

NOTES ON AUSTRALIAN COLEOPTERA, WITH
DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW SPECIES.

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In the following pages I have the pleasure of offering to the Royal Society a further contribution towards a knowledge of the *Coleoptera* of South Australia. Probably this colony contains a Coleopterous fauna second in extent to none on the Australian continent; and I doubt not that if the opening up of the country in the Far North be accompanied by any systematic attempt to explore the natural history of the districts rendered accessible, the discoveries of new and very interesting species will be so numerous that students will scarcely be able to keep pace with them. Unfortunately, those who are engaged in the work of extending our railways and of settling the newly opened country seldom have any inclination to trouble themselves with the collection of specimens for scientific study, so that it will probably be the case that the knowledge of the fauna will have to depend almost entirely on such occasional visits as may be made for the express purpose of collecting specimens by those who are themselves engaged in natural history studies.

SCARITIDÆ.

PHILOSCAPHUS.

P. Tepperi, sp. nov. Niger; subtus obscure violaceus; capite magno, fortiter bisulcato, utrinque juxta oculos punctis 2 setiferis notato; prothorace sublunulato, postice lobato, canaliculato, vix evidenter rugato, anguste marginato, margine anteriori rugis longitudinalibus subtiliter notato, elytris prothorace vix latioribus, obscure striatis, interstitiis alternis elevatioribus obsolete tuberculatis, margine anteriori medio leviter emarginato utrinque oblique truncato, humeris subdentiformibus, regione laterali abrupte declivi; hac supra antice costa elevata ab humero ad longitudinis medium, postice costa inferiori ab medio fere ad apicem, marginata; tibiis anticis externe tridentatis. Long., 33 mm.

This species appears to differ from all of the genus hitherto described in the sculpture of the grooved lateral sub-vertical

portion of the elytra. From the shoulder a strong keel runs along the upper edge of the groove to about the middle of the length of the elytron, where it passes to the upper surface of the elytron, and there continues as one of the obsoletely tuberculated ridges with which the surface is furnished. Just below the point where this keel ceases to limit the groove, and about 2 mm. nearer to the shoulder, a second keel commences and continues nearly to the apex, so that the groove is suddenly narrowed about the middle of its length. The sculpture of the surface of the elytra is very difficult to describe intelligibly. It seems to consist in a series of scarcely traceable striæ, the interstices between which are (alternately) decidedly and scarcely convex. These convex interstices are intersected by numerous irregular transverse impressions, which seem to divide them into very uneven tubercles. Towards the basal and extreme apical portions all system disappears from the sculpture, and it consists of small granules interspersed among wavy furrows. The sculpture is all lightly impressed and obscure; about a dozen striæ can be faintly discerned on each elytron, though it is hardly possible for the eye to follow any one of them continuously along its course. The anterior tibiæ have three external teeth, and no trace of any more; the apical tooth, which is bent, equals in length the basal two joints together of the tarsus; the next is rather near to it and half its length, a greater interval separates the upper tooth (which is about at the middle of the length of the tibia) from the second, and it is scarcely half the length of the second.

This insect was taken at Angebuckina.

P. crassus, sp. nov. Niger; capite magno fortiter bisulcato, utrinque juxta oculos punctis 2 setiferis notato; prothorace sublunulato, postice lobato, canaliculato, transversim fortiter crasse rugato, late reflexo-marginato, margine anteriori rugis longitudinalibus subtiliter notato; elytris prothorace angustioribus supra fortiter depressis, vix evidenter striatis, seriatim inæqualiter sat fortiter tuberculatis, margine anteriori medio leviter emarginato utrinque oblique truncato, humeris subdentiformibus, regione laterali abrupte declivi longitudinaliter bisulcatâ; tibiis anticis externe 5 dentatis. Long., 33 mm.

The width of the thorax compared with the length is as 13 to $7\frac{1}{2}$. In the preceding insect it is as 11 to 7. The sculpture of the upper surface of the elytra is as follows:—Next the suture are two rows of small and very ill-defined tubercles, among which (especially in the apical half) are some minute granules; then follow three rows of large coarse tubercles (which in the specimen before me are not quite symmetrical on the two elytra)—about ten tubercles in the first row, five in

the second, seven in the external one—the largest of which cover an area scarcely less than that of the insect's eye, but they are not strongly elevated in proportion to the area they cover. The first of these rows terminates apically at the end of the keel that limits on the upper side the upper lateral groove of the elytra; and the space between the external row and the above-mentioned keel, as well as the interstices between the rows, is pretty thickly strewn with small round granules. The lower lateral keel dividing the lateral groove into two very unequal parts (the upper being the narrower) commences a little behind the shoulder, not, however, taking its rise from the upper keel, and both keels terminate considerably short of the apex of the elytra. The apical external tooth of the front tibiæ is nearly as long as the basal three joints together of the tarsus, the four teeth above it being in rotation, each about half the length of that in front of it, so that the topmost tooth (which is above the middle of the tibia) is quite short, though perfectly well defined. Above it there are rudimentary indications of one or two more teeth. The presence of more than three teeth on the anterior tibiæ sufficiently distinguishes this species from all others of the genus hitherto described.

There is a single specimen in the South Australian Museum, but I cannot ascertain where it was found.

BEMBIDIIDÆ.

TACHYS.

T. infuscatus, sp. nov. Elongatus; depressus; piceus; nitidus; prothorace dilutiore; antennis, palpis, mandibulis, pedibus, elytrisque testaceis, his circa scutellum et circa suturæ partem pone medium infuscatis; antennis sat elongatis; prothorace transverso postice angustato, vix evidenter canaliculato, angulis posticis distinctis obtusis; elytris sat parallelis, striis 4 punctatis antice leviter notatis, suturali solum ad apicem attingente, hac fortiter arcuatim recurvâ. Long., $2\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

Compared with the European *T. bistriatus*, Duftschm., apart from colour differences, this insect is somewhat narrower, and more parallel, and much less convex. There is very little difference *inter se* in the profundity of the four elytral striæ, but they are all fainter than the two striæ near the suture in *T. bistriatus*; the recurved stria does not differ much except in being more arched; the stria close to the margin is very much deeper than in *bistriatus*, especially close to the apex, where it widens out and seems to be divided by a short keel. A similar structure exists, but much more obscurely, in *bistriatus*. There are

two rather strong punctures bearing setæ on each elytron, one in front of the middle, one near the apex.

The hinder infuscation of the elytra is subject to variety being very slight in some specimens, and in others occupying the whole of the hinder two-thirds of the disc.

There is a short series of this insect in the South Australian Museum. The specimens were taken near the mouth of the Murray.

T. similis, sp. nov. Minus elongatus; depressus; sat nitidus; capite piceo vel rufopiceo, prothorace rufotestaceo antice infuscato, antennis palpis labro mandibulis pedibus elytrisque rufo-testaceis, his antice triangulariter ad latera lineatim et apicem versus confuse infuscatis, abdomine piceo; antennis sat elongatis; prothorace transverso canaliculato postice angustato, angulis posticis subrectis; elytris valde depressis subquadratis; stria suturali leviter ceteris tribus vix evidenter impressis; stria recurva leviter arcuata. Long., $2\frac{3}{4}$ mm.

Allied to the preceding, but differing in colour and in structural characters. The lateral infuscation consists of an almost black line just before the margin, commencing about the middle of the length, and running into the apical infuscation. *T. similis* is a shorter, broader, and more depressed insect than *T. infuscatus*; the striæ of the elytra are somewhat fainter, and with less appearance of puncturation; the hinder angles of the thorax though obtuse are not far from being right angles; the recurved stria is only very slightly arched. The marginal furrow of the elytra is not much different from that of *T. infuscatus*. The punctures on the elytra bearing setæ are present in this species as in the preceding.

A few specimens occurred on the margin of the "Big Swamp," about twelve miles from Port Lincoln, running with extreme rapidity.

T. Lindi, sp. nov. Sat elongatus; convexus; nitidus; piceus; palpis mandibulis antennarum basi pedibus prothorace et elytrorum maculis obscuris, testaceis vel rufescentibus; antennis sat elongatis; prothorace transverso, vix evidenter canaliculato, postice parum angustato, angulis posticis fere rectis; elytris subparallelis convexis; striis vix evidenter punctatis binis prope suturam distincte, tertiâ leviter, impressis, ceteris obsoletis; striâ recurvâ arcuatâ, fortiter impressâ. Long., 3 mm.

The pale markings on the elytra are very cloudy and difficult to describe. They consist of an ill-defined spot occupying the anterior external portion, a spot on the disc a little before the apex, and another at the apex, but they all merge into the

darker ground colour so gradually that it is difficult to say where they end. This insect resembles the preceding in the possession of similar setiferous tubercles, but its strong convexity, thorax much less narrowed behind, strongly marked striæ on either side of the elytral suture, different colour, and larger size, make it appear almost generically distinct.

It is found about 40 miles north of Port Lincoln on damp ground.

T. Adelaideæ, sp. nov. Elongatus; sat convexus; nitidus; piceus, sub-iridescens; antennis palpis labro pedibus et elytrorum apice testaceis, prothorace rufescenti; antennis sat elongatis; prothorace canaliculato, postice parum angustato, lateribus post medium distincte sinuatis, angulis posticis subrectis; elytris subparallelis, sat convexus; striis trinis prope suturam distincte impressis, ceteris obsoletis; striâ recurvâ minus arcuatâ minus fortiter impressâ. Long., $2\frac{3}{4}$ mm.

This species has the setiferous punctures on the elytra as in the preceding species, except that the anterior one is much nearer the base. It resembles *T. Lindi* rather strongly, but differs in its iridescence, in the absence of pale markings on the elytra, except obscurely at the extreme apex; in the decided (though delicate) sinuation of the sides of the thorax close to the base, in the three striæ of the elytra being nearly of equal sculpture (though they are all fainter than those nearest to the suture in *T. Lindi*), in the recurved stria on the elytra being less strongly impressed and less arched, and its more elongate form, which is scarcely so convex, &c.

I have taken a single specimen at Woodville, near Adelaide. It was flying in the evening.

T. uniformis, sp. nov. Elongatus; minus convexus; nitidus; rufo-piceus, palpis mandibulis antennarum basi pedibusque sordide-rufis, elytrorum suturâ plus minusve rufescenti; antennis gracilibus minus elongatis; prothorace canaliculato antice parum angustato; lateribus prope basin sat fortiter sinuatis, angulis posticis prominulis obtusis; elytris sat parallelis minus convexus; striis binis prope suturam distincte impressis, ceteris obsoletis; striâ recurvâ arcuatâ impressâ. Long., $2\frac{1}{3}$ mm.

The setiferous punctures on the elytra are not very conspicuous in this species unless the setæ are present. It bears a good deal of resemblance to the preceding, but is much smaller, and of a dark uniform colour in general appearance, the reddening of the suture being never very conspicuous, and in some examples scarcely traceable. The thorax, as in the preceding two species, is strongly transverse, and only mode-

rately narrowed behind, though pretty strongly rounded on the sides. The basal angles, though strictly speaking obtuse, have a sharp appearance, being somewhat prominent, or almost subdentiform. The antennæ are very slender, and not quite so long as in the preceding insects.

A few specimens occurred on the banks of a small creek about 35 miles north of Port Lincoln. I have also taken it near Adelaide.

T. semistriatus, sp. nov. Minus elongatus; convexus; nitidus; piceus, antennarum basi mandibulis capite prothorace pedibus et elytrorum maculâ subapicali obscurâ rufescentibus; antennis crassiusculis, capite prothoraceque conjunctis vix longioribus; prothorace minus fortiter transverso canaliculato, postice fortiter angustato, trans basin punctulato, lateribus antice fortiter rotundatis, juxta basin sinuatis, angulis posticis subdentiformibus acute rectis; elytris oblongis, antice fortiter 7-seriatim punctatis, haud striatis (striâ suturali, postice et breviter recurvâ fortiter impressâ exceptâ). Long., $2\frac{1}{3}$ mm.

I do not observe any setiferous punctures on the elytra of this insect, which does not seem to fall naturally into any genus known to me. The presence of a recurved stria (which, however, is very short) associates it with *Tachys* and *Tachyta*, and the antennæ are suggestive of the latter; but its strong convexity, the coarse serial puncturation of the elytra not extending beyond the middle of these organs; the complete absence of striation, with the exception of the very strong sutural stria commencing near where the puncturation ceases, and briefly recurved a little before the apex, are inconsistent with any close alliance with the species of those genera. In many respects, especially the form and sculpture of the thorax, *T. semistriatus* bears much resemblance to the European *Bembidium articulatum*, Gyll., from which, however, the short antennæ, well defined recurved stria, &c., separate it rather widely. It should be added that the reddish mark on the elytra consists of a large obscure spot on the disc, a little behind the middle.

A few specimens have occurred to me on swampy ground in several places near Port Lincoln.

T. Flindersi, sp. nov. Minus elongatus; sat convexus; nitidus; rufus, antennis (his basi exceptâ nonnullis exemplis testaceo-fuscis) palpis mandibulis pedibusque pallidioribus, elytrorum disco nonnullis exemplis plus minusve obscure infuscato; antennis crassiusculis, capite prothoraceque conjunctis haud longioribus; prothorace (minus fortiter) transverso, haud distincte canaliculato, postice minus for-

titer angustato, lateribus antice sat fortiter rotundatis basin juxta rectis, angulis posticis rectis; elytris oblongo-parallelis, vix striatus (striâ suturali postice et striâ recurvâ exceptis), antice minus fortiter 5-seriatim punctatis. Long. 2-2½ mm.

This is another anomalous little species. I cannot discover any trace of the large setiferous punctures on its elytra. The infuscation on the elytra when present is very obscure. I possess one example in which there is a little infuscation round the scutellum. This insect bears much resemblance to the preceding, but has fewer lines of punctures on the elytra (the punctures themselves being considerably finer), the recurved stria much longer, the elytra more parallel, and the thorax differently shaped. The basal margin of the thorax is scarcely narrower than the apical, the sides are regularly and rather strongly rounded from the front nearly to the base where they become quite straight and parallel to each other, and there is no trace of puncturation across the base.

I have found this insect in several places in the Port Lincoln district, on swampy ground, and also on the banks of the Torrens, near Adelaide.

T. captus, sp. nov. Sat elongatus; subdepressus; nitidus; lividus, capite obscuriore, pedibus (nonnullis exemplis prothorace etiam) dilutioribus; antennis crassiusculis, capite prothoraceque conjunctis paullo longioribus; prothorace sat fortiter transverso, postice evidenter angustato, subtiliter canaliculato, lateribus rotundatis ante basin vix sinuatis, angulis posticis distinctis obtusis; elytris oblongis, striâ suturali leviter ceteris obsolete notatis, striâ recurvâ nullâ; utroque elytrorum punctis setiferis 2 in disco et 4 juxta marginem notato. Long., 1½ mm.

This minute insect is no less anomalous than the preceding. I cannot find any character to separate it from *Tachys* (of which it has all the facies) except that I fail to discover any trace of a recurved stria; at the same time I must admit having failed to dissect the mouth organs satisfactorily. In colour and size it must be very like *Tachyta livida*, Bates (described from an Adelaide specimen, but quite unknown to me in nature), but the structural characters are very different. In one of my specimens there is a little infuscation about the front of the thorax.

I have taken this species in the Port Lincoln district and also near Adelaide. One of the specimens from the latter locality with the upper surface pitchy black, the elytra apparently a little less depressed, and the antennæ scarcely so long as in the type, may possibly represent a closely allied distinct species.

BEMBIDIUM.

B. proprium, sp. nov. Nigro-piceum; nitidum; antennarum brevium apicem versus infuscatarum basi, pedibusque testaceis; elytris plus minusve testaceo maculatis; prothorace leviter transverso subtiliter canaliculato, cordato, utrinque ad angulos posticos rectos foveolato, lateribus fortiter rotundatis; elytris vix striatis, longe sparsim setosis, fortiter seriatim punctatis, punctis apicem versus obsolete. Long., $3\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

This species bears a great resemblance to the European *B. (Leja) Normannum*, Dej., though the closeness of the basal foveæ on the thorax to the lateral margin would seem to associate it with the subgenus *Lopha*, as also the brevity and thickness of the antennæ, those organs being scarcely longer than the head and thorax together; the whole insect is a little less elongate, especially in respect of the thorax, than *B. Normannum*, and the puncturation of the elytra scarcely differs from what it is in that species, consisting of rows of strong punctures in scarcely marked striæ, which become obsolete in the posterior one-third of the elytra, the rows nearer the suture extending further than those nearer the sides. The testaceous markings of the elytra vary a good deal, in some specimens consisting merely of a blotch on the lateral margin a little before the apex, while in others the shoulders and nearly the apical half of the elytra are testaceous.

I have not met with this insect except in the Port Lincoln district, where it is not rare.

B. dubium, sp. nov. Atrum; nitidum; antennis sat elongatis palpis piceis basidilutioribus, pedibus rufescentibus, elytris apicem versus rufo maculatis; prothorace leviter transverso subtiliter canaliculato, cordato, utrinque ad angulos posticos subrectos foveolato, lateribus fortiter rotundatis; elytris vix striatis minus fortiter seriatim punctatis, punctis apicem versus obsolete. Long., $4-4\frac{1}{4}$ mm.

Very closely allied to the preceding, but undoubtedly distinct. It is larger and a little more elongate and parallel, with the ground colour black, the antennæ considerably longer than the head and thorax together, of a pitchy black colour except at the extreme base, the basal angles of the thorax gently obtuse and the elytra more finely punctate, with an obscure impression on each of them near the front, and no trace of the long thinly-dispersed setæ which exist on fresh specimens of *B. proprium*. I think that this species also should be referred to *Lopha*.

I have taken this insect in the Port Lincoln district, also on the banks of the River Murray. There are specimens in the

South Australian Museum from the Finnis River, which seem to have the elytra a little more finely punctured, but do not differ otherwise.

B. errans, sp. nov. Nigro-piceum; plus minusve ænescens; sat elongatum; minus nitidum; antennis palpis pedibusque sordide testaceis; elytris plus minusve testaceo-maculatis; antennis capite prothoraceque conjunctis sat longioribus; prothorace fortius transverso, haud cordato, subtiliter canaliculato, postice quam antice vix angustiori, postice marginem juxta utrinque foveolato, lateribus fortiter rotundatis; angulis posticis minutis, subrectis; elytris leviter striatis, striis sat subtiliter puncturatis marginem apicemque versus deficientibus, interstitio tertio bi-impresso. Long., 5 mm.

This species is very difficult to place among the named subgenera of *Bembidium*. It has very much the general appearance of a *Leja* (the European *Bruxellense*, Wessmael, for instance) with a thorax much of the *Lopha* type (though not at all cordate), with the basal corners not at all explanate, and the basal fovea not separated by a keel from the lateral margin. The elytra vary a good deal in colour and marking, being in some specimens almost entirely of a dirty testaceous hue, and in others blackish, or almost green, with the shoulders and external apical portion, or even the latter only, suffused or spotted with testaceous. The sculpture of the elytra is very similar to that of *B. Bruxellense*, with the striæ a little finer and more finely punctured.

Rather a common species and widely distributed in South Australia, possibly occurring only near the coast. I have the following localities noted for it:—Adelaide, Port Lincoln, Mouth of the Murray.

B. ocellatum, sp. nov. Æneum; sat nitidum; minus elongatum; antennis (apice infuscato excepto) mandibulis pedibusque testaceis, elytris, apicem versus testaceo-maculatis; antennis capite prothoraceque conjunctis longioribus; oculis permagnis; prothorace fortiter transverso haud cordato, postice quam antice haud angustiori, subtiliter canaliculato, utrinque angulos posticos subrectos versus foveolato, marginibus lateralibus sat fortiter rotundatis postice sat deplanatis; elytris striatis, striis subtiliter puncturatis marginem apicemque versus deficientibus, interstitio tertio bi-impresso. Long., $3\frac{1}{2}$ -4 mm.

This little species would not be much out of place in the subgenus *Philochthus*; compared with the European species it is not so convex, has much larger and more prominent eyes, and the thorax is proportionally larger, and especially wider. Com-

pared with *B. Mannerheimi*, Sahlb., of that group, besides the difference already named, it is more elongate and parallel, not so shining, has no keel within the posterior angles of the thorax, and the punctures in the striæ of the elytra are very much finer. The testaceous markings on the elytra consist of two somewhat crescent-shaped spots connected on the margin, the front of the anterior one being at a distance of about a quarter of the elytron from the apex, and the hinder one extending to the apex; in strongly-marked specimens the hinder is curved up the suture, and the anterior is curved almost to meet it, a dark portion being enclosed, so that the whole resembles an ocellus; in some specimens, however, these markings are very obscure indeed.

This is a common insect on the margins of fresh-water pools, rivers, &c. I have it from the Port Lincoln district, and from various places near Adelaide, but not from the interior, though probably it will be found there. Mr. Pülleine informs me that he has taken it actually under water.

STAPHYLINIDÆ.

ALEOCHARA.

A. pelagi, sp. nov. Nitida; nigra; elytris pedibusque obscure piceis; capite rotundato prothorace multo angustiore antice sub-triangulariter deplanato, confuse profunde sparsim punctato; antennis prothoracis basin haud attingentibus, articulis 5-10 fortiter transversis, 11° conico 10° plus duplo longiore; prothorace transverso antice angustato postice rotundato ad latera sparsim fortiter subseriatim punctulato, disco profunde biseriatim foveolato, spatio intermedio lato; elytris prothorace vix longioribus, parce fortiter apice marginibusque densius subtiliusque punctulatis spatio discoidale sat lato humeris lineaque subhumerali lævibus; abdominis segmentis 1-4 sublævibus, 5-7 fortius sat crebre punctulatis. Long., 4 mm.

This species is closely allied to *A. speculifera*, Er., from which it differs *inter alia* as follows:—The lateral punctures of the thorax are very much less numerous, consisting chiefly of a well-defined row near the margin, and the discal series are not placed in striæ, but consist each of about three very large foveæ, the space between the series being very wide; on the elytra the apical and marginal punctures are much less confused, and the discal puncturation is stronger and more distinct; the basal three segments of the hind body have only a few obscure punctures which are near the margins, while on the fourth segment the lateral punctures are very little more noticeable, and a narrow punctured space crosses the base.

This insect occurs rarely under decaying seaweed near Port Lincoln.

A. læta, sp. nov. Nitida; nigra; pedibus piceis, elytris et abdominis apice læte rufis; antennis elongatis, capite prothoraceque conjunctis vix brevioribus, articulis 7-10 minus fortiter transversis; capite supra late concavo, fortiter nec crebre (disco subtilius), punctulato prothorace multo angustiori; hoc transverso antice fortiter angustato, postice rotundato, ad latera crasse sat crebre punctulato, disco profunde bisulcato, sulcis confuse biseriatim punctulato, spatio intermedio angusto convexo; elytris prothorace haud longioribus, profunde nec crebre punctatis; abdominis segmentis singulis antice subtiliter postice fortiter punctatis. Long., $4\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

The puncturation of the abdomen (which is moderately close and regular, and gradually passes on each segment from fine at the base to very coarse near the apex) is a very distinctive feature of this pretty species. It seems to be somewhat like *A. bisulcata*, Redt., but its long antennæ, as well as the abdominal puncturation, clearly distinguish it.

A single specimen occurred under decaying seaweed near Port Lincoln.

A. occidentalis, sp. nov. Sat nitida; piceo-nigra; ore antennis palpis elytris et abdominis apice brunneis; antennis capiti prothoracique conjunctis subæqualibus, articulis 5-10 transversis; capite supra sat depresso, fortiter subæqualiter (disco longitudinaliter lævi excepto) punctulato prothorace, multo angustiori; hoc transverso antice fortiter angustato postice rotundato, ad latera crasse punctato, disco irregulariter profunde bisulcato, sulcis profunde punctulatis, spatio intermedio lato vix convexo; elytris sparsim pubescentibus, prothorace haud longioribus, profunde sat crebre punctulatis, abdomine confuse punctato. Long., 5 mm.

This species is closely allied to the preceding one, but I think it is really distinct. Apart from strong difference in colour, the subapical joints of the antennæ are more strongly transverse, the head is not concave (though it is much flattened), the puncturation of the head is uniformly strong, though entirely absent along a longitudinal middle line (while in *læta* it becomes much finer, but does not cease in the middle); the thoracic furrows are not continuous, but consist each of two or three elongate foveæ placed in a line, the puncturation in which is very coarse, confused, and confluent, the intermediate space is wide and flat, the puncturation of the elytra is much closer, and that of the hind body quite different, consisting of two systems, one fine regular and not very sparse, the other coarse, sparing, and on each segment not extending to the

basal quarter; both systems of punctures are somewhat crowded together, and confused near the lateral margins. Both this species and *A. lata* must be allied to *A. bisulcata*, Redt., but the "antennis thoracis mediam partem vix attingentibus" of that insect is quite irreconcilable with its being identical with either of them.

I possess a single specimen sent to me from Western Australia by E. Meyrick, Esq.

A. insignis, sp. nov. Nitida; nigra; antennis pedibusque piceis; capite prothorace elytrisque æqualiter subtiliter sparsissime punctatis; abdomine lævi; capite convexo fortiter transverso; antennarum articulis basalibus 3 elongatis, 3^o 2^o longiore, articulis 4-10 fortiter transversis, 11^o duobus præcedentibus conjunctis æquali; prothorace duplo latiori quam longiori; elytris transversis prothorace vix longioribus. Long., 4½ mm.

This insect is utterly unlike any other *Aleochara* known to me. Until examined with a strong lens it appears quite devoid of puncturation. The apical segments of my unique specimen are unfortunately too much damaged for accurate investigation, but, as far as I can make out, the last segment is slightly roughened, as with minute granules. The hind margin of each segment of the hind body is a little inclined to reddish.

Port Lincoln.

PHILONTHUS.

P. ornatus, sp. nov. Niger; nitidus; antennarum basi mandibulis palpis pedibusque pallidis, elytris rufis antice et postice fusco-umbratis; antennis capiti prothoracique conjunctis longitudine subæqualibus, articulis 7-10 leviter transversis; capite prothorace paullo angustiori, punctis interocularibus postocularibusque sat sparsim (ut in *P. sanguinicollis*, Fauv.) positis; prothorace tertia parte longiore quam latiore, seriebus dorsalibus (puncto ad marginem anticam excepto) 4 punctatis, punctis 3 aliis extus medio aliis que 2 parum obliquis prope angulum anticum positis, lateribus parum rotundatis subparallelis; scutello sparsius subtilius, elytris parum dense fortius, abdomine subtilius nec crebre, punctatis; elytris prothorace sat longioribus. Long., 4¼ mm.

Considerably smaller than *P. sanguinicollis*, Fauv. (which, according to my measurements, varies from 4¾ to 6¾ mm. in length); also narrower and more parallel than that insect, with the thorax differently punctured, and the elytra much more coarsely and the hind body much more sparingly punctured. The infuscation on the elytra fills up the humeral and external apical corners, the two spots being very obscurely united along

the lateral margin, and also obscurely extending along the basal and hind margins to the suture.

A single specimen is in the collection of Mr. R. H. Pulleine. It was found in South Australia.

P. ventralis, Grav. I do not think that the occurrence in Australia of this European species has been hitherto recorded. I have before me two specimens taken by Mr. Pulleine, which appear quite identical with European types.

LITHOCHARIS.

L. Lindi, sp. nov. Minus nitida; piceo-nigra, antennis pedibusque paullo dilutioribus, illis apice testaceis; corpore toto subtilissime creberrime vix rugulose punctulato; antennis gracilibus sat elongatis; capite subquadrato; prothorace hoc vix latiore, paullo longiore quam latiore; elytris prothorace sat longioribus latioribusque, longioribus quam conjunctim latioribus. Long, $4\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

In size and build this species resembles *L. ochracea*, Gr. The colour, however, is totally different, the antennæ are more slender (their length being about the same), as of those of *L. ochracea*, the thorax is considerably longer in proportion to its width, and the puncturation of the whole insect is less smooth, though scarcely less fine and dense. I have two specimens of this insect (apparently females), both taken on swampy ground near Port Lincoln.

CAFIUS.

C. occidentalis, sp. nov. Niger; elytris abdomineque plus minusve nigro-piceis, his apice dilutioribus; ore antennis pedibusque rufis vel piceo-rufis; antennis capiti prothoracique conjunctis longitudine subæqualibus sat gracilibus; capite antice medio longitudinaliter sulcato, utrinque crasse seriatim punctulato; prothorace sat elongato, disco subtilius biseriatim punctulato, spatio intermedio lato convexo, lateribus punctis sat crebris subseriatim instructis; elytris creberrime subtilissime subrugulose punctulatis, prothorace sat longioribus, parce sericeo-pubescentibus; abdomine minus opaco, alutaceo, sericeo-pubescenti. Long., $4\frac{1}{2}$ - $5\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

In size, build, and colour this species is extremely like a large highly-coloured example of *C. sericeus*, Holme, from which it differs as follows:—It is slightly less opaque, the puncturation of the elytra is less smooth, and the antennæ are less stout. The head and thorax are quite different. The former is quadrate in one of my specimens, elongate in the other (apparently male and female), with a strong longitudinal furrow running down the anterior two-thirds, on

either side of which coarse punctures run in two lines, the puncturation outside these being confused. On the thorax the smooth convex discal space is very broad, and the lines of punctures on either side of it consist of about 15 fine but strong punctures, and are scarcely confused with the lateral puncturation, which is strong, moderately close, uniform, and sublinear in its distribution. Although my specimens appear to be male and female, I cannot detect any sexual characters apart from the shape of the head.

Taken by E. Meyrick, Esq., in Western Australia.

TROGOPHLEUS.

T. paludicola, sp. nov. Elongatus; gracilis; sat nitidus; minus pubescens; piceus; antennis (basin versus) pedibus elytrisq̄e obscure rufescentibus; antennis sat elongatis (capiti prothoraciq̄e conjunctis longitudine æqualibus) apicem versus paullo incrassatis; capite prothoraceq̄e alutaceis; hoc subquadrato, postice leviter angustato, disco subinæquali; elytris abdomineq̄e subtilissime confertissime punctulatis; illis prothorace multo longioribus. Long., $1\frac{3}{4}$ -2 mm.

This species closely resembles the European *T. tenellus*, Er. Compared with it the colour of the elytra and legs is much darker, the head wider, and the thorax less narrowed behind and considerably less distinctly punctured, the puncturation being so fine and close that the punctures are individually scarcely distinguishable, and hence the thorax has a much duller appearance than that of *tenellus*.

A few specimens occurred at the "Big Swamp," twelve miles west of Port Lincoln.

BLEDIUS.

B. Adelaideæ, sp. nov. Robustus; sat nitidus; minus pubescens; niger; prothorace et elytris rufo-piceis, his apice antennis pedibusq̄e rufis; antennis brevibus apicem versus fortius incrassatis; oculis magnis capitis basin attingentibus; capite prothoraceq̄e alutaceis; hoc fortiter convexo subcirculari, postice angustato, disco obscure bi-impreso; elytris subtiliter crebre, abdomine subtilissime creberrime, punctatis; illis prothorace sat longioribus. Long., $2\frac{1}{2}$ - $2\frac{3}{4}$ mm.

The antennæ of this species are almost exactly like those of *B. phytosinus*, Fauv. The puncturation of its elytra very closely resembles that of the same part in *Trogophlæus corticinus*, Er., but is slightly finer and smoother. The well-marked red apical margin of the elytra is a very distinctive character.

Taken in the neighbourhood of Adelaide by Mr. R. H. Pulleine.

LAMELLICORNES.

LIPARETRUS.

L. Sedani, sp. nov. Ovatus; nitidus; niger, elytris (marginibus anticis, et lateralibus post medium, infuscatis exceptis) rufis, antennis (clavâ excepta) palpis tarsisque plus minusve rufescentibus; clypeo antice rotundato-truncato reflexo et capite obsolete bituberculato confertim rugosius, prothorace late leviter canaliculato longe nigro-piloso sparsim subtiliter, elytris sparsim fortius, pygidio propygidioque longe albido-hirsutis (illo vix evidenter carinato) confuse sparsim, punctatis; striis geminatis minus evidenter impressis; tibiis anticis (? alterutrius sexus solum) obtuse bidentatis; antennis 9-articulatis; tarsorum posticorum articulo primo secundo subæquali; subtus albido-pubescentis. Long., 8 mm.

Just above the upper of the two teeth on one of the anterior tibiæ in the specimen described there is a rather distinct sinuation, suggestive of a very rudimentary third tooth, which is probably a deformity, as I cannot trace it on the other front tibia. The insect is closely allied to my *nigroumbratus*, from which it differs in having a well defined and broad—though shallow—longitudinal furrow on the thorax, in having the thorax and pygidium very finely instead of coarsely sculptured, and the latter clothed with *white* pilosity. A single specimen has been presented to me by Mr. Röthe, of Sedan.

L. perplexus, sp. nov. Ovatus; minus nitidus; rufo-brunneus, capite prothorace tibiisque nigrescentibus, antennis palpisque testaceis, elytris antice subinfuscatis; clypeo antice reflexo subtruncato capite et prothorace pilis longis nigris erectis instructis crasse sat crebre punctatis, hoc pilis albidis adpressis instructo et ad latera basinque pilis longis albidis fimbriato; elytris confuse fortius sat crebre punctatis, pilis erectis (antice longis postice brevioribus) nigrescentibus instructis, striis geminatis nullis; pygidio propygidioque sat crasse punctatis, pilis albidis adpressis crebre, et pilis longissimis cinereis erectis sat sparsim, instructis; tibiis anticis (? alterutrius sexus solum) fortiter tridentatis; antennis 8-articulatis; tarsorum posticorum articulo primo secundo sat longiore; tarsis omnibus gracillimis; subtus cinereo-pilosus. Long., 7 mm.

I do not think this remarkable insect has any near ally. Probably its place in the genus should be next to *L. ferrugineus*, Blanch, in common with which it possesses eight-jointed antennæ, and a large exposed propygidium; but the remarkable erect pilosity of the elytra, very long in front and gradually decreasing in length till it is very short behind, and the double



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