily distinguishable also by the very evidently less close puncturation of its head and the much finer puncturation of the dorsal surface of the fourth segment of its abdomen. Compared with *B. Murrayi*, MacL., *inter alia* the pronotum and head are considerably less closely punctulate.

North Queensland (given to me by Mr. Koebele).

*B. barronensis*, sp. nov. Sat elongatus; minus latus; minus convexus; pubescens; minus parallelus (abdomine a basi retrorsum angustato); castaneus, elytris postice plus minusve infuscatis; capite prothoraceque crebre minus subtiliter (haud multo aliter quam *B. plani*, Er.), abdomine minus fortiter multominus crebre, punctulatis; prothorace transverso, antice sat fortiter (ut *B. basalis*, Er.) angustato parum emarginato, marginibus lateralibus haud ciliatis, angulis anticis obtusis posticis fere rectis (nec acute) haud retrorsum inclinatis, lateribus leviter arcuatis; elytris quam prothorax (maris vix, feminae paullo) latioribus tertia parte longioribus, abdominis segmenti 3<sup>i</sup> partem basalem tegentibus, substriatis, interstitiis planatis vix prominentibus minus perspicue punctulatis.

Maris(?) abdominis segmento 5° ad apicem late rotundato-truncato, segmento 6° brevissimo; feminae segmento 5° magis elongato ad apicem minus late rotundato. Long.,  $1\frac{4}{5}$  l.; lat.,  $\frac{3}{5}$  l.

Readily distinguishable from its previously described Australian congeners by the non-ciliate lateral margins of its pronotum and by the hind angles of that segment being (not sharply but) bluntly right angles and not directed hindwards. I think the two specimens before me are male and female but the external sexual characters in that case are very slight (as seems to be the case with most of the Australian *Brachypepli*). In the specimen that I take to be a male the fifth dorsal segment of the abdomen is shorter and blunter than in the other specimen and beyond it there is (what looks like) an extremely minute



appended segment; the dorsal surface of the abdomen is, moreover, distinctly more nitid than in the other specimen.

N. Queensland (given to me by Mr. Koebele).

*B. kemblensis*, sp. nov. Sat elongatus; sat latus; minus convexus; pubescens; sat parallelus; brunneus vel brunneotestaceus, capite prothorace (lateribus exceptis) et elytrorum dimidia parte postica varie quam ceteræ partes plus minusve obscurioribus; capite crebre fortiter, prothorace fortiter minus crebre, abdomine minus crebre minus fortiter, punctulatis; prothorace transverso, antice modice angustato parum emarginato, marginibus lateralibus haud ciliatis, angulis anticis obtusis posticis rectis haud retrorsum inclinatis, lateribus leviter arcuatis; elytris quam prothorax sublatioribus circiter tertia parte longioribus (feminae quam maris paullo longioribus), abdominis segmentum 2<sup>um</sup> vix tegentibus, punctulato-striatis, interstitiis planatis vix prominentibus minus perspicue punctulatis.

Maris abdominis segmento 5° ad apicem truncato, 6° bene perspicuo transverso; feminae segmento 5° ad apicem declivi producto-rotundato. Long.,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  l.; lat.,  $\frac{7}{10}$  l. (vix).

The conspicuous characters of this species are the absence of ciliæ on the lateral margins of its pronotum and the strong puncturation of that segment, which might almost be called coarse; it is considerably more so than in any other Australian *Brachypeplus* known to me (except *auritus*, Murr., in which it is altogether of a different type). The pronotum has indication of a longitudinal median line—more distinct in some specimens than in others. The colour varies a little, particularly on the pronotum which is infusate or not and on the abdomen and under surface which are of different shades of testaceous or brown.

N.S. Wales (Mount Kembla); given to me by Mr. Hamilton.

#### HAPTUNCURA.

*H. ocularis*, Fairm. I have in my collection a specimen given me by Mr. Koebele taken in N. Queensland, which agrees perfectly with Fairemaire's description of this Tahitian insect. It is certainly identical with examples from the Hawaiian Islands (introduced there, no doubt) of *H. tetragonus*, Murr (a species from Ceylon). In Trans. Roy. Dublin Soc., 1885, p. 231, the probability of the identity of *H. tetragonus* with the previously described *H. ocularis* is indicated, a probability that is increased by the occurrence in Queensland of the specimen before me.

#### SORONIA.

*S. simulans*, Blackb. I have received from Queensland a specimen which seems to differ from the type of this species only



in being smaller (Long.  $2\frac{1}{2}$  l.) and of a very pale brown colour. It is not in very good condition, and the examination of fresh examples might show it to be a distinct species.

#### ÆTHINODES.

This genus is extremely close to *Idæthina* and *Lasiodactylus*; indeed I feel considerable doubt as to whether either it or *Idæthina* can be regarded as genuinely distinct from *Lasiodactylus*. It undoubtedly differs from the other two in having the inner outline of the basal portion of the claws distinctly (though not strongly) dentate. In *Idæthina* this portion is very distinct though not dentate on its inner margin (so that the claws are not in the strict sense simple); in *Lasiodactylus* it is all but non-existent. *Idæthina* is of manifestly narrower and more cylindric form than the other two. Beyond these differences I know not where to find distinctive characters. In his monograph of the *Nitidulidae* Reitter attaches very great importance to the form of the claws as a generic character, and therefore it is not possible to annex *Æthinodes* to *Lasiodactylus* without traversing Reitter's system of classification to a very serious extent, but it certainly appears to me open to criticism.

#### IDÆTHINA.

*I. cincta*, Blackb. Since I described this species I have received through the courtesy of M. Grouvelle a specimen of *I. Deyrollei*, Reitt., and find that my species differs from the typical one, as I supposed, in the striation of the elytra which is entire in *cincta* and limited to the lateral parts in *Deyrollei*. There is not much difference, however, in the puncturation of the pronotum. The two are undoubtedly congeneric.

Remarks on this genus will be found above under *Æthinodes*.

#### MACROURA.

The following is a tabulation of the characters of the Australian species of this genus, so far as I know them:—

- |  |        |                              |
|--|--------|------------------------------|
| A. External margin of front tibiæ armed at the apex.   |        |                              |
| B. The armature consists of two equal acute small teeth separated by a semicircular somewhat wide interval | ... .. | deceptor, <i>Blackb.</i>     |
| BB. The armature consists of two large unequal subcontiguous teeth   | ... .. | bicalcaratus, <i>Blackb.</i> |
| BBB. The armature consists of a feeble prominence which is more or less bifid at its apex.                 |        |                              |
| C. Pronotum excessively finely punctulate, the punctures confluent and asperate                            | ... .. | brunnescens, <i>Reitt.</i>   |
| CC. Pronotum notably less finely and less closely punctulate   | ... .. | concolor, <i>Macl.</i>       |
| AA. External margin of front tibiæ unarmed   | ... .. | inermis, <i>Blackb.</i>      |



*M. brunnescens*, Reitt. I have no doubt that I have correctly identified this species, which so far as my experience goes is the only widely distributed Australian member of the genus. I have examples from Central Australia, W. Australia, and S. Australia. In one particular it does not strictly agree with the description, which calls the "head and prothorax" "*confertissime subtiliter subruguloso-punctata*." This expression applies quite satisfactorily to the pronotum of the specimens before me, but the head is distinctly less closely, less finely, punctulate. This discrepancy does not affect my confidence in the identification, inasmuch as I find that Reitter in his descriptions of species of this genus did not (in any instance before me) distinguish between the puncturation of the head and the pronotum, whereas I can scarcely find a *Macroura* in which there is not a distinct difference between those two segments in respect of puncturation. Moreover, the difference is more marked in the males than in the females. Furthermore, Reitter's descriptions in this genus are shown to be somewhat hastily drawn up by his not (in the instances before me) referring to the armature of the extero-apical portion of the front tibiae which is a most valuable character for distinguishing the species. I have made this note because *brunnescens* appears to be decidedly the most convenient species wherewith to compare other Australian members of the genus (as being a comparatively common and a very well marked species) and therefore it is desirable that there should be no doubt about which is the insect that I refer to under that name. It is easily recognised among the *Macrouræ* known to me by its lurid brown elytra (in contrast to the nigro-piceous general colour of the upper surface), the extremely fine and close sub-asperate puncturation of its pronotum and the extero-apical corner of its front tibiae having a small bifid prominence. It is very variable in size.

*M. nigra*, Reitt. In some previous remarks on this species (T.R.S., S.A., 1891, p. 109) I gave my reasons for thinking *M. Baileyi*, Blackb., distinct from it. After examination of *Macrouræ* from various parts of Australia which were not then before me I incline to reverse my former judgment, which was based chiefly on Reitter's statement that the apex of the elytra in *M. nigra* is truncate. Reitter, however, regards the truncation of the elytra as a generic character, and qualifies it by the statement (in the diagnosis of the genus) that the apex of the elytra is rounded at the angles. His statement concerning the elytra of *M. nigra*, therefore, amounts to no more than that their form is normal and does not necessarily imply that they are more abruptly truncate than those of their congeners. Reitter also (in his notes on the species) qualifies his statement



(in his diagnosis) that the pubescence of *M. nigra* is black. The size (which I also referred to) is not a satisfactory distinction alone, and therefore, as it seems improbable that *M. nigra* is not among the species before me, I am of opinion that *M. Baileyi* is identical with Reitter's species. Unfortunately, there is still further entanglement in the synonymy of this insect, for (as noted T.R.S., S.A., 1894, p. 204, and 1895, p. 31) I received it from Mr. Lea subsequently to my description of *Baileyi* under the name *Carpophilus obscurus*, Macl. (on a supposed comparison with Macleay's type) and too hastily adopted the correction. Afterwards Mr. Masters sent it to me as *Nitidula concolor*, Macl. This caused me to look carefully into the matter, and I found that Masters' identification is correct, and that Mr. Lea must have compared it with a specimen which was not the real type of *C. obscurus*, Macl., as it does not at all agree with Macleay's description. The synonymy, therefore, appears to be as follows:

*M. (Nitidula) concolor*, Macl.

*nigra*, Reitter.

*Baileyi*, Blackb.

*obscurus* (*Carpophilus*), Blackb., T.R.S., S.A., 1894, p. 204, nec. Macl.

*M. densita*, Reitt. This species is said to be common to Ceylon and Australia. It seems to be a very small *Macroura* notable especially by the extremely close puncturation of its pronotum and the red colour of its front tibiæ in contrast to the colour of its other legs. I have seen nothing like it and suspect that it is erroneously quoted as Australian.

*M. (Nitidula) latens*, Blanch. The description of this insect is almost certainly that of a *Macroura*, but is not precise enough to identify it with any insect known to me. Any one of three or four species may with about equal probability be that on which Blanchard founded his description.

*M. bicalcarata*, sp. nov. Fem. Late ovalis; vix nitida; fulvo-vel cinereo-pubescent; piceo-nigra, antennis pedibusque rufo-brunneis, illarum articulo ultimo infuscato; capite creberrime minus subtiliter (quam *M. brunnescentis* magis crebre minus subtiliter), pronoto crebre subtilius (a parte antica retrorsum gradatim minus subtiliter), quam *M. brunnescentis* minus subtiliter) punctulatis; prothorace fortiter transverso, antice angustato, lateribus arcuatis, angulis posticis (superne visis) subacutis retrorsum inclinatis, a latere visis obtusis; elytris confertim inæqualiter (quam *M. brunnescentis* magis perspicue minus confertim) striatis, striis inæqualiter punctulatis, interstitiis angustis haud punctulatis; tibiis anticis extus ad apicem dentibus binis magnis armatis, his fere contiguis. Long., 2 l.; lat.,  $1\frac{1}{10}$  l.



Readily distinguishable from all its congeners known to me by the two teeth at the external apex of its front tibiae. These teeth are larger than those on the tibiae of the other *Macroura* known to me and are almost in contact with each other.

Queensland; Charters Towers.

*M. inermis*, sp. nov. Late ovalis; sat nitida; fulvo-pubescent; nigra, antennis pedibusque rufis; capite subfortiter (maris quam feminae minus crebre), pronoto crebre subtilius (quam praecedentis, *M. bicalcarata*, haud multo aliter) punctulatis; prothorace fortiter transverso, antice angustato, lateribus arcuatis, angulis posticis superne visis subacutis retrorsum inclinatis, a latere visis sat rectis; elytris sat aequaliter minus confertim punctulato-striatis, interstitiis planis nitidis minus angustis subrugulosis; tibiis anticis inermibus. Long.,  $1\frac{1}{3}$ — $1\frac{1}{2}$  l.; lat.,  $\frac{7}{10}$ — $\frac{4}{5}$  l.

At once separated from its congeners known to me by its unarmed front tibiae, their extero-apical angle being simply acute (scarcely prominent). The scratch-like striae of its elytra are less numerous (there are about 20 of them on each elytron) than in any other *Macroura* known to me except *deceptor*, Blackb., and they are better defined and more evenly punctulate than in any of its congeners that I have seen.

Queensland, Cairns; given to me by Mr. Koebele.

#### CRYPTARCHA.

*C. obscurior*, sp. nov. Ovata; minus convexa; sat nitida; pubescens; ferruginea, pronoti disco et elytrorum sutura antice late infuscatis, macula indeterminata infuscata sublaterali in elytris posita; capite pronotoque crebre subfortiter punctulatis; prothorace transverso, antice angustato, lateribus arcuatis, margine antico emarginato; elytris sat aequaliter punctulato-striatis, interstitiis planis, sutura (nisi juxta apicem) haud elevatis. Long.,  $1\frac{1}{5}$  l.; lat.,  $\frac{3}{5}$  l.

Probably variable in respect of colour and markings. Allied to *C. depressa*, Grouv., from which it differs *inter alia multa* by the entire absence of any inequality on the pronotum, by the interstices of its elytra all absolutely flat, by the suture of its elytra perfectly flat (except close to the apex) and by the striae of its elytra very much more evenly impressed (*e.g.*, the fourth stria not inclined obliquely towards the suture till quite near its apex). The only irregularity in the striation consists in the two striae next the suture on each elytron being subobsolete and represented by little more than their punctures, the seriation of which is somewhat disturbed and runs into a single line considerably before the apex; the third stria is traceable almost to



the apex. In the unique type the basal half of the pygidium is covered by the elytra.

Victoria (Dividing Range).

#### MONOTOMIDÆ.

##### MIMEMODES.

*M. Koebelei*, sp. nov. Minus elongatus; minus nitidus; parce breviter albido-setosus; testaceo-brunneus, capite prothoraceque rufescentibus; capite latissimo, trans oculos valde prominentes quam prothorax magis lato, parce subtiliter punctulato, lateribus supra oculos alte reflexis; antennis sat brevibus, 10-articulatis (articulo 11° vix manifesto), clava quasi 1-articulata, articulis basali sat magno 2° globoso, 3°—9° parvis; prothorace leviter transverso, quam elytra sublatiori, antice quam postice latiori, subfortiter minus crebre (parte mediana haud punctulata excepta) punctulato, lateribus crenulatis fere rectis, angulis obtusis; scutello sat parvo, elongato-triangulari; elytris pygidium vix attingentibus, postice rotundato-truncatis, leviter striatis, striis punctulatis, interstitiis planis sat latis; tarsis 4-articulatis, articulis 1° 2° que brevibus dilatatis, 3° minutissimo, 4° quam ceteri conjuncti longiori; unguiculis inermibus. Long., 1 l.; lat.,  $\frac{2}{3}$  l.

This species does not seem to differ in its structural characters from the other two species of *Mimemodes* (*M. japonus*, Reitt., and *laticeps*, MacL.) in my collection, but it is of comparatively broader and shorter form than either of them, with more prominent eyes than *japonus* (the eyes of *laticeps* are very much less prominent) and is very different from both by the sides of its head very strongly reflexed (almost like crests) above the eyes.

N. Queensland; given to me by Mr. Koebele.

#### TROGOSITIDÆ.

##### LEPERINA.

*L. (Peltis) moniliata*, Pasc.? Oblonga; nigro-picea, labro palpis antennis pedibusque plus minusve rufescentibus, prothoracis elytrorumque marginibus lateralibus (margine summo excepto) late concinne rufis, pronoto maculis 8 elytris singulis maculis circiter 20 (maculis squamis coccineis coloratis) ornatis; supra subæqualiter sat fortiter subrugulose punctulata; prothorace sat fortiter transverso, antice fortiter emarginato, pone marginem anticum foveis 2 profundis impresso, lateribus leviter æqualiter arcuatis, angulis anticis fortiter productis posticis subrectis; elytris 4—costulatis. Long.,  $3\frac{1}{2}$ — $4\frac{1}{2}$  l.; lat.,  $1\frac{2}{3}$ — $1\frac{4}{5}$  l.

In a fresh specimen the scales forming the spots on the upper



surface are of a very bright scarlet colour ; those on the pronotum are a pair in the discal foveæ, a corresponding pair on the basal margin and one at each of the angles—the latter inconspicuous because placed on the red lateral margin ; they are small and of equal sizes. The spots on the elytra are of about the same size as those on the pronotum and very equal in size *inter se* ; there are about 5 spots on the lateral margin and from 3 to 5 on each of the inner three interstices. Disregarding colour and markings the species differs from *decorata*, Er., by *inter alia* the very much less strongly rounded sides of its prothorax, and from *lacera*, Pasc., by *inter alia* the sides of its prothorax considerably less rounded and without the slightest sinuosity of outline. It has no fascicles on its surface. An abraded specimen of this insect agrees so remarkably well with Pascoe's description of *Peltis moniliata* that I can hardly doubt its being specifically identical. It is decidedly a *Leperina* ; if there should be found an insect (distinct from this) which is Pascoe's *moniliata* the latter will no doubt be found to be not a *Leperina*, and in that case no harm will be done by the repetition of the name.

Victoria (Dividing Range) and Tasmania.

#### PELTONYXA.

*P. invalida*, sp. nov. Elongata ; postice leviter dilatata ; minus convexa ; vix pubescens ; testaceo-ferruginea ; capite prothoraceque rufescentibus, alutaceis et sparsissime obsolete puncturis impressis ; prothorace quam longiori circiter duplo latiori, antice parum angustato, lateribus leviter arcuatis minus late reflexis, angulis posticis rotundatis ; elytris minus fortiter seriatim punctulatis, interstitiis nonnullis latera versus obsolete prominulis. Long.,  $1\frac{2}{5}$  l.; lat.,  $\frac{2}{5}$  l.

Near *P. australis*, Blackb., but easily distinguishable from it by *inter alia* the less straight sides of its prothorax, and the considerably smaller and much less deeply impressed punctures of its elytra. Some of the interstices of the elytra near the lateral margin are very slightly raised (in *australis* the alternate interstices throughout are so) but so slightly that their elevation is only to be seen from some points of view. *P. pubescens*, Blackb., differs from both the above *inter alia* by its very much more plentiful pubescence ; and *P. Deyrollei*, Reitter, by its considerably greater size, also by the alternate interstices of its elytra being elevated, a character that could not be attributed even to *P. australis* without the qualifying word "scarcely" before "elevated," also by its elytra being striate.

N.S. Wales (Blue Mountains).



## COLYDIIDÆ.

## DITOMA.

A large number of species have been attributed to this genus which have since had to be removed from it and formed into distinct genera. The number of these is so great that without access to a large collection of the *Colydiidæ* of the world it is impossible to deal satisfactorily with the generic apportionment of the Australian species at present standing under the name *Ditoma*. According to Lacordaire the essential characters of *Ditoma* in the "Tribe" *Synchitides* are as follows "Basal 3 joints of tarsi equal or nearly so *inter se*, tibiæ not spinous externally but armed with a small apical spine, all the tarsi four-jointed, mandibles bidentate at apex, the ventral segments all emarginate behind, head devoid of antennal sulci, club of antennæ two-jointed, sides of prothorax narrowly margined. Of the characters above mentioned that based on the form of the hindmargin of the ventral segments does not appear to me to be founded on correct observation. I have before me specimens of the European *D. crenata*, Hbst. (the type of the genus) and cannot find that its ventral segments are emarginate behind, or differ noticeably in outline from their form in allied genera. Nor do I find that authors subsequent to Lacordaire make any use of this character. In spite, therefore, of the great weight of Lacordaire's authority I think this character must be dropped. Applying the other characters assigned by Lacordaire strictly I cannot find any described Australian *Colydiid* which is a true *Ditoma*. In the absence, however, of assurance that I have before me the diagnoses of all the described genera closely allied to *Ditoma* I do not feel justified in proposing new generic names for those which do not fall into any already named genus known to me, and therefore must leave them provisionally in *Ditoma*. As I have before me authentic specimens (in every case but one, the type) of all the Australian species except one that have been described as *Ditoma* I may perhaps advantageously furnish some notes on them:

*D. serricollis*, Pasc., is the only species of which I have not an authentic example. Its author does not enumerate its structural characters in detail but says that "as far as external characters go" it is certainly a *Ditoma*. So many genera near *Ditoma* have been established since the date (1860) of that note that it cannot now be taken for more than a statement that the insect is a *Ditoma* rather than a member of any other then known genus. It appears to me to be probably identical with *lineatocollis*, Blackb., which some years ago M. Grouvelle (a specialist on the *Colydiidæ*) informed me that he considered I had done right in placing in *Ditoma*. Its description is not sufficiently detailed to



allow of its confident identification without examination of the type but the description (so far as it goes) and locality suggest *lineatocollis*. If so, I doubt whether it can stand permanently in *Ditoma* on account of the very decidedly expanded and denticulate lateral margins of its pronotum the extreme edge of which is not bounded (as it is in *Ditoma crenata*) by a raised edging. I do not however know of any other described genus in which it can be placed.

*D. lineatocollis*, Blackb. It is not improbable that this name will have to sink as a synonym of *serricollis*, Pasc. (discussed above).

*D. costata*, Macl., and *torrida*, Blackb. These must be transferred to the genus *Phormesa*.

*D. pulchra*, Blackb., *obscura*, Blackb., and *nivicola*, Blackb., appear to be congeneric with the New Zealand species *D. sellata*, Shp., attributed by its author doubtfully to *Ditoma*. Dr. Sharp, however, thought it might be congeneric with species for which Broun had, without giving a diagnosis of the generic characters, proposed the name *Ablabus*. I have examined the descriptions of the species in question and think Dr. Sharp's conjecture probably correct, and am disposed to refer my three species named above to *Ablabus*. They differ from *Ditoma* in having the lateral margins of their head and pronotum strongly expanded and indented, by the presence of antennal sulci, and by their much more strongly granulate eyes. They are very near *Sparactus*, but the sides of their head and pronotum are much more strongly dilated and indented, and the club of their antennæ has only two joints. From *Phormesa* they differ by the indented margins of their head and pronotum, their non-carinate elytra, the longer sulci for the reception of their antennæ, and their much smaller eyes. M. Grouvelle has suggested doubtfully *Endophlæus* for them, but the apex of their tibiæ undoubtedly has a small spine, which is inconsistent with *Endophlæus*.

*D. perforata*, Blackb. This species cannot stand permanently in *Ditoma*, owing *inter alia* to the form of the antennal club, the first joint of which is very much larger than the other—the latter being little more than rudimentary. M. Grouvelle has suggested to me that the insect might be placed in *Synchita*, which also has the apical joint of its antennæ rudimentary. (According to Lacordaire the 11th joint is altogether wanting, but to me it seems in *S. juglandis*, Fab.—the type of the genus I believe—to be distinctly visible, though very small). *D. perforata* would, I think, be as aberrant in *Synchita* as in *Ditoma*, owing to the sides of its prothorax being strongly dentate and its eyes more coarsely granulate and much more



prominent. It differs much also in facies from *Synchita* (at least from *S. juglandis*) being much narrower and more elongate, with longer and more slender antennæ, the club of which is notably smaller and especially less globular.\*

*D. hilaris*, Blackb., though very different from *lineatocollis*, Blackb. (vide supra) as a species, does not seem to differ from it in respect of any character likely to be generic.

*D. parva*, Blackb. This species cannot stand in *Ditoma*, nor can it be placed in any other hitherto described genus known to me. It differs from *Ditoma* by the eleventh joint of its antennæ, much narrower (and a little shorter) than the tenth, by the presence of well defined antennal sulci which are so long as to curve outward behind the eyes, by the head furnished with lobe-like processes behind the eyes which project laterally beyond the outline of the eyes, and by its pronotum having a comparatively wide and distinctly serrate flattened lateral border.

#### SPARACTUS.

I believe this genus to be identical with *Illestus*. Its type is *Ditoma interrupta*, Er., the correctness of my identification with which of a small *Colydiid* (common in Tasmania and Southern Australia) is not, I think, open to the slightest uncertainty. In the subsequent diagnosis of the genus *Sparactus* (formed for this insect), the tibiæ are not mentioned, but in Erichson's tabulation of *Colydiid* genera the place given is among those having unarmed tibiæ. This is a mistake as its tibiæ have a very short apical spine,—which however might very easily be overlooked as from most points of view it is hidden. In all other respects the *Colydiid* mentioned above agrees perfectly with the generic diagnosis and with the description of the species. It also agrees with the diagnosis of *Illestus*, with Pascoe's figure of *Illestus* (Journ. Ent. II., pl. iii., fig. 4), and with Reitter's description of *Illestus Grouvellei* (M. T. Münch. Ent. Ver. 1877, p. 133). The only apparent discrepancy in the descriptions of *D. interrupta* and *I. Grouvellei* is in the statement that the inner elytral costa of *D. interrupta* is interrupted whereas in his description of *Grouvellei* Reitter implies that the second costa only is interrupted. In a subsequent note, however, Grouvelle speaks of only the second costa being "distinctly several times" (deutlich mehrmals) interrupted. In the specimens before me neither costa is quite entire (as the external one is) but the middle one is much more distinctly interrupted than the inner one.

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\* Since writing the note on *D. perforata* I have ascertained that the Malayan genus *Bupala*, Pasc., presents the characters I have specified as exhibited by that insect, to which genus, therefore, I think I may safely attribute it.



*S. costatus*, Blackb. I believe this species to be identical with *Illestus productus*, Reitt., which will therefore stand as follows

*Sparactus (Illestus) productus*, Reitt.

*S. costatus*, Blackb.

#### PHORMESA.

*P. (Ditoma) torrida*, Blackb. This species is not a true *Ditoma* (vide supra).

*P. thoracica*, sp. nov. Minus depressa; sat opaca; ferruginea, capite pronoti disco et elytrorum maculis numerosis (his fascias 4 indeterminatas formantibus) obscure fuscis; prothorace sat fortiter transverso, postice quam antice fere duplo latiori, supra crebre fortius granulato-ruguloso, utrinque bicostato, costis exterioribus integris (interioribus prope marginem anticum introrsum subito versis et hic inter se fere conjunctis, postice introrsum sic ut laquea singula formant versis), lateribus irregulariter crenulatis sat arcuatis, angulis anticis fortiter productis sat acutis posticis retrorsum inclinatis anguste obtusis; elytris singulis 5-carinatis, interstitiis crasse biserialim punctulatis. Long.,  $2\frac{2}{5}$ — $2\frac{4}{5}$  l.; lat.,  $\frac{9}{10}$ — $1\frac{12}{10}$  l.

In general appearance much like *P. torrida*, Blackb., from which it differs chiefly by the costæ of its pronotum and elytra less sharply defined, its prothorax very much more strongly narrowed in front and the hind angles of that segment obtuse (they are very sharply acute in *torrida*). Several species of *Phormesa* more or less resembling this one have been described from the Malay Archipelago, &c., but the descriptions of them are too slight to allow of confident identification,—not one of those known to me referring (e.g.) to the angles of the prothorax.

Tropical Australia (Port Darwin).

*P. Grouvellei*, sp. nov. Sat depressa; sat opaca; picea, capite antice prothoracis lateribus antennis pedibusque ferrugineis; prothorace sat fortiter transverso, antrorsum leviter angustato, supra confertim minus fortiter punctulato-ruguloso, utrinque bicostato, costis ut præcedentis (*P. thoracicæ*), lateribus leviter sparsim crenulatis fere rectis, angulis anticis modice productis sat acutis posticis acute rectis vix retrorsum inclinatis; elytris singulis 5-carinatis, interstitiis biserialim granulatis. Long.,  $1\frac{3}{4}$  l.; lat.,  $\frac{7}{10}$  l.

Differs from the previously described Australian species of *Phormesa* by the uniform colour of its elytra and by the sculpture of the intervals between the elytral costæ consisting of rows of small granules. Its prothorax is very much less narrowed in front than is that of *P. thoracica*, and very much more



strongly transverse than that of *P. costata*, Macl. The sides of its prothorax are quite straight in the hinder part while in *P. torrida* they are quite strongly convergent hindward in the extreme basal portion of their length.

Australia (I am not sure of the exact habitat).

#### BUPALA.

Pascoe calls the antennæ of this genus ten-jointed, representing them as in this respect similar to those of *Synchita*. The species that I refer to this genus have antennæ similar in number of joints to those of *Synchita*, but I cannot call the antennæ of either ten-jointed without qualifying the expression by saying that the 11th joint is distinctly visible under a strong lens. Lacordaire qualifies the expression by the remark (in referring to *Synchita*) that the tenth joint has a small pubescent apical portion, which is, I think, undoubtedly the rudimentary eleventh joint. In the specimens before me it is a trifle more distinct than in *Synchita*. In Pascoe's figure of *Bupala* it is not represented, but I cannot think it is really absent in the insect. Pascoe defines the genus very briefly, and passes over the important character of the lateral structure of the prothorax with the remark—"prothorax haud marginatus." His figure, however, represents the prothorax as serrate laterally (which it is in the specimens before me). I suppose the "haud marginatus" refers to the absence of a reflexed edging. The Australian insects that I attribute to this genus present the character mentioned by Pascoe of hind coxæ somewhat widely separated *inter se*, but with the intercoxal process of triangular form. I may add that M. Grouvelle some years ago expressed the opinion that my *Ditoma perforata* would be better placed in *Synchita*. If, however, *Bupala* be accepted as distinct from *Synchita* these Australian forms belong to it rather than to the old genus. It is to be noted that the tenth joint of their antennæ is less globular than it is represented in Pascoe's figure, but this no doubt is a mere specific character.

*B. Bovilli*, sp. nov. Elongata; sat angusta; minus nitida; nigro-picea, capite antice prothorace antice elytrorum humeris corpore subtus antennis pedibusque plus minusve rufescentibus; capite pronotoque crebre sat crasse granulato-rugulosis; hoc quam latiori sublongiori, retrorsum nonnihil angustato, supra æquali, lateribus sat rectis dentibus parvis acutis circiter 10 armatis, elytris striatis, interstitiis sat planis sat crasse rugulosis seriatim albido-setulosis. Long.,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  l.; lat.,  $\frac{3}{10}$  l.

There seems to be no reason for separating this species generically from the S Australian species that I described as



*Ditoma perforata*. In both the upper surface is devoid of costæ and other protuberances, the eleventh joint of the antennæ rudimentary, the sides of the prothorax denticulate, the head without antennal sulci. It differs from *perforata* by its considerably smaller size, its more cylindric form (elytra scarcely wider than prothorax), the rugulosity of its elytra interstices, &c.

Northern Territory (Port Darwin); taken by Dr. Bovill.

*B. dentata*, sp. nov. Sat elongata; sat angusta; minus nitida; nigro-picea, antennis pedibus scutello et corpore subtus rufescentibus; capite pronotoque crebre minus grosse granulato-punctulatis; hoc leviter transverso, ante medium subito dilatato, antice quam ad basin multo latiori, supra æquali, lateribus acute serrulatis; elytris striatis, striis sat grosse punctulatis (puncturis in interstitiis fere confluentibus). Long.,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  l.; lat.,  $\frac{2}{3}$  l.

At once distinguishable from *B. perforata*, Blackb., and *Bovilli*, Blackb., by the somewhat sudden widening of its prothorax in front of the middle, which causes the front margin to be very much wider than the base. In this species the lateral margin of the head is minutely angular behind the eye, standing out (under a strong lens) as a very small tooth, and more conspicuous on the under surface.

S. Australia (near Adelaide).

EBA.

*E. cerylonoides*, Pasc.? An example from Port Darwin seems to agree very well with the diagnosis of this Malayan genus, nor can I find any notable distinctive character to suggest its being other than the typical species, which was described Journ. Ent. II, p. 129. It is an interesting addition to the Australian fauna. It bears much casual resemblance to the genus *Cerylon*.

MERYX.

I cannot satisfy myself that *M. rugosa*, Latr., *areolata*, Pasc., and *illota*, Pasc., are anything but one and the same species. The only definite character that Pascoe cites to distinguish his two species relates to the length and width of the prothorax. I believe the difference in the shape of the prothorax to be sexual; at any rate I have before me two examples of *M. æqualis*, Blackb., which were taken in company and which differ *inter se* fully as much in the comparative width of their prothorax as any two examples before me of the older species (which come from various localities in Victoria and Tasmania). This difference is certainly very considerable and might justifiably be regarded as specific if only a few specimens were available.



Latraille's description of *M. rugosa* is very short but Pascoe says that he has seen an example of it and considers it probably identical with his *illota* (Journ. Ent. I., p. 302).

### TENEBRIONIDÆ.

#### CHALCOPTERUS.

*C. Arthuri*, sp. nov. Elongato-ovalis; sat nitidus, pronoto magis opaco; niger, elytris violaceo-aureo-vel viridi-iridescentibus; capite minus crebre punctulato, fronte media longitudinaliter lævi, oculorum interspatio antennarum articuli basalis longitudini latitudine sat æquali; sulcis ocularibus nullis; antennis quam corporis dimidium vix brevioribus; prothorace quam longiori fere duplo (postice quam antice ut 4 ad 3) latiori, leviter sat crebre (quam caput multo magis obsolete) punctulato, antice subsinuatim fortiter emarginato, a basi antrorsum (superne viso) subarcuatim angustato, basi obsolete sinuata, angulis anticis acutis sat productis posticis fere rectis; elytris haud striatis, fortiter minus crebre (fere ut *C. variabilis*, Blessig., ut a me definitus, vide P.L.S., N.S.W., 1893, p. 58) seriatim punctulatis, interstitiis crebre sat fortiter (quam *C. variabilis* multo magis fortiter) punctulatis; prosterno medio leviter obtuse carinato; tarsis nigrosetosis, posticorum articulo basali quam ceteri conjuncti vix breviori. Long, 5 l.; lat.,  $2\frac{2}{3}$  l.

In my tabulation of the genus *Chalcopterus* this species falls beside *C. intermedius*, Blackb. (P.L.S., N.S.W., 1893, p. 61), from which it differs *inter alia multa* by the very much larger seriate punctures of its elytra.

Queensland; from Mr. Lea (Brisbane), &c.

### LONGICORNES.

#### SYMPHYLETES.

*S. compos*, sp. nov. Modice elongatus; piceus, pube pallide grisea sat æqualiter (areis nonnullis glabris exceptis) vestitus, supra hanc basin griseam notulis numerosis fulvo-pubescentibus et nonnullis niveo-pubescentibus superpositis (illis in facie maculatim, inter antennis lineatim, in prothorace transversim 4-lineatim, in elytris maculatim, in metasterno maculatim, in abdomine transversim lineatim, in pedibus maculatim et in tarsis subtus dispositis; his in prothoracis lateribus, in elytrorum lateribus circum humeri partem inferiorem et paullo pone mediam partem, in metasterni episternis, in femorum parte superiori, et in antennarum articularum 2<sup>i</sup>—10<sup>i</sup> parte basali, sitis); capite haud convexo-elevato, linea longitudinali impresso, clypeo antice angustato et rotundato; oculis modicis, ut *S. nodosi*, Newm.,



granulatis et convexis sed paullo majoribus; antennis elytrorum apicem (maris paullo, feminae vix) superantibus, subtus densissime longius ciliatis; prothorace brevi transverso cylindrico haud tuberculato; elytris in parte antica granulis nonnullis parvis instructis (his minus perspicuis), ad apicem sat recte truncatis.

Maris segmento ventrali 2° utrinque area dense brunneo-pilosa instructo; hujus margine interiori a segmenti margine anteriori medio ad segmenti marginem posteriorem curvato et hunc (prope marginem lateralem) vix attingenti. Long.,  $5\frac{3}{4}$ — $6\frac{1}{2}$  l; lat., 2— $2\frac{1}{3}$  l.

In the above description I have not specified the position of the glabrous areas on the upper surface because it is impossible to say whether the two examples before me are absolutely free from artificial abrasion, although both have the appearance of being in very fresh condition. A large round humeral area is certainly naturally glabrous, and I suspect it alone is so, the other small glabrous patches being probably due to slight abrasion. The species is near *S. albocinctus*, Guér., from which it differs *inter alia* in not having a continuous white stripe (but only the edging of the external half of the glabrous humeral patch and a spot behind the middle) along the external margin of its elytra. From a *Symphyletes* which Mr. Gahan confirms me in regarding as *albocinctus* it also differs by its very much shorter and more strongly transverse prothorax, by its head being scarcely concave between the antennae, &c. In the male example before me the anterior femora do not bear a spine.

N. Queensland (Hughenden); given to me by Mr. French.

#### RHYTIPHORA.

*R. maculosella*, sp. nov. Fem. Elongata; minus robusta; nigro-picea pube fulva et nivea ornata (hac maculas binas in elytrorum lateribus, illa in capite maculas numerosas parvas et lineas inter antennis circumque oculos in prothorace lineas transversas quatuor in elytris maculas numerosas parvas, formanti), mesosterno utrinque vitta fulva ornato, metasterno ad latera niveo-pubescenti in medio fulvo-maculato, abdomine cinereo et fulvo-variegato, femoribus anticis 4 cinereo-pubescentibus posticis fulvo-variegatis, tibiis obscure fulvo-ornatis; capite sparsim subtilius punctulato, supra sat fortiter elevato-convexo, linea longitudinali impresso, clypeo antice truncato; oculis modicis vix fortiter granulatis (quam *R. latifasciata*, Pasc., paullo minoribus paullo minus fortiter granulatis), lobo inferiori haud latiori quam longiori; antennis quam corpus vix longioribus, pube cinerea irregulariter variegatis, subtus pilis sat elongatis



dense fimbriatis, articulo 3<sup>o</sup> quam 1<sup>us</sup> sesqui longiori; prothorace cylindrico, quam longiori vix latiori, ut caput punctulato, nec supra nec ad latera tuberculato; elytris ad apicem truncatis, antice granulis sat numerosis inordinatim instructis, postice puncturis (his prope medium sat grossis hinc retrorsum gradatim magis subtilibus) impressis.

This species is in general so like *Symphyletes albocinctus*, Guér., that it seems unsatisfactory not to place it near that insect, but it has the head strongly elevated above the base of the antennæ,—a character which Pascoe regarded as the essential one separating *Rhytiphora* from *Symphyletes* and which is the only character known to me by which they can be separated. The portions of the upper surface not bearing fulvous or white spots are glabrous and shining. The snowy-white pubescence of the elytra forms a spot on the lateral margin (behind the glabrous shoulder) which is continuous with similar pubescence on the side of the metasternum; it also forms a spot on the lateral margin a little behind the middle. Between the two white spots are two or three spots of fulvous pubescence which are variably more or less connected with each other. The disposition of the fulvous markings on other parts of the elytra and on the head and pronotum is much the same as in *S. albocinctus*.

Queensland.

*R. uniformis*, Blackb. I have before me two specimens from N. Queensland (sent by Mr. French) which I cannot distinguish from the type of *uniformis* except in their somewhat different colouring,—due I have no doubt to their being very fresh specimens. They bear sprinkled over the pale ashy pubescence of the upper surface (which suggested the specific name) numerous blotches of pale orange-coloured pubescence. This forms longitudinal lines between the antennæ, transverse lines on the pronotum, small spots of irregular shape all over the elytra, spots on the sterna and legs and fringes on the hindmargin of the ventral segments. The glabrous spaces on the type (mentioned as probably due to abrasion) are present in these fresh examples, and therefore are no doubt natural.





Blackburn, Thomas. 1902. "Further notes on Australian Coleoptera with descriptions of new genera and species. Part XXXI." *Transactions of the Royal Society of South Australia* 26, 288–321.

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