

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

By the Rev. T. BLACKBURN, B.A.

[Read April 16th, 1897.]

## PART XXI.

### PECTINICORNES.

#### CERATOGNATHUS.

*C. Frenchi*, sp. nov. Mas. Minus elongatus, sat latus, sat parallelus; inæqualis; inæqualiter sat fortiter punctulatus; niger, squamis crassis albidis sparsim instructus, antennis picescentibus; capite medio tuberculo magno bifido et utrinque supra oculos cornu brevi sat acuto armato, oculis transversis minus convexis; mandibulis quam caput paullo longioribus, curvatis, ad apicem sursum compresso-dilatatis, margine apicali processu dentiformi sat elongato armatis; mento ut lamina erecta transversa posito, hoc sparsim grosse punctulato setoso (in medio haud canaliculato); prothorace transversim quadrato, antice haud angustato; elytris 3 vel 4 plus minusve distincte costatis; antennarum flabellis quam articuli ceteri conjuncti haud brevioribus. Long. (mands. excl.), 6 l.; lat.,  $2\frac{4}{5}$  l.

The form of the mentum (resembling the erect part of that organ in *Cryptodus caviceps*, Westw.) and the shape of the eyes are suggestive of close affinity between this insect and *C. mentifer*, Westw. I have not seen the latter but judging from the description of it the present species differs *inter alia* by the absence of a median tooth on the inner margin of the mandibles, by the strong erect process on the clypeus above each eye and by the form of the mentum which is neither sulcate down the middle nor emarginate at the apex.

Victorian Mountains; taken by Mr. Giles.

### LAMELLICORNES (*Dynastides*).

#### ISODON.

*I. novitius*, sp. nov. Mas. Brevis, subovatus; nitidus; brunneo-rufus, hic illic incerte infuscatus; clypeo antice modice (ut *I. pecuarii*) producto bidentato, ad latera nec acute nec extrorsum ultra oculos producto, crebrius rugulose (ut



reliquum capitis, basi summa excepta) punctulato, carina clypeali minus elevata recta haud tuberculata, lateribus sat fortiter sinuatis; prothorace quam longiori paullo plus quam sesquialtiori, sparsim obsolete punctulato, antice vix impresso, basi marginata quam apex (hoc in medio tuberculato) fere duplo latiori, angulis anticis parum prominulis posticis rotundatis; scutello lævi vel fere lævi; elytris (stria subsuturali excepta) fere lævibus, striis punctulatis postice abbreviatis 2 vel 3 vix manifestis impressis; propygidio stridulationis organis instructo (his rugis numerosis minus elevatis compositis); pygidio sat crebre punctulato, partibus mediana et postica fere lævibus; tibiis anticis extus sat fortiter tridentatis; tarsorum unguiculis simplicibus.

Fem. latet. Long., 5-6 l.; lat., 3-3½ l.

A very distinct species that should stand in my tabulation (Tr. R.S. S.A., 1896, p. 237) beside *pecuarius* from which however it differs by many characters—*inter alia* the very fine and very sparse puncturation of its prothorax the elytra almost devoid of sculpture outside the subsutural stria, and the clypeus (as in *Australasia*, *terra-reginæ*, and the species I take to be *curtus*, Burm., and *laticollis*, Burm.) not produced laterally in an angular projection protruding beyond the contour of the eyes.

W.A.; Geraldton; sent by Mr. Lea.

#### ASEMANTUS.

*A. Leai*, sp. nov. Minus latus, vix subovatus; nitidus; piceus (nonnullis exemplis plus minusve rufescentibus), subtus et in pedibus fulvo-hirtus; sat convexus; capite transversim sat crebre rugato, vix tuberculato, clypeo antice parum reflexo, carina inter frontem et clypeum modice distincta; prothorace quam longiori paullo minus quam sesquialtiori, postice quam antice ut  $1\frac{2}{3}$  (vix) ad 1 latiori, antice excavatione parva leviter impressa (hac intus sat fortiter punctulata) et postice canaliculata (canali ut excavatio antica punctulato), subtilissime (antice crebrius postice sparsim) punctulato, lateribus minus rotundatis, angulis anticis acutis minus productis posticis obtusis; scutello fere lævi; elytris minus subtiliter sed sat leviter punctulatis, puncturis ut series 8 geminatim dispositis, interstitiis vix vel leviter convexis inter serierum paria ut series (sed confuse sparsim) punctulatis, parte apicali confuse crebre punctulata; tarsis sat gracilibus minus brevibus; pygidio plus minusve crebre (parte mediano-apicali quam ceteræ minus crebre punctulata vel lævi) punctulato.

Maris pygidio quam feminae multo magis gibbo, tarsis posterioribus magis elongatis, unguiculis anticis inæqualibus.



Feminæ pygidio minus gibbo, tarsis posterioribus minus elongatis, unguiculis simplicibus. Long.,  $8-8\frac{1}{2}$  l.; lat.,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  l.

This species seems too close to *A. subæqualis* to be justifiably made into a new genus; nevertheless it differs in several not unimportant structural characters, notably in its longer and more slender tarsi (there being also a greater difference in length between the hind tarsi of the sexes, the basal joint of the hind tarsi being moreover but little dilated externally and not much more in the female than in the male). This is a perplexing character which makes *Asemantus* very difficult to place among the *Dynastid* genera, since in M. Lacordaire's arrangement the male of *A. subæqualis* would be a *Pentodontid* and the female a *Pimelopiid* and both sexes of the present species have *Pentodontid* structure of the hind tarsi. Other characters in which this species differs slightly from the generic characters I attributed to *Asemantus* are as follows:—The carina separating the clypeus from the hinder part of the head is a little better defined than the expression "clypeus a fronte vix distinctus" implies, and the anterior excavation on the prothorax cannot be called "large."

Among the examples before me are two much smaller than the rest (long. 6 l.) which however do not seem to differ otherwise from the larger specimens.

W. Australia; Perth, Mount Barker, &c.; sent by Mr. Lea.

#### BUPRESTIDÆ.

##### STIGMODERA.

*S. insularis*, sp. nov. Sat lata; minus convexa; æneo-nigra, capite prothoraceque cyaneo- et viridi-nonnihil micantibus, scutello cyaneo, elytris testaceo-rufis (margines versus paullo magis læte rufis) sutura fasciis 2 (paullo ante et paullo pone medium positis) maculaque subquadrata apicali cyaneis, antennis pedibusque violaceis aureo-viridi-plus minusve micantibus; corpore subtus pilis erectis argenteo-cinereis vestito; capite longitudinaliter sat late excavato, antice sat fortiter minus crebre postice sat crebre minus fortiter punctulato; prothorace quam longiori (et postice quam antice) fere ut  $1\frac{3}{4}$  ad 1 latiori, sat fortiter minus crebre (antice magis crebre magis subtiliter, ad latera crebre magis grosse) punctulato, in medio longitudinaliter late leviter impresso, latera versus depresso, lateribus sat arcuatis, latitudine majori pone medium posita, basi leviter sinuata; scutello sat lævi; elytris ad apicem leviter acuminatis (haud spinosis), punctulato-striatis, interstitiis convexis sparsim punctulatis; corpore subtus minus crebre minus fortiter (metasterno crebre fortius) punctulato. Long., 10 l.; lat.,  $4\frac{1}{5}$  l.



The markings on the elytra consist of a very narrow basal border, a fascia in front of the middle resembling that of *S. simulata*, L. and G. (as figured Tr. Ent. Soc., Lond., 1868, t. 2, fig. 15), a fascia behind the middle resembling that of *S. præcellens*, Kerremans (widest on the suture and sinuously narrowed to the margin), a spot at the apex resembling that of *S. undulata*, L. and G. (as figured Tr. Ent. Soc., Lond., 1868, t. 2, fig. 20), and narrow dark coloring along the suture. In general form this species is very much like *S. cruenta*, L. and G., but is a little more depressed and wider with the sides of the prothorax very decidedly flattened out.

Tasmania; in the collection of C. French, Esq.

*S. campestris*, sp. nov. Minus lata; modice convexa; antennis capite prothoraceque æneis viridescentibus, scutello viridi, elytris brunneo-testaceis (basi summa, sutura, fascia post-mediana, et apice nigro-violaceis), corpore subtus pedibusque cyaneis; capite antice sat producto, longitudinaliter sat profunde canaliculato, fortiter sat crebre punctulato, clypeo antice triangulariter exciso; prothorace quam longiori (et postice quam antice) ut  $1\frac{3}{5}$  ad 1 latiori, fere ut caput punctulato, lateribus modice arcuatis, latitudine majori fere ad basin posita, basi sat fortiter bisinuata; scutello sparsim punctulato; elytris ad apicem late arcuatim emarginatis bispinosis, punctulato-striatis, interstitiis antice parum evidenter (postice gradatim fortius, apicem versus valde fortiter) convexis sat crebre minus fortiter punctulatis; corpore subtus subfortiter sat crebre (sternorum parte intercoxali sparsim sat subtiliter) punctulato. Long.,  $4\frac{4}{5}$  l.; lat.,  $1\frac{4}{5}$  l.

A species bearing much general resemblance to *S. distincta*, Saund. (as figured in Journ. Linn. Soc., 1868, t. 10, fig. 30), but differing in the suture being widely of blackish violet color. Differs from the description also in the prothorax being much less than twice as wide as long and its base much less than twice as wide as its apical margin, and in the sutural apex of the elytra being distinctly spiniform.

Queensland; sent by Mr. French.

*S. Caroli*, Blackb. Having seen recently some more examples of *S. capucina*, Blackb., and discovered it to be a very variable species I have come to the conclusion that *S. Caroli* is probably an extreme variety of it. Unfortunately the description of *capucina* was founded on a then unique example in Mr. French's collection so that I had not a specimen before me when I described *Caroli*.

*S. pulchripes*, sp. nov. Modice lata; minus convexa; capite prothoraceque nigro-viridibus, elytris brunneo-testaceis,



horum basi summa sutura (late) fascia lata mox pone medium posita et parte apicali (late) nigro-viridibus vel subcyaneis, corpore subtus antennisque nigro-viridibus parce breviter argenteo-pubescentibus, pedibus læte violaceis; capite longitudinaliter profunde excavato, vix crebre minus fortiter punctulato; prothorace quam longiori ut  $1\frac{3}{5}$  ad 1 latiori, sparsim (ad basin lateraque sat fortiter, in aliis partibus subtiliter) punctulato, ad latera in parte postica depresso, lateribus minus arcuatis, latitudine majori fere ad basin posita, basi minus fortiter sinuata; scutello lævi; elytris ad apicem tri-spinosis, punctulato-striatis, interstitiis (præsertim postice) sat fortiter carinatis fere lævibus; corpore subtus minus fortiter vix crebre punctulato. Long., 5-6 l.; lat.,  $1\frac{9}{10}$ - $2\frac{1}{2}$  l.

Not unlike *S. campestris* in colors and markings, but with the post-median fascia of the elytra considerably wider; very different from it however in other respects. Its nearest ally is I think *S. bicincta*, Boisd., from which it differs *inter alia* (a) in markings, the suture being widely of dark color along its whole length and the basal dark coloring on the elytra consisting of a mere narrow edging; (b) in the prothorax (which is otherwise very like that of *S. bicincta*) being only very sparsely punctulate; (c) in the front of the elytra being very much less strongly arched forward. The structure of the apex of the elytra is as in *S. bicincta*—each apex trispinose, the two spines near the suture placed close together, the sutural spine the shortest of the three.

Victoria; sent by Mr. French.

*S. undulata*, Don. Mr. French's collection contains a remarkable variety of this insect in which the dark markings of the elytra are extended to cover the whole surface,—so that the elytra are of a uniform greenish-black color.

#### ELATERIDÆ.

##### MEGAPENTHES.

*M. futilis*, Cand. I have received under this name from Mr. Lea (who tells me that he obtained the name from Dr. Candèze) examples of the insect that I named *Elater wentworthensis*. It was to similar specimens, no doubt, that Dr. Candèze referred in the note appended to his original description of *M. futilis* (from N. Australia) when he said "I have had for some time several individuals from N.S. Wales lying unpublished (restés inédits) under the name of *futilis* and closely allied to it (ayant de grands rapports avec celui-ci)" and then mentioned its coloring, and said that it was also closely allied to *M. lituratus*. I am still of opinion that it is a good species. There are several specimens from tropical Australia in my collection which I regard



as *futilis* without doubt, and comparing *E. wentworthensis* with these I find that besides the strongly marked color distinctions the latter presents several slight differences; notably a somewhat finer and closer prothoracic puncturation and an evidently more marked sinuation of the hinder part of the lateral margins of that segment causing the hind angles to appear manifestly divaricate. It is also a consideration of some weight with one who has had experience in the collection of specimens in Australia that the probabilities are distinctly against the occurrence near Sydney (where I have taken *wentworthensis*) of species that are found in tropical Queensland. As regards the generic position of *wentworthensis* I accept Dr. Candèze's verdict. *Megapenthes* and *Elater* are (as indeed that learned author remarks in his "Mon. des *Elaterides*") very close, differing however in the prosternal sutures which are impressed in the latter genus and not in the former. In *wentworthensis* the sutures certainly appear less absolutely simple than in an average *Megapenthes*, but I think on re-examination they are not sufficiently concave to justify a place in *Elater*; in any case Dr. Candèze's authority may well determine the matter.

#### DASYLLIDÆ.

##### MACROHELODES.

*M. tasmanicus*, sp. nov. Fem. Late ovalis; nitidus; supra glaber; subtus sat dense breviter sericeo-pubescent; supra flavo-brunneus (elytrorum partibus impressis quam ceteræ minus flavis), capite prothoraceque indeterminate piceo-notatis, elytris piceo-trimaculatis (maculis versus marginem lateralem prope basin prope mediam partem et pone medium positis), antennis palpisque versus apicem infuscatis; subtus (coxis exceptis) paullo infuscatus; capite (hoc inter oculos biimpresso) confertim sat subtiliter, prothorace sparsim leviter nec subtiliter, elytris crebre grosse, punctulatis; elytrorum sutura tota late leviter convexa sublævi; antennarum gracilium articulis 2° 3° que conjunctis quam 4<sup>us</sup> sat brevioribus. Long.,  $4\frac{1}{5}$  l.; lat., 3 l.

This species is much like *M. crassus*, Blackb., but can be at once distinguished from it by its more slender and differently formed antennæ. In *M. crassus* the joints beyond the third of the antennæ are evidently compressed and each evidently increases in width from its base to its apex (the width of the fifth joint at its apex being a trifle more than half its length). In the present species the joints of the antennæ are scarcely compressed at all, but very nearly cylindrical (the width of the fifth joint at its apex being not more than a third of its length). I may say that this character is specific not sexual inasmuch as I possess



both sexes of *M. crassus* and find that they present no notable difference except in the last ventral segment, which is feebly emarginate in the male and pointed (very obtusely) in the female. The present species also differs from *crassus* (apart from color) by its larger size and the evidently stronger puncturation of its prothorax.

Tasmania.

## MALACODERMI.

### LUCIOLA.

*L. Cowleyi*, sp. nov. Oblonga; supra nigra vel nigro-picea, prothorace (late) et elytris (magis anguste) ad latera testaceo-limbatis, scutello testaceo; corpore subtus (capite excepto) pedibus antennis (his paullo infuscatis) palpisque testaceis; segmento ventrali penultimo albo; capite concavo crebre punctulato; prothorace transversim quadrato, crebre punctulato, in medio longitudinaliter sulcato, antice in medio prominulo, lateribus sat late deplanatis, angulis anticis obtusis posticis rectis; elytris crebre aspere punctulatis, sutura et costis nonnullis elevatis. Long.,  $2\frac{1}{5}$ — $2\frac{2}{5}$  l.; lat., 1 l.

Differs from *L. flavicollis*, MacL., by its smaller size, prothorax less narrowed behind and having the explanate sides wider, &c., from *L. coarcticollis*, Oliv., by smaller size, prothorax with sides much more explanate, lateral margins nearly straight, &c., from *australis*, Fab., by the blackish color of its prothorax (except the margins) and from *L. Gestroi*, Oliv., by the nearly straight sides of its prothorax, &c.

N. Queensland; sent by Mr. E. Cowley.

## TENEBRIONIDÆ.

### AXYNAON (gen. nov. *Meracanthidarum*).

Caput planum verticale, in coxas anticas reclive; clypeus utrinque supra antennarum basin sat gibbus; palporum articulus ultimus securiformis; labrum modicum; antennæ corporis dimidio longitudine sat æquales; prothorax sat parvus, fortiter convexus, sat gibbus, ad latera haud marginatus; scutellum transversum; elytra foveolato-striata; pedes sat graciles sat elongati, femoribus inermibus, tibiis ad apicem mucronibus binis armatis; metasternum brevissimum.

\*No Australian species of *Meracanthides* has been described

---

\*I have submitted an example of this insect to Mr. G. C. Champion, the eminent specialist on the *Heteromera*, and he, with his accustomed courtesy, has favored me with his opinion. He says "the insect is either an aberrant *Meracanthid* or should form the type of a new group. Your supposition regarding its affinities is quite correct. It differs from the *Meracanthides* in precisely the same way that the *Megacanthides* differ from the *Amarygmides*, viz., in the unarmed anterior femora. In some respects, as regards the scutellum, &c., it is more like *Psorodes* than *Meracantha*."



hitherto. The present insect is certainly I think referable to the tribe, though it cannot be placed in any known genus. I have not an example in my collection of either of the two genera (the African *Psorodes* and the N. American *Meracantha*) on which M. Lacordaire founded the tribe, and so cannot very confidently remark on the affinities of the genus I am characterising, but I judge it to be not very near either of the two, as it evidently differs from them by its femora without teeth and its prothorax without lateral carinæ. In general appearance it resembles a *Chalcopterus* but is at once distinguishable from that genus by its very short metasternum.

*A. Championi*, sp. nov. *Æneus* (exemplis nonnullis viridi- vel cupreo-micantibus); capite inter oculos crebre aspere punctulato; prothorace subtiliter minus perspicue punctulato, transverso, antice supra caput (a latere viso) fortiter declivi, lateribus haud marginatis; scutello lævi brevi; elytris grosse seriatim foveolatis, interstitiis angustis convexis. Long., 8 l.; lat., 4 l.

N. Queensland; sent by Mr. French.

#### CURCULIONIDÆ.

CAR (gen. nov.; ? *Eirrhininarum*).

Corpus pubescens; rostrum prothorace sat longius, minus robustum, subcylindricum, leviter arcuatum; scrobes breves subbasales inferæ; antennæ fere rectæ (vix geniculatæ), ad basin fere contiguæ, scapo brevi, clava a funiculo vix distincta (hujus quam funiculi articulis inter se haud magis arcte conjunctis); oculi valde leviter sed minus subtiliter granulati; prothorax, subcylindricus sed antice angustatus, quam elytra sat angustior, lobis ocularibus nullis; scutellum modicum; elytra sat lata; prosternum ante coxas minus elongatum; coxæ anticæ contiguæ, intermediæ modice approximatae; femora mutica; tibiæ validæ, apice apertæ inermes; tarsi modici, articulo 3° alte bilobo; unguiculi divaricati intus sinuati; pygidium elytris tectum; segmentum ventrale 2<sup>um</sup> quam 1<sup>um</sup> multo brevius, quam 3<sup>um</sup> parum longius; segmenta intermedia ad latera vix angulata; metasternum modicum.

The small *Curculionid* for which I propose this new generic name is a most perplexing species and difficult to place in any of M. Lacordaire's "Tribes." There is no doubt of its appertaining to the aggregate which M. Lacordaire calls "Section B of Phalanx I. of the Curculionides Phanerognathes Synmerides." On first consideration it seems to appertain to that portion of the said "Section" in which the antennæ are straight and have no



distinct club and to be referable to the *Belides*; but as it has no other resemblance to those genera, being in general appearance as unlike a *Belid* as it can well be, it does not seem at all satisfactory to give it such a place. The idea of its being a *Belid* once laid aside, the general resemblance to *Erirhininae* must certainly strike the attention, and subsequent consideration cannot fail I think to indicate those latter as really being the tribe of which the present insect is an aberrant member. Regarding it as such I do not find any aberration except in the antennæ which undoubtedly are very unlike those of a typical *Erirhinid*; nevertheless even these when carefully observed are found to differ in degree rather than fundamentally,—for the basal joint (though not longer than the following two joints together) is evidently a “scape,” and the joints following it do not uninterruptedly (as they do in *Belus*) continue the direction of the basal joint but are feebly geniculate with it. Perhaps however the greatest divergence from the *Erirhinid* type is in the antennæ not having a defined club but terminating quite like those of a *Belus*; yet even this character is distantly approximated in *Eniopea*. The position of the antennæ (inserted on the underside of the base of the rostrum and separated only by a narrow canthus) does not appear to be more inconsistent with the *Erirhininae* than with any other Tribe that I can suggest for this species to be placed in;—so that on the whole I feel fairly confident that I am placing it rightly. Its claws scarcely differ from those of an *Emplesis*. The prothorax and elytra in outline much resemble those of *Rhynchites betuleti*, F., except in the prothorax being more conico-cylindric. The basal two segments of the abdomen separated by a well-defined suture and the presence of a good-sized scutellum and the absence of an antennal club separate the present species from *Apion* and its allies as characterised by Lacordaire.

*C. condensatus*, sp. nov. Fem. (?). Tota rufo-brunnea, pilis brevibus dilutionibus inæqualiter vestitus, his in elytro utroque ut lunula magna indeterminata condensatis (cujus apices in margine laterali positi sunt); rostro gracili, cylindrico, leviter arcuato, quam prothorax sat longiori, subtiliter sparsim punctulato; antennarum scapo articulis sequentibus 2 conjunctis longitudine sat æquali, funiculi articulis 1° quam 2<sup>us</sup> et 2° quam 3<sup>us</sup> paullo brevioribus, 3°—5° inter se sat æqualibus, 6° 7° que paullo brevioribus; prothorace vix transverso, crebre fortiter sat rugulose punctulato; elytris punctulato-striatis, interstitiis leviter convexis crebre subrugulose punctulatis. Long. (rostr. excl.),  $2\frac{1}{2}$  l.; lat,  $1\frac{3}{5}$  l.

Australia; exact habitat uncertain, but I believe it to be in Eyre's Peninsula.



ELLESCHODES (gen. nov. *Tychiidarum*).

Corpus pubescens; rostrum prothorace vix longius, sat robustum, subdepressum; scrobes antemedianæ subrostrum directæ, oculos attingentes; funiculus 7-articulatus; oculi subfortiter granulati; prothorax transversus, quam elytra haud multo angustior, lobis ocularibus fere nullis; scutellum sat parvum; elytra brevia, lata; prosternum ante coxas minus breve; coxæ intermediæ minus approximatae; femora dente parvo armata; tibiæ sat validæ, anterioribus breviter mucronatis; tarsi sat breves, articulo 3° alte bilobo; unguiculi divaricati, appendiculati; pygidium elytris tectum; segmentum ventrale 2<sup>um</sup> quam 1<sup>um</sup> paullo brevius, quam 3<sup>um</sup> 4<sup>um</sup> que conjuncta sublongius; segmenta intermedia ad latera fortiter angulata, 2° 3<sup>um</sup> haud amplectenti.

In M. Lacordaire's classification this genus falls into the Group *Elleschides* and is very near *Elleschus* from which *inter alia* its strongly divaricate claws distinguish it. Its dentate femora *inter alia* distinguish it from *Orichora* and *Ochrophæbe*.

*E. Hamiltoni*, sp. nov. Ferrugineus vel piceo-ferrugineus, rostro pedibus sternisque nigricantibus; rostro supra longitudinaliter striolato; antennis minus elongatis, scapo oculum attingenti, funiculi articulo 1° modice elongato ceteris brevibus, clava manifeste articulata; capite prothoraceque crebre vix fortiter punctulatis; hoc sat transverso, antice subito angustato, in medio longitudinaliter plus minusve perspicue subcarinato; elytris vix striatis, seriatim subgrosse (interstitiis planis crebre subtiliter) punctulatis; corpore breviter pubescenti. Long. (rostr. exc.),  $1\frac{1}{2}$  l.; lat.,  $\frac{4}{5}$  l.

Perhaps congeneric with *Elleschus orbitalis*, Schönnh., which its author places in *Elleschus* with some hesitation, but differing from the description of that species *inter alia* by the absence of white pilosity on the orbits of the eyes and on the sterna.

N.S. Wales; taken near Mount Kembla by A. G. Hamilton, Esq., who is publishing (in Linn. Soc. N.S.W.) a paper on the economic value of this species.

## LONGICORNES.

## NENENIA.

The following two species may I think be confidently referred to *Nenenia* with which they seem to agree in all generic characters.

*N. thoracica*, sp. nov. Sat elongata; sat parallela; nigra, capite subtus genis et prothorace rufo-testaceis, elytris chalybeis notula subapicali transversa testacea (hac in margine laterali



quam in sutura multo latiori) ornatis, antennis apicem versus subferrugineis; pedibus piceis. Long.,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  l.; lat.,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  l.

The structure of the head mouth organs and antennæ does not differ from the same in *N. aurulenta*, Pasc.; the elytra are more parallel more distinctly punctured and scarcely distinctly pubescent; the tarsi are distinctly (though not very much) more slender. I do not observe any other notable structural difference from *N. aurulenta*, Pasc., but the difference in coloring prevents any possibility of confusing the two species. The subapical fascia of the elytra commences on the lateral margin about half-way between the middle and the apex and continues there more than half-way to the apex; its front margin runs obliquely hindward to a point a little behind the middle of its lateral margin; its hind margin is on the suture about level with its lateral hind margin but its hind margin is deeply roundly emarginate so that the chalybeate apex has the appearance of a round spot.

Victoria; sent by Mr. Sloane; also by Mr. French.

*N. virgata*, sp. nov. Elongata; parallela; pallida (subtus obscura flavo-pubescent); capite, prothoraceque maculatim, elytris longitudinaliter adque apicem antennis, et femorum tibiæ tarsorumque parte apicali, nigro-vel piceo-notatis. Long., 5 l.; lat.,  $1\frac{1}{5}$  l.

Evidently a variable species in the distinctness of its markings, as the two specimens I have seen differ considerably in this respect. Regarding pale yellow as the ground color of the upper surface the dark markings are as follows:—a large space between the eyes, a spot on the vertex, the middle of the front of the prothorax and two large discal spots on the same, the scutellum (which however is clothed with pale pubescence), and on the elytra the suture (widely but not quite to the apex) a narrow interrupted marginal vitta and an apical spot. In one of the examples before me the sutural vitta is subobsolete and the marginal vitta quite faint, while the space between the apical spot and the elytral vittæ is more brightly yellow than the rest of the surface so that it seems to bear a rather conspicuous fascia. This species is evidently more narrow and parallel than the preceding; the fine cariniform lines on the elytra are less marked than in it or *N. aurulenta*.

N. Queensland; sent by Mr. French.

#### RHYTIPHORA.

*R. Spenceri*, sp. nov. Piceo-nigra, pilis niveis variegata; his frontem totam genasque dense æqualiter vestientibus, in vertice (hoc longitudinaliter impresso) tri-radiatim condensatis, in prothorace lineas transversas plus minusve inter



ruptas 4 vel 5 formantibus, in elytris ut lineæ varie contortæ maculæque condensatis, corpus subtus pedesque dense sat æqualiter (nihilominus hic illic, præsertim in metasterno et abdominis lateribus interrupte) et antennarum articulos 2<sup>um</sup> — 8<sup>um</sup> ad basin vestientibus; oculis permagnis; capite prothoraceque irregulariter sat sparsim vix profunde punctulato; hoc transversim subquadrato, transversim plicato; elytris fere ut prothorax punctulatis, granulis nonnullis basin versus instructis, ad apicem rotundatim vix truncatis. Long. 14–16 l.; lat., 5–5½ l.

Closely allied to *R. (Penthea) Saundersi*, Pasc., but differing from it by its very much larger eyes, the space between which is densely clothed with even white pubescence, the spots and patches of pubescence on its elytra considerably larger though of similar form and arrangement, and its narrower and more elongate form. The antennæ of the male are a trifle longer (of the female a trifle shorter) than the body. I take the essential distinction of *Rhytiphora* from *Penthea* to lie in the less fine granulation of the eyes; tested by that character this species and *Saundersi*, Pasc., appertain to *Rhytiphora*.

Central Australia; taken by Professor Spencer; sent to me by Mr. French.







Blackburn, Thomas. 1897. "Further notes on Australian Coleoptera, with descriptions of new genera and species. Part XXI." *Transactions of the Royal Society of South Australia* 21, 28–39.

**View This Item Online:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/54680>

**Permalink:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/54312>

**Holding Institution**

Harvard University, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Ernst Mayr Library

**Sponsored by**

Harvard University, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Ernst Mayr Library

**Copyright & Reuse**

Copyright Status: Public domain. The BHL considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection.

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.