

NOTES ON AUSTRALIAN COLEOPTERA, WITH
DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW SPECIES.

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PART XIII.

LAMELLICORNES.

HETERONYX.

In the tabulation of part of this genus, in P.L.S.N.S.W. 1891, p. 488, last two lines on the page, transpose "long" and "wide."

XYNEDRIA, gen.nov., *Pentodontidarum*.

♂. Antennæ 10-articulatæ, flabello mediocri 3-articulato, hujus articulo basali externe setis erectis dense vestito; mentum compressum porrectum; mandibulæ extus rotundatæ porrectæ; clypeus abrupte verticalis, supra ut cornu erectum acutum productus, ad apicem rotundatus modice reflexus; prothorax (exempli typici) a basi ad apicem late profunde excavatus, partis excavatæ lateribus pone medium obtuse elevatis; tibiæ anticæ extus fortiter tridentatæ; femora (præsertim posticæ) valde incrassata; tibiæ posticæ brevissimæ latissimæ fortiter transversim 2-carinatæ; tarsorum posticorum articulus basalis fere cylindricus.

This remarkable *Dynastid* is, I think, near *Pseudoryctes*, with which genus the structure of its legs agrees in every respect except in its hind tibiæ being transversely bicarinate and the basal joint of its hind tarsi more cylindrical; *inter alia* it differs from *Pseudoryctes* by its absolutely vertical clypeus produced upwards into a well developed pointed horn and by the absence of a horn on the front margin of its prothorax. The peculiar position of the clypeus is reproduced in *Palmerstonia*, but without the horn (the male of *Palmerstonia*, however, may have a horn); but in

that genus the palpi are of very extraordinary structure and the basal joint of the hinder tarsi is very widely triangular. The general appearance of the insect on which I found this genus is much like that of *Novapus*, with which genus, however, it does not appear to be closely connected, differing from it *inter alia multa* by its very much shorter and thicker hind tibiae.

XYNEDRIA INTERIORIS, sp.nov.

♂. Minus latus; sat nitidus; subtus sat dense rufo-hirsutus; rufo-piceus; capite cornu brevi (quam antennarum clava breviori) erecto ad apicem simplici instructo; prothorace quam longiori vix plus quam dimidio latiori, postice quam antice fere duplo latiori, sparsim subtiliter punctulato, a basi ad apicem excavato, parte excavata sparsim leviter squamoso-punctulata pone medium angustata, lateribus fortiter rotundatis; scutello externe lævi, antice et in medio confertim punctulato; elytris inæqualiter geminatim punctulato-striatis et hic illic confuse punctulatis, puncturis in striis et alibi sat æqualibus; pygidio fortiter convexo, leviter nec crebre squamoso-punctulato. [Long. 7, lat. $4\frac{2}{5}$ lines.

♀ latet.

S. Australia; McDonnell Ranges; presented to me by C. French, Esq.

MALACODERMIDÆ.

HELODES ANGULATUS, sp.nov.

Elongato-ovalis; modice convexus; pubescens; palpis antennarum basi prothoracis lateribus pedibusque rufis; capite subcrebre, prothorace sparsim, sat fortiter punctulatis; hoc quam longiori plus quam duplo latiori, æqualiter convexo, angulis posticis rectis; elytris fortiter sat crebre (postice magis leviter) punctulatis haud costatis, stria suturali subfortiter impressa; antennarum articulis 2° 3°que (hoc quam ille multo minori) conjunctis quam 4^{us} parum brevioribus.

[Long. $1\frac{3}{5}$, lat. $\frac{9}{10}$ line.

Characterised by its evenly convex prothorax (not more gibbous in the middle than elsewhere), with well defined rather sharp hind angles, which are slightly directed backward, and the strong sparse puncturation of its upper surface (especially the elytra), which on the prothorax is very much and on the elytra quite evidently stronger and less close than in *H. cinctus*, Blackb.,—probably the nearest ally of this species.

N. S. Wales ; Blue Mountains.

SILIS AUSTRALIS, Blackb.

Having had occasion recently to look at this insect, I was much startled to find that I committed an unpardonable blunder in describing it. It has nothing to do with *Silis* but is an *Edemerid*. How I could have overlooked its heteromerous tarsi I am unable to conjecture ; I can only adopt an expression used by Mr. Pascoe under similar circumstances and say that it must have been in “a moment of aberration.” The insect certainly has an extremely *Silis*-like facies. It does not appear to have been described in the *Edemeridæ*, and seems to be congeneric with some at least of the species that are referred to the genus *Ananca*, but unfortunately there is a species among them bearing the same name (*australis*), so that it will be necessary to give a new name to the subject of this note. I propose the name *Boisduvali* for it. *A. australis*, Boisd., appears to be not unlike it (judging from the brief description of seven words), but to differ in having its legs entirely of a fulvous colour. *Ananca ruficollis*, Macl., also resembles it, but differs *inter alia* by the considerably less fine puncturation of its elytra, by its testaceous meso- and meta-sterna, and by its femora being of a bright testaceous colour, with only the extreme apices infuscate.

CEDEMERIDÆ.

ANANCA BOISDUVALI, sp.nov.

Vide note on *Silis australis* (*supra*).

CURCULIONIDÆ.

PELORORHINUS CRASSUS, Blackb.

In describing this species (P.L.S.N.S.W. 1892, p. 135) I accidentally omitted to state that it is found in Western Australia.

AOPLOCNEMIS LOWERI, sp.nov.

Rufo-piceus, rostro obscuriori; squamis fuscis et nonnullis albis vestitus, his in prothoracis lateribus vittatim et in elytrorum lateribus maculatim condensatis; rostro sat crebre subrugulose nec crasse punctulato; antennarum funiculi articulis basalibus 2 elongatis; prothorace granulato, vix transverso; elytris puncturis sat crassis subquadratis seriatim impressis, interstitiis vix convexis, interstitio 3° ad partis declivis basin tuberculo magno conico armato; corpore subtus albo-squamoso. [Long. (rostr. incl.) 5, (vix) lat. 1½ lines.

Readily distinguishable from its congeners by the tubercles placed one on each side of the suture at the summit of the posterior declivity. In the typical example (which seems a little abraded) the white scales form three vittæ on the prothorax of which the middle one is very obscure and some ill-defined spots on the sides of the elytra.

Victoria; presented to me by Mr. Lower.

CYDMÆA.

Mr. Pascoe's *Erirhinid* genera present extreme difficulty owing to his not having followed a uniform system in characterising them; for example, he generally treats (I think quite rightly) the granulation of the eyes as an important character, but in some few of his descriptions he does not mention the granulation of the eyes at all, and so on with almost every other character. The genus *Cydmæa* I feel confident that I have correctly identified, as several of the species (e.g., *C. luctuosa*, Pasc.) have a strongly marked pattern on the elytra which renders them unmistakable by their *specific* characters. The following seem to be the

important characters of this genus : form broad and robust (like that of *Gerynassa*, *Dicomada*, &c.) ; rostrum moderately long and robust, very distinctly distinguished from the general contour of the head, compressed towards the apex when viewed from the side ; eyes finely granulated ; antennæ inserted in front of the middle of the rostrum, their funicle 7-jointed, their scrobes running obliquely towards the lower extremity of the eye ; ocular lobes feebly defined ; base of prothorax not bisinuate ; prosternum elongate in front of its coxæ, its front margin moderately emarginate ; mesosternum wide between the intermediate coxæ ; 2nd ventral segment at least as long as the 3rd and 4th together ; femora unarmed ; anterior tibiæ not denticulate within, their inner apex mucronate ; tarsi short and broad, their claw joint projecting moderately beyond the 3rd.

Cydmæa seems to be very close to *Dicomada* ; Mr. Pascoe mentions no other difference than that the rostrum of the latter is dilated at the apex and not compressed. The following species present all the characters of *Cydmæa* as described, but it should be noted that Mr. Pascoe figures it (Ann. Nat. Hist. 1875, t. 1, fig. 15) as devoid of ocular lobes.

CYDMÆA MAJOR, sp.nov.

Late ovalis ; squamis fusco-nigris cinereis fulvisque intermixtis vestita, pedibus antennisque plus minusve rufescentibus ; rostro prothorace sublongiori ; funiculi articulo 1° quam 2^{us} paulo longiori ; prothorace leviter transverso ; elytris punctulato-striatis, interstitiis vix convexis.

[Long. $2\frac{1}{2}$ -3, lat. $1\frac{1}{5}$ - $1\frac{2}{5}$ lines.

At once distinguishable from the previously described species by its considerably greater size. The variously coloured scales are very confusedly mixed together ; on the elytra, however, the darker scales predominate on the front half and the lighter on the hind half ; on the underside the fulvous scales predominate and have a slightly coppery gloss ; the quantity of fulvous scales as compared with the cinereous seems to vary a good deal ; abraded

specimens are of an almost uniform blackish colour. The tarsi are shorter and wider than in the other *Cydmææ* known to me.

N. S. Wales ; Blue Mountains.

CYDMÆA DIVERSA, Blackb.

An example taken in the Blue Mountains seems to be indistinguishable from the Western Australian type of this species. Although not quite contiguous, its front coxæ are not so markedly separated, however, as in that specimen, seeming to justify my opinion when I described *C. diversa* that that peculiarity is not of extreme importance.

CYDMÆA CRASSIROSTRIS, sp. nov.

Late ovalis; squamis fusco-nigris cinereis fulvo-cupreisque intermixtis vestita, antennarum scapo ad basin rufescenti; rostro quam prothorax subbreviori apicem versus fortiter compresso; funiculi articulo 1° quam 2^{us} multo (hoc quam sequentes parum) longiori; prothorace leviter transverso; elytris punctulato-striatis, interstitiis vix convexis.

[Long. $1\frac{2}{5}$, lat. $\frac{3}{5}$ line.

On the head and prothorax the coppery-brown scales prevail, and the ashy-grey scales form a line between the eyes and are condensed about the sides of the prothorax; on the elytra fuscous-black scales may be regarded as forming the ground colour, fulvous-coppery scales form a broad ill-defined sutural stripe behind the scutellum and widen into a large patch occupying the greater part of the apical half of the elytra (the sides being fuscous-black), and in this patch is a narrow inconspicuous fascia of ashy-grey scales. The undersurface is entirely clothed with ashy-grey scales.

The form of the rostrum is very peculiar. It is strongly arched and viewed from above appears nearly parallel-sided (a little narrowed near its base) and moderately narrow, but viewed from the side it appears quite strongly dilated a little before the apex (so that here the distance from the upper to the under surface is

greater than the width of the upper surface) and at the apex quite sharply pointed. Thus the rostrum appears from above to be quite slender with a blunt apex, but from the side to be very much wider and more robust, with the apex acuminate.

The second joint of the funicle being scarcely longer than the 3rd joint is also a notable character.

N. S. Wales ; Blue Mountains.

LONGICORNES.

ÆGOSOMA.

I refer the following species with some hesitation to this genus of which, unfortunately, I have not a type to compare it with ; neither is there one in the S. Australian Museum. From memory of the genus, however, I can say that the species before me has the general appearance of an *Ægosoma*, and the following characters show it to be at least very close to it structurally, viz. : eyes strongly granulated, not embracing the base of the antennæ and not much approximated above (a little more approximated than in *Nothophysis lucanoides*, Serv.) ; metasternal episterna gradually narrowed from the base hindward, their apex obtuse, scarcely half as wide as their base ; prothoracic lateral margins much arched downwards and scarcely continuously existent.

ÆGOSOMA CARPENTARIÆ, sp.nov.

Sat elongatum ; sat parallelum ; minus nitidum ; subtiliter pubescens ; fuscum, pedibus abdomineque nonnihil rufescentibus ; supra sat rugulose sat crebre nec crasse (elytris retrorsum gradatim magis subtiliter), subtus vix rugulose, punctulatum ; antennis (feminæ ?) quam corpus sat brevioribus, articulo basali sat brevi, 2° brevissimo (his subnitidis, sat crasse rugulosis), ceteris pubescentibus sat compressis, 3° quam basales 2 conjuncti paullo longiori, articulis 4-11 singulis quam 3° paullo brevioribus inter se sat æqualibus, articulo apicali indistincte appendiculato ; prothorace sat

fortiter transverso, antice modice angustato, supra leviter inæquali, lateribus pone medium dente parvo obtuso armatis, angulis posticis subdentiformibus; elytris apice conjunctim rotundatis, sat parallelis, lineis elevatis 4 vel 5 instructis (ex his externis 2 antice abbreviatis). [Long. $9\frac{1}{2}$, lat. $3\frac{1}{2}$ lines.

The elytra are a little more than half again as wide as the widest part (*i.e.*, the base) of the prothorax and are about four and a half times as long as that segment.

N. Queensland; Cape York; in the collection of C. French, Esq.

PHACODES OCCIDENTALIS, sp.nov.

Sat brevis; sat latus; sat robustus; piceo-ferrugineus, pube albida sat dense submaculatim vestitus; prothorace modice transverso, sat crebre sat fortiter ruguloso, spatiis elevatis nitidis nullis, lateribus in medio fere rectis hinc ad basin coarctatis ad apicem (vix arcuatim) convergentibus, laterum parte mediana recta postice extrorsum prominenti; elytris ad apicem medium spiniformibus, antice crebre postice sparsim granulosis; antennis (feminæ) quam corpus brevioribus, articulo 3° quam 1^{us} vix quam 4^{us} haud multo longiori.

[Long. 10, lat. $3\frac{1}{2}$ lines.

The sides of the prothorax are almost straight and parallel in their middle part; this straight portion is protuberant (as though bearing an obtuse tubercle) at its basal end, whence the lateral margins become strongly convergent hindward and then become parallel again close to the base. The absence of nitid spaces on the prothorax, the shortness of the 3rd joint of the antennæ, and the comparatively large size of the insect suffice in combination to distinguish this species from its previously described congeners.

W. Australia; Ashburton district; in the collection of C. French, Esq.

PHORACANTHA ELEGANS, sp.nov.

Ferruginea, elytris flavo-testaceis, fusco-notatis; corpore toto (elytris exceptis) antennis pedibusque pube cinerea sat dense

vestitis; antennis (feminæ?) quam corpus parum longioribus, articulis 1° 3° 4°que longitudine inter se fere æqualibus, articulis 3-5 sat fortiter spinosis; prothorace 5-tuberculato utrinque spina laterali armato; elytris in partibus duabus anterioribus crassissime postice sat fortiter nec crasse punctulatis ad apicem singulatim fortiter 2-spinosis.

[Long. 10, lat. $2\frac{4}{5}$ lines.

The pubescence is dense over the whole body except the elytra, the sculpture of the head and prothorax being almost buried beneath it; on the elytra it is thinly dispersed and inconspicuous. The elytra are yellowish-testaceous, a little clouded here and there with brownish-testaceous, the apical one-fourth part being slightly darker. The fuscous markings on the elytra consist of a narrow very strongly zigzagged line a little in front of the middle, much like that in a similar position on the elytra of *Coptocercus rubripes*, Boisd., a spot on the lateral margin placed a little behind the base, and a transverse mark about half-way between the middle and the apex resembling a broad blotchy zigzag, which becomes narrow close to the lateral margins, where it is turned hindward and runs back nearly to the apex. The general build of the insect is very similar to that of *P. fallax*, Pasc.

I do not think this species can be identical with any of the very briefly described *Phoracanthæ* of Hope; of these *acanthocerus* seems to differ *inter alia* by its black undersurface, and *trimaculatus* to have very differently marked elytra; the others seem to be not much like the present insect.

W. Australia; taken by E. Meyrick, Esq.

PHORACANTHA POSTICALIS, sp. nov.

Subtus rufo-picea; supra nigra, elytris fasciis binis indeterminatis testaceis (altera antemediana altera vix postmediana) ornatis, antennis pedibusque rufis; parum pubescens; antennis (maris multo feminæ paullo) quam corpus longioribus, articulo 3° supra longitudinaliter vix sulcato, articulis 3-7 sat fortiter spinosis; prothorace sat fortiter sat crebre rugu-

loso, spatio mediano nitido lanceolato alteroque utrinque rotundato subapicali ornato, utrinque spina laterali armato; elytris a basi paullo ultra medium crasse hinc ad apicem sat subtiliter punctulatis, ad apicem singulatim sat fortiter 2-spinosis, parte posteriori nitida. [Long. 6-8, lat. $1\frac{1}{2}$ -2 lines.

Not unlike *P. fallax*, Pasc., in general appearance, but a little less robust and with more slender legs and antennæ, the 3rd and 4th joints of the latter being all but devoid of a longitudinal sulcus. The sculpture of the prothorax and elytra and the markings of the latter are as in *P. fallax*, except in the absence of the apical spot on the elytra, which are entirely black from immediately behind the middle to the apex. Also resembles *Coptocercus unifasciatus*, Hope, which, however, has no lateral spines on its prothorax.

S. Australia; widely distributed, but apparently not common.

TRYPHOCHARIA SOLIDA, sp nov.

Lata; subdepressa; ferruginea, prothorace elytrisque rufo-aurantiacis, his abdomineque nigro-notatis; parum pubescens; antennis (feminæ) quam corpus multo brevioribus, articulo 4^o quam 1^{us} haud longiori quam 3^{us} sat breviori, articulis 3-7 spinis binis validis armatis; prothorace crassissime ruguloso 5-tuberculato, utrinque spina laterali armato; elytris crassissime valde rugulose punctulatis (puncturis ad apicem summum manifeste minus crassis minus rugulosis), ad apicem spinis binis robustis elongatis armatis; metasterno sat crebre minus fortiter, abdomine sparsissime sat fortiter punctulatis.

[Long. 13, lat. $4\frac{1}{5}$ lines.

Not much like any of the previously described species of *Tryphocharia*. Compared with *T. hamata*, Newm., this is a very much wider and more depressed species, with its prothorax much more coarsely rugulose and having lateral spines not bent at the apex, its elytra much more coarsely rugulose (the rugulosity being much less enfeebled posteriorly) and differently marked, its antennæ (in the female) much shorter and with the 3rd joint

considerably longer in proportion to the 4th, and its legs evidently shorter and stouter. The depressed portions of the prothorax are black,—in strong contrast to the orange-red elevated parts. On the elytra the black markings are almost as extensive as the orange-red colour; they are very vaguely dispersed, but nevertheless can be regarded as forming two extremely ill-defined fasciæ (one basal, the other median) and an evidently better defined common spot near the apex.

An example (from N.W. Australia) in my collection appears to me to be the male of this species; it scarcely differs from the specimen described above, except in the way that *T. hamata*, Newm., differs from its female, *i.e.*, by the more cylindrical form (this difference is a little more marked than in *hamata*), the less strongly transverse prothorax, and the longer antennæ (in this example they scarcely reach beyond the apex of the elytra); it also shows a greater predominance of the orange-red colouring on the elytra, but the black markings although reduced in quantity are evidently what those of Mr. French's example would be if some of them were effaced; this difference is not likely to be even of sexual value.

N. Queensland; Cape York; in the collection of C. French, Esq.

PAPHORA ROBUSTIOR, sp. nov.

Sat robusta; fusca; pube grisea sparsim vestita; prothorace quam latiori sublongiori, medio cicatricoso; elytris oblongis ad apicem rotundato-truncatis; pedibus sat validis; antennis (feminæ) quam corpus multo brevioribus.

[Long. $5\frac{3}{4}$, lat. $1\frac{3}{8}$ lines.

Very like *P. modesta*, Pasc., but larger and of more robust form and darker colour, with legs and antennæ evidently stouter and the apex of each elytron broadly rounded, almost subtruncate (the elytra of *P. modesta* are much more narrowed at the apex). I have seen numerous specimens of *C. modesta* of both sexes, so that I am confident the above-mentioned differences indicate a good species.

W. Australia; Nullabor Plains; in the collection of C. French, Esq.

NEOBETHELIUM (gen.nov.)

Palpi sat breves, maxillaribus quam labiales parum longioribus; caput breve antice sat verticale; antennæ (maris) quam corpus duplo longiores (articulo basali fortiter arcuato 3° longitudine sat æquali, 4° quam 3^{us} paullo longiori, 5°-11° quam ceteri multo longioribus ex ordine magis elongatis, 5° 6°que conjuncti quam 1^{us}-4^{us} conjuncti sublongioribus); oculi grosse granulati supra approximati; prothorax (maris) cylindricus inermis quam caput multo angustiori; elytra postice rotundata; pedes modici, femoribus fortiter clavatis; coxæ anticæ modice exsertæ subcontiguæ.

The insect for which I propose this new generic name must, I think, be referred to the *Callidiopsides*. It is very distinct by the following characters in combination: eyes coarsely granulated, basal 4 joints of the antennæ together shorter than the 5th and 6th together, head (at any rate in the male) much wider than the prothorax, subvertical in front (as in *Bethelium*). In some respects, especially in the length of the antennæ and the proportion of their joints *inter se* and the general facies of the insect, this species resembles *Mecynopus*, from which it may be at once distinguished by its much more coarsely granulated eyes and shorter hind femora (the latter when set back not reaching beyond the base of the apical ventral segment).

NEOBETHELIUM MEGACEPHALUM, sp.nov.

Setis erectis subtilibus sparsim vestitum; sat nitidum; nigropiceum, palpis tiliarum basi tarsorum apice antennarum articulis ad basin et in elytris maculis elongatis indeterminatis nonnullis testaceis; prothorace quam latiori longiori, cylindrico, sat æquali, subfortiter punctulato et transversim plus minusve rugato; elytris sat fortiter punctulatis et costis nonnullis obscuris instructis, postice rotundatis.

[Long. 4, lat. $\frac{4}{5}$ line.]

The basal half or thereabouts of each of joints 4-11 of the antennæ is testaceous ; the apical half, however (which is black on the 4th joint), becomes paler on each joint successively, so that on the apical joints there is very little difference in the colour of the basal and apical parts. The elytra are not of uniform colour, for, independently of the testaceous markings, the nigro-piceous colour passes here and there (especially towards the sides) into reddish.

N.S.W. ; in my collection ; also sent from Queensland by Mr. French.

PORITHEA.

I refer the following species to this genus with some hesitation, as I have not, to my knowledge, seen an example of the unique previously described species. Indeed the general appearance of this insect is not suggestive of its being closely allied to any other known to me. Judged strictly by its structure, it would have to be placed among the *Phoracanthides*, as it has coarsely granulated eyes, intermediate coxal cavities closed externally, head not produced in front, and joints 3-5 of the antennæ spined. But it is so totally unlike other *Phoracanthides* that it seems impossible to place it among them. Of the preceding characters the antennal spines alone distinguish the *Phoracanthides* from the *Callidiopsides*, and both Mr. Pascoe and myself have already described as aberrant *Callidiopsides* species with a single antennal spine. The general build and colouring of this insect are fairly suggestive of *Callidiopsis*, and so I think it had better be regarded as an extremely aberrant member of that group.

Regarding this species then as a *Callidiopsid*, there seems no reason to place it elsewhere than in *Porithea*, for the presence of antennal spines in that group does not appear to be generic, and the following characters are all suggestive of *Porithea*: femora strongly pedunculate at base strongly clavate at apex, front of head vertical, the maxillary palpi fully twice as long as the labial and having their apical joint elongate-securiform. The only characters at all inconsistent with *Porithea* as described by M.

Lacordaire are the following: the antennæ are considerably more than "hardly" villose beneath, and their 3rd joint is slightly longer than their 5th. On the whole it appears to me better to call this insect "*Porithea*?" than to found a new genus for it.

PORITHEA PLAGIATA, sp.nov.

Modice elongata; sat opaca; fusca, antennis (nonnullorum articulorum apice excepto) femorum basi tibiis (apice excepto) tarsis (parte mediana excepta) elytrorumque maculis singulis lateralibus antemedianis magnis et fascia communi undulata anteapicali sat lata testaceis, capite metasterno et abdominis parte mediana rufescentibus; antennis quam corpus vix longioribus, articulo 3° quam 4^{us} paullo longiori, hoc quam 5^{us} vix longiori; capite prothoraceque subtilissime rugulosis (vel potius coriaceis); hoc quam latiori vix longiori, lineis 3 elevatis brevibus et tuberculis parvis 2 ornato, lateribus postice et antice sat parallelis in parte mediana sat rotundatis; elytris sat crebre sat subtiliter ruguloso-punctulatis, ad apicem rotundato-truncatis. [Long. 5, lat. $1\frac{1}{5}$ lines.

The inequalities on the prothorax consist of a short longitudinal elevated line on the middle of the disc and another (similar, but slightly more elevated) placed obliquely on either side of it slightly in front of the middle, and two small discoidal tubercles near the base.

N. S. Wales; Tweed River district.

APOSITES GRACILIS, sp.nov.

Fuscus, pube tenui grisea vestitus; prothorace quam latiori sublongiori, transversim rugato, antice sat angustato, lateribus a margine antico retrorsum divergentibus (in medio subangulatis vel potius subtuberculatim dilatatis, hinc retrorsum fere parallelis nihilominus ad basin summam divergentibus); elytris externe sat emarginatis, ad apicem angustatis, costis 3 discoidalibus sat obsoletis instructis; antennis (maris)

quam corpus sat manifeste (articulorum apicalium 2 longitudine) longioribus, his minus fortiter compressis.

[Long. 7, lat. $1\frac{1}{2}$ lines.

W. Australia ; Gnarlbine ; in the collection of C. French, Esq.

SCOLECOBROTUS VALIDUS, sp.nov.

Ferrugineus, totus pube sat densa flava vestitus ; prothorace quam latiori vix longiori ; elytris antice minus crasse punctulatis ; antennis (maris ?) quam corpus paullo longioribus, articulis 5-10 sat compressis haud serratis intus ad apicem lobatis ; cetera fere ut *S. Westwoodi*, Hope.

[Long. 11, lat. $4\frac{2}{5}$ lines.

Entirely of a ferruginous colour, the legs and abdomen somewhat paler, the upper and under surfaces very evenly and closely clothed with yellowish pubescence, which almost conceals the sculpture. The antennæ are almost exactly like those of a male *S. Westwoodi*, but without any of the serration of that species except the apical lobe-like process. Compared with *S. Westwoodi*, the build of the whole insect is a little more robust, the head a little less produced in front, the prothorax considerably less elongate and (as far as can be seen under the pubescence) less uneven, and the anterior portion of the elytra evidently less strongly rugulose. I have no doubt the specimen described is a male, but if it were a female, its antennæ a little longer than the body would at once distinguish it from the same sex of *S. Westwoodi*. The twelfth joint of the antennæ is shorter than in the male, and about as long as in the female, of *S. Westwoodi*.

N.W. Australia ; in the collection of C. French, Esq.

STRONGYLURUS MINOR, sp.nov.

Rufus, capite prothoraceque paullo obscurioribus ; disperse albo-pilosus ; prothorace quam latiori paullo longiori, sat crebre vix crasse granuloso-punctulato, flavo 4-maculato ; elytris modice elongatis ad apicem rotundatis, antice sat fortiter postice obsolete punctulatis. [Long. 5, lat. $1\frac{3}{10}$ lines.

Resembles *S. ceresioides*, Pasc., in its uniformly coloured elytra rounded at their apex, but differs from it by its prothorax slightly (to a casual glance considerably) longer than wide and much less coarsely punctured, and by the considerably less coarse puncturation of its elytra.

N. Queensland ; in the collection of C. French, Esq.

DISTICHOCERA FRENCHI, sp.nov.

♂. Atra ; capite prothorace sternis et elytrorum parte basali (fere dimidio) dense rubro-aurantiaco-pubescentibus ; elytrorum parte apicali dense nigro-pubescenti, apice summo truncato bi-apiculato. [Long. 9, lat. 3 lines.

Black, the part of the body on both the upper and under surface in front of the hind margin of the metasternum densely clothed with bright reddish-orange silky pubescence ; the rest of the elytra densely clothed with black pubescence ; part of the derm (especially on the elytra) underlying the orange pubescence concolorous with that pubescence. Head produced anteriorly, deeply grooved between the antennæ, which are as long as the body and formed as in the males of others of the genus, but with the ramulæ of the joints extremely broad (very much broader, *e.g.*, than in *D. par*, Newm.) and the apical joint almost cylindric. Prothorax rather wider than long, with the hind angles prominent laterally and another protuberance a little in front of them on the sides. Elytra much narrowed hindwards, very finely and closely punctulate, each with several scarcely defined elevated lines.

N. Queensland ; in the collection of C. French, Esq.

ATHEMISTUS CRISTATUS, sp.nov.

Niger, opacus ; setis brevibus pallidis sparsim vestitus ; capite prothoraceque fere impunctatis ; hoc tuberculis 5 discoidalibus ornatis, lateribus pone medium dente sat valido armatis ; elytris ad apicem oblique truncatis, vix punctulatis, seriatim tuberculis sat parvis sat crebris instructis, his ad humeros ut crista elevata condensatis ; scutello fortiter transverso.

[Long. 6, lat. $2\frac{2}{5}$ lines.

The tubercles on the prothorax consist of two near the base (which are opaque), and three nitid (of which the middle one is very small), so placed as to form with the lateral teeth a continuous row.

This species must be near *A. Howitti*, Pasc., but seems certainly distinct, that insect being described as of a fulvous-brown colour, with pale legs and antennæ; its scutellum is said to be narrowly triangular, and there is no mention of anything like the conspicuous crest-like ridge into which the 4th (from the suture) row of tubercles is elevated at the base of the elytra (a character that Mr. Pascoe could hardly have passed over unnoticed). From *A. rugosulus*, Guér., the only other large species of black colour with the prothorax almost impunctulate, the present insect differs by the truncate apex of its elytra.

N. S. Wales; Blue Mountains.

ATHEMISTUS MONTICOLA, sp. nov.

Piceus; sat opacus; pube subtilissima sericea dilutioni dense vestitus; capite sparsissime leviter vix subtiliter punctulato, linea subtilissima mediana (antice subelevata postice subimpressa) instructo; prothorace ut caput punctulato, supra vix inæquali haud determinate tuberculato, lateribus tuberculo parvo obtuso armatis; elytris ad apicem oblique subtruncatis, confertim subseriatim granuloso-punctulato-rugulosis; scutello sat fortiter transverso.

[Long 5-6, lat. $2-2\frac{2}{5}$ lines.

Perfectly fresh specimens are sparsely sprinkled with extremely fine short erect hairs and closely covered with a very fine silky pubescence, the conspicuousness of which depends on the position in which the light falls on it. This pubescence is more fulvous on the prothorax and more whitish on the elytra, and it leaves a large denuded spot on either side of the base of the prothorax, and a smaller one on either side at the front margin. The sculpture of the elytra is extremely difficult to describe; the surface seems to be somewhat irregularly punctulate-striate, the

punctures rather large and coarse, but this sculpture is rendered indistinct both by the pubescence and by a multitude of small obscure granules scattered indiscriminately over the striæ and interstices. This species seems to be near *A. pubescens*, Pasc., but the prothorax of that insect is described as "coarsely punctured," whereas the prothorax of this species appears quite impunctulate except under a strong lens; it is infinitely less strongly punctured than the prothorax of *A. bituberculatus*, Pasc., which its author calls merely "sparsely punctured."

Victoria; on the higher Alps.

ATHEMISTUS TORRIDUS, sp.nov.

Ferrugineus; opacus; pube subtilissima sericea dilutiori (hic illic squamis piliformibus cinereis submaculatim variegata) vestitus; capite leviter, prothorace sat profunde, crasse sat sparsim punctulatis; hoc tuberculis 3 discoidalibus (transversim positis) ornatis, lateribus pone medium dente sat valido instructis; elytris ad apicem rotundatis, seriatim verrucosis, postice 2-tuberculatis. [Long. 3, lat. $1\frac{1}{10}$ lines.

The smallest species of the genus yet described. The two posterior tubercles of the elytra (one on each elytron, about half way down the posterior declivity) distinguish it from all its congeners except *bituberculatus*, Pasc., and *æthiops*, Pasc. From the latter of these it is distinguished by its colour and by the row of three ill-defined tubercles on the prothorax forming a continuous line with the lateral tubercles, and from the former by its much smaller size and the more strongly defined (almost spiniform) lateral tubercles of its prothorax.

Queensland; Cape York; in the collection of C. French, Esq.

SYMPHILETES DENTIPES, sp.nov.

♂. Nitidus; minus pubescens; piceus, pedibus rufescentibus; capite pilis elongatis albidis sat sparsim vestito; tibiis anticis subtus, intermediis extus, posticis intus, dense pallide hirsutis, segmentis ventralibus postice ciliis pallidis perlongis ornatis; antennis supra pube subtili grisea dense vestitis, subtus dense

ferrugineo-ciliatis; capite crasse rugulose punctulato, linea mediana longitudinali elevata obscura instructo; prothorace quam longiori vix latiori, sat crebre sat crasse confuse rugato et sparsim punctulato, disco tuberculis 2 parvis munito, lateribus antice tuberculo parvo armatis; elytris sat grosse punctulatis, apice sinuato-truncatis, spina suturali apicali armatis, basin versus tuberculatis, tuberculis majoribus in utroque elytro juxta basin seriatim positus, ex his tuberculo mediano permagno; antennis quam corpus sat longioribus, ad apicem summum hamatis; coxis anticis spina magna recurva armatis, femoribus anticis dente magno obtuso subapicali armatis, tibiis anticis basi valde arcuatis, subtus in medio dente magno armatis. [Long. 12, lat. 4 lines.

It is possible that the type of this species is abraded, but I do not hesitate to describe it as its characters of sculpture and of sex are extremely remarkable. The dense pilosity on the tibiæ and the toothed front femora and tibiæ of the male are not found, I think, in any other described *Symphyletes*, except the toothed front tibiæ which are attributed to *S. neglectus*—a very different species. The tubercles on the front part of the elytra consist of three rows on each, in which those of the sutural and external ones are small, while those of the middle row are larger, especially the middle one of that row, which is very large (being about the same size as the tubercle at the base of the elytra in *Demonassa dichotoma*, Newm.). The elytra are punctured very much as in *D. dichotoma* except that their puncturation is scarcely so coarse in front and is less enfeebled behind.

This species bears a good deal of general resemblance to *S. fumatus*, Pasc., but differs from it by its remarkable sexual characters, by its more elongate prothorax, the very much greater size of one of the elytral tubercles, the longer 3rd joint of its antennæ (in the male), &c., &c. Mr. Pascoe says that the prothorax of *S. fumatus* is longer than broad, a statement clearly not founded on measurement, which shows the prothorax distinctly wider than long, though to a casual glance it appears elongate.

Queensland; in my collection.

IPHIASTUS DISPAR, sp.nov.

Piceo-ferrugineus; pube versicolori (sc. grisea albida aurantiacaque) vestitus; pube aurantiaca in capite prothoraceque lineatim in elytris maculatim disposita; elytris apice truncatis, truncatura externe angulato-prominenti, parte basali granulata. [Long. 12, lat. $4\frac{1}{2}$ lines.

This species must certainly, I think, be referred to *Iphiastus*, although its markings and vestiture are not much like those of the typical species (*I. heros*, Pasc.). Mr. Pascoe originally described *I. heros* as a *Symphiletes*, but afterwards founded *Iphiastus* for it on the ground chiefly of its antennal tubers being more prominent and approximate than those of *Symphiletes*; he mentions several other characters, but says that they are all merely those of *Symphiletes* exaggerated. The prominence of the antennal tubers, however, appears to me a really good generic character, and I notice also a character Mr. Pascoe did not mention in the much greater length of the legs. These characters are well defined in *I. dispar*.

In the present species (as in so many species of *Rhytiphora* and *Symphiletes*) the whole surface, including the legs and antennæ, is closely covered with a fine pubescence (it is of a slate colour tending to whitish on the metasternum) which may be regarded as forming the ground colour of the insect, while pubescence of another colour (orange-red) is superadded and forms the markings. The slate-coloured pubescence is pitted on the elytra and under-surface with small denuded spaces which give the appearance of a multitude of little dark spots. The orange-red pubescence forms the following markings: on the head a line on either side of the impressed median line, a ring round each eye, a line behind each eye, and a patch at the base of each mandible; on the prothorax six transverse lines, the 2nd and 3rd (counted from the base) being irregular; on the elytra a number of small spots very evenly distributed over the whole surface (very much as the ferruginous spots are distributed in *Rhytiphora Waterhousei*, Pasc., and

Symphyletes pubiventris, Pasc.) ; on the undersurface a number of spots (like those of the elytra) on the metasternum, some lines on the mesosternum, and the hind margin of each ventral segment. The orange-red pubescence is also vaguely distributed over the middle part of the pro- and meso-sterna and the legs. The prothorax has no lateral tubercles, but bears four or five transverse impressions or folds, the presence of which causes the lateral margins, viewed from above, to appear uneven. There is a fine elevated transverse line across the middle of the prothorax, which being *unevenly* elevated causes a slight appearance of a transverse row of scarcely defined tubercles. The part of the prothorax in front of the front fold is slightly narrower than the rest, but not so markedly as in *I. heros*. The antennæ are a little longer than the body and of a pitchy colour, much clothed (probably *entirely* in a perfectly fresh specimen) with slate-coloured pubescence, and thickly ciliated beneath. In the typical specimen the 2nd ventral segment bears a large patch of brown pilosity on either side and there is a strong (but very short) spine on each front coxa.

N. Queensland ; Cape York ; in Mr. French's collection.

PHYTOPHAGA.

RHOMBOSTERNUS OBSCURUS, sp.nov.

♂. Sat nitidus ; rufo-brunneus, capite postice antennarum basi apiceque prothoracis disco tibiæ apice et (nonnullorum exemplorum) tarsorum articulo 3° nigris ; oculis inter se sat approximatis ; capite prothoraceque crebre fortiter rugulosis ; hoc quam longiori dimidio latiori, angulis anticis minute dentiformibus ; scutello lævi basin versus nigricanti ; elytris rude punctulatis, puncturis pone medium seriatim dispositis, interstitiis costiformibus ante medium confuse subreticulatim pone medium longitudinaliter dispositis ; segmento ventrali apicali ante apicem transversim impresso, ad apicem rotundato ; antennis quam corpus multo longioribus.

[Long. $2\frac{1}{2}$, lat. $1\frac{1}{4}$ lines.

- ♀. Major ; robustior ; tota rufo-brunnea, antennarum apice scutelloque nigricantibus exceptis ; oculis inter se minus approximatis ; prothorace paullo magis transverso, angulis anticis vix dentiformibus ; segmento ventrali apicali profunde subrotundatim excavato. [Long. 3, lat. $1\frac{4}{5}$ lines.

N. S. Wales ; Blue Mountains.

RHOMBOSTERNUS MONTICOLA, sp.nov.

- ♂. Sat nitidus ; flavus, elytris flavo-testaceis, capitis macula pone oculos (hac in medio antrorsum anguste producta) prothoracis macula discoidali trifida et utrinque macula basali triangulari (nonnullorum exemplorum maculis basalibus cum macula discoidali anguste connexis) sutura (hac angustissime) et tarsorum apice nigris, antennarum apice summo et elytrorum puncturis infuscatis ; oculis inter se sat approximatis ; capite subtilius rugulose crebre, prothorace rude inæqualiter, punctulatis ; hoc quam longiori fere duplo latiori, angulis anticis minute dentiformibus ; scutello lævi ad basin anguste nigro ; elytris sat æqualiter (apice lævi excepto) punctulato-striatis, antice transversim modice rugatis, interstitiis parum convexis ; segmento ventrali apicali foveis 3 leviter impressis transversim instructo ; antennis quam corpus multo longioribus. [Long. $2\frac{2}{5}$, lat. $1\frac{1}{5}$ lines.

- ♀. Major ; robustior ; supra rufa latera et apicem versus flavescens, ut mas nigro-notata, antennis totis (vel fere totis) rufo-testaceis ; oculis inter se minus approximatis ; prothorace paullo magis transverso, angulis anticis vix dentiformibus ; segmento ventrali apicali profunde subrotundatim excavato.

[Long. $2\frac{4}{5}$, lat. $1\frac{3}{5}$ lines.

Victoria ; Alpine district.

RHOMBOSTERNUS PALLIDUS, sp.nov.

- ♂. Sat nitidus ; testaceus, antennis apicem versus elytrorum puncturis et tarsorum articulo 3° infuscatis, elytrorum pro-

thoracisque basi anguste nigra ; oculis inter se sat approximatis ; capite sat fortiter minus crebre, prothorace crasse sparsim, punctulatis ; hoc quam longiori duplo latiori, angulis anticis vix dentiformibus ; scutello lævi ; elytris minus fortiter subseriatim punctulatis, antice transversim rugatis, interstitiis vix manifeste convexis ; segmento ventrali apicali transversim leviter impresso ; antennis quam corpus multo longioribus.

[Long. $2\frac{2}{5}$, lat. $1\frac{1}{5}$ lines.

♀. latet.

The infuscation of the seriate punctures on the elytra causes those organs to appear to a casual glance striped with a number of brownish lines. This species is near *R. cicatricosus*, Chp., (a species that I think I have correctly identified), but differs from it, *inter alia*, by the very much less close puncturation of its prothorax.

N. S. Wales ; Blue Mountains.

RHOMBOSTERNUS MINOR, sp.nov.

♂. Sat nitidus ; ruber, prothorace indeterminate nigro-notato, antennarum tibiæque apice summo tarsorum articulo tertio et metasterni parte media infuscatis ; oculis inter se minus approximatis ; capite sat crebre minus fortiter ruguloso ; prothorace grosse ruguloso, quam longiori fere duplo latiori, angulis anticis minute acutis vix dentiformibus ; scutello ruguloso haud elevato, in medio carina lævi instructo ; elytris inæqualibus (sc. regione scutellari subgibbosa), fortiter seriatim punctulatis, interstitiis angustis carinatis ; segmento ventrali apicali in medio fovea subrotundata leviter impressa instructo ; antennis quam corpus vix longioribus.

[Long. 2, lat. 1 line.

♀. Major ; robustior ; antennis quam corporis dimidium parum longioribus ; prothorace quam longiori duplo latiori ; segmento ventrali apicali profunde subrotundatim excavato.

[Long. $2\frac{1}{5}$, lat. $1\frac{1}{5}$ lines.

This species, by its comparatively short antennæ and other characters, seems to be allied to *R. sartor*, Suff., and *sutor*, Suff., which, however, are described as considerably larger insects with black antennæ. The scutellum not being elevated behind above the level of the elytra gives the present species a facies somewhat different from that of its described congeners, but I think this character is due merely to the part of the elytra immediately behind the scutellum being itself somewhat gibbose.

Victoria ; Alpine district.



Blackburn, Thomas. 1894. "Notes on Australian Coleoptera, with descriptions of new species. Part XIII." *Proceedings of the Linnean Society of New South Wales* 8, 185–208.

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