

ART. I.—*On some New Australian Chrysomelidae (Coleoptera).*

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The species here dealt with all belong to the subfamily Galerucides, and *Rupilia* and *Neorupilia* are especially interesting, as their elytra are abbreviated, so that much of the upper surface of the abdomen is exposed.

ELLOPIA AMPLIPENNIS, sp. nov.

♂. Flavous, elytra deep blue, or greenish-blue, abdomen (except tip), parts of antennae and of legs, and spots on head and prothorax black or infuscated.

Head irregular and with dense punctures between eyes, with sparse punctures elsewhere. Antennae moderately long, fourth joint distinctly longer than second or fifth, and about twice the length of second. Prothorax twice as wide as long, sides straight, except at angles, base, apex and sides margined; surface slightly uneven, and finely shagreened, with numerous, rather small punctures, becoming crowded in front angles. Scutellum with small punctures. Elytra strongly convex, dilated to beyond the middle, where the width is fully twice that of the prothorax; with rather dense, sharply defined punctures of moderate size, and denser smaller ones. Legs stout; claws strongly appendiculate. Length, 8–11 mm.

♀. Differs in having much wider elytra, shorter antennae, and thinner legs, with basal joint of tarsi smaller.

Hab.—New South Wales: Jenolan (J. C. Wiburd and A. M. Lea); Ben Lomond, 4500 feet (Dr. A. J. Turner); Queanbeyan (Lea).

Readily distinguished from *E. pedestris* and *E. sloanei* by the elytra. At first glance it appears to belong to *Oides*, but wings are completely absent. On the head there are usually two large sub-basal spots, but on one specimen they are conjoined to form a transverse oblong at the base; on the pronotum there are usually four spots across the middle of which the two inner ones are smaller than the others, and sometimes faint; on one of the Ben Lomond specimens there is an additional spot near each side; on the Queanbeyan specimen the prothorax is immaculate. Seven or eight joints of the antennae are entirely dark, the others are partly or entirely pale; the pale parts of the legs are the coxae, femora and base of tibiae.

ELLOPIA LATA, sp. nov.

♂. Black, elytra with a coppery or bronzy gloss; front of head prothorax (some black markings excepted), scutellum, tip of abdomen, coxae, knees, and parts of four basal joints of antennae flavous.

Head shagreened, and with distinct punctures on basal half. Antennae moderately long, seventh joint subtriangularly produced on one side of apex, third and fourth subequal. Prothorax twice as wide as long, sides gently rounded, and rather widely margined, the base and apex finely margined; surface slightly uneven, and with sharply defined but not very dense punctures. Scutellum slightly convex and with small punctures. Elytra dilated to beyond the middle, where the width is about twice that of the prothorax; marginal gutters rather wide, tips strongly separately rounded; surface uneven and shagreened; with fairly numerous but not very large punctures, slightly larger than prothorax. Claws each with a subangulate basal appendix. Length, 7-11 mm.

♀. Differs in having much wider elytra and abdomen, somewhat shorter legs and antennae, and the latter with the seventh joint less produced on one side.

Hab.—New South Wales: Brewarrina, in November; Pera Bore in August (W. W. Froggatt, No. 15); Bourke (— Mullens); Gosford (H. W. Brown).

The outer edges of the elytra are curved up so as to simulate epipleurae, but they are not such. This, with the comparatively feeble punctures of elytra, and certain resemblances to *E. sloanei*, caused me to refer the species to *Ellopia*, rather than to *Rupilia*, although the partly exposed abdomen and seventh joint of antennae seems to be more distinctive of the latter genus. The black parts of the prothorax are the margins, an irregular blotch towards each side (sometimes connected with it), and a small rounded medium spot (within a depression) near the base. Of the seven specimens under examination the median line of the head is faintly impressed towards the base on six, on the other it is deep and wide there, but this may be accidental.

RUPILIA.

The two original species of this genus, *R. ruficollis* and *R. viridiaenea*, were described as from New South Wales, but probably in error; there are also some curious points in the descriptions; the former was noted as having the elytra "*nigro-caeruleis*," but they were figured as green shading off to blue; on some specimens that appear to belong to the species (taken at Tennant's Creek by Mr. J. F. Field) they are blue (in some lights with a greenish gloss), shading off to purple. *R. viridiaenea* was described as "*nigro-aenea*,"; green, except by its equivalent in the name itself, being nowhere mentioned. The sexes of most species of the genus may be at once distinguished by the seventh joint of the

antennae; in the male this has its inner apex produced to one side, or even slightly curved backwards; the elytra, abdomen and tarsi are also liable to sexual variation. The species known to me may be thus tabulated:—

- A. Elytra conspicuously bicoloured.
 - a. Pale portion suddenly dilated *insignis*.
 - aa. Pale portion evenly narrowed posteriorly.
 - b. Pronotum with a deep longitudinal channel in middle *cavicollis*.
 - bb. With a shallow irregular depression there.
 - c. Part of prothorax in advance of transverse impression more than one-third of the whole *suturalis*.
 - cc. This part scarcely one-fourth of the whole *approximans*, ♂
- AA. Elytra not conspicuously bicoloured.
 - B. Elytra bright metallic green *viridipennis*
 - BB. Elytra more or less purplish or blackish.
 - C. Elytra unusually small (each about the area of pronotum) *microptera*.
 - CC. Elytra larger.
 - D. Sides of prothorax incurved at middle *tricolor*.
 - DD. Sides of prothorax parallel at middle.
 - d. As c *impressa*.
 - dd. As cc. *approximans*, ♀
 - DDD. Sides of prothorax widest at middle.
 - E. sides of prothorax rounded in middle *ruficollis*.
 - EE. Sides of prothorax angulate in middle.
 - F. Elytral epipleurae parallel sided (almost throughout) *cribrata*.
 - FF. Elytral epipleurae gradually narrowed posteriorly *rugulosa*?

Notes on Above Table.

The species unknown to me should probably be distributed in the tables as follows:—

R. excelsa, Blackb. With aa, but evidently distinguished from *R. cavicollis*, and *R. suturalis*, by the sculpture of the prothorax and scutellum.

R. viridiaenea, Clark. With EE, distinguished from *R. cribrata* by the partly dark prothorax, with different sculpture, and from *R. rugulosa* by the apparently entirely dark under surface, legs and antennae.

R. brevipennis. Evidently also with EE, but should be readily distinguished from *R. cribrata* and *R. rugulosa* by the absence of prothoracic punctures.

R. angulaticollis, Blackb. Evidently with *R. rugulosa*, which is stated to have "very much more rugulose sculpture"; the description, however, agrees fairly well with some of the specimens I have doubtfully identified as *R. rugulosa*.

RUPILIA RUGULOSA, Blackb.

A specimen from the Herbert River (Queensland), probably belongs to this species, but differs from the description in having a large infuscation on the disc of the pronotum; its abdomen has the apical segment, and the base of each of the others pale; the elytral epipleurae are fairly wide at the base, but taper gradually to their termination. Three other specimens, from Bowen, have the elytra more brightly coloured (deep violet on two males, purplish-blue on a female), but with the discal infuscation of the pronotum smaller, and less pronounced. One from Cairns has the suture, tips, and apical sides of elytra obscurely diluted with red. All five specimens have the laterobasal parts of the head more or less infuscated or blackish.

The species is evidently allied to *R. viridiaenea* (the Bowen specimens were, in fact, so named in the Simson collection), but it differs from the description in having the prothorax mostly reddish, certainly not "*antice et postice tenuiter rufo-fusco*," front of head, metasternum, part of each abdominal segment, part of antennae, and sometimes parts of legs reddish; the head also could not fairly be described as transversely foveolate between the eyes.

RUPILIA INSIGNIS, sp. nov.

♂. Bright reddish-castaneous, elytra partly blue, parts of antennae, of tibiae, and of tarsi blackish. Upper surface, except of abdomen, glabrous.

Head with a longitudinal impression at base, a fovea between bases of antennae, sides punctate, and strigose. Antennae rather stout, third joint about twice the length of second, and slightly longer than fourth, seventh slightly produced on one side of apex, slightly shorter than sixth, and longer than eighth. Prothorax about one-fourth wider than long angles rounded off sides parallel between them, middle of apex gently incurved; a rather deep transverse groove slightly in advance of middle, and a shallow irregular one near base; punctures fairly dense and distinct in front angles, sparser and smaller elsewhere. Scutellum convex posteriorly, and with a few small punctures. Elytra about twice the length of prothorax, and beyond middle about twice the width; surface uneven, and with crowded and rather large punctures. Claws each with an acute appendix. Length, 8.5–12.5 mm.

♀. Differs in having elytra and abdomen considerably wider, seventh joint of antennae scarcely produced on one side, and basal joint of tarsi smaller.

Hab.—Northern Territory: Tennant's Creek (J. F. Field); North-Western Australia: Derby (W. D. Dodd).

The pale portion on the elytra occupies the sutural half for about the basal fourth, it is then suddenly dilated to near the sides, to terminate near the apex, so that it appears as a trilobed space, margined, except about the scutellum, with blue; on one specimen

the pale portion is also connected with the base of each elytron by a narrow line near the shoulders. On the Derby specimens the pale portion occupies much less space than on the others, but it is still trilobed. The sides of the elytra are curved around, so as to slightly embrace the abdomen, but the epipleurae are very narrow and inconspicuous; most of the abdomen is exposed on both sexes.

RUPILIA SUTURALIS, sp. nov.

♂. Flavo-castaneous, elytra dark metallic green, or blue, or purple, a pale sutural vitta occupying about half of the base, but evenly narrowed to apex; most of antennae and of legs black, four dorsal segments of abdomen each with a large black or infuscated spot on each side. Upper surface, except of abdomen, glabrous.

Head with an impressed median line from base to clypeus, somewhat dilated between antennae; a few large punctures near antennae, but elsewhere small. Antennae rather long and thin, third joint about twice the length of second, apex of seventh conspicuously curved inwards. Prothorax about one-third wider than long, angles rounded off, the sides between them almost parallel; a wide, deep and irregular transverse impression interrupted in middle, between it and base somewhat uneven; with a wide shallow interrupted longitudinal impression; punctures dense and irregular. Scutellum with a few irregular punctures. Elytra more than twice the length, and near apex about twice the width or prothorax, surface uneven, and with large crowded punctures sometimes confluent, epipleurae rather narrow at base, and evenly narrowed to apex. Claws each with a large acute appendix. Length, 7-11 mm.

♀. Differs in having considerably wider elytra and abdomen, the latter with the apical segment rounded at the tip, instead of incurved, prothorax with the sides somewhat narrowed posteriorly, antennae shorter, with the seventh joint simple, and basal joint of tarsi slightly smaller.

Hab.—Northern Territory: Darwin (N. Davies); Groote Eylandt (N. B. Tindale).

Evidently allied to *R. excelsa*, but differs from the description in the sculpture of prothorax and scutellum. On some females parts of the under surface of abdomen are infuscated. The only specimen from the island is a small male, and has somewhat longer and thinner antennae, and its prothoracic impressions are slightly deeper than on the other males, but otherwise it agrees well with them. About half of the abdomen is exposed on both sexes.

RUPILIA CAVICOLLIS, sp. nov.

♂. Bright flavo-castaneous, elytra violet-blue, except for a wide sutural vitta narrowed posteriorly, most of antennae and of legs black, abdomen with infuscations towards the sides on the

upper surface, at the base of the segments, on the lower surface. Upper surface, except of abdomen, glabrous.

Head with a median line from base to clypeus, in parts dilated; rugose and irregularly punctate about antennae, rather smooth elsewhere. Antennae moderately long, third joint not quite twice the length of second, seventh conspicuously produced on one side of apex. Prothorax not much wider than long, base apex and sides incurved to middle, a rather deep interrupted median line, a wide, deep, irregular impression from near middle to each side, and a smaller one on each side of base; punctures rather large and dense about front angles, sparse elsewhere. Scutellum grooved near apex and bilobed there, with a few punctures. Elytra more than twice the length of prothorax, and almost twice the width in the middle, sides gently rounded, a distinct groove near each side from near base almost to apex; punctures dense and rather coarse; epipleurae very narrow and concealed almost from the sides. Claws each with an acute and rather small appendix. Length, 8–10 mm.

Hab. Queensland: Cloncurry (H. Hacker).

Evidently close in appearance to *R. excelsa*, but differs from the description in punctures of head prothorax and scutellum, in the prothorax having a rather deep longitudinal line (although interrupted in middle), and in the conspicuous sublateral depressions on elytra. Its colours are much as on *R. suturalis*, but the prothorax scutellum, and elytra are differently sculptured. Each side of the prothorax, from an oblique direction, appears rather strongly notched. On the type the blue of the elytra is uniform, but on a second specimen it has a greenish gloss in parts. More than half of the abdomen is exposed.

RUPILIA VIRIDIPENNIS, sp. nov.

♂. Dark red, elytra metallic coppery-green, changing to bluish on the sides and apex, sterna, coxae, femora, and base of tibiae flavous, rest of the legs, abdomen and most of antennae black.

Head with two small, subtriangular, rugose, inter-ocular spaces, behind them with coarse, crowded punctures. Antennae moderately long, third joint more than twice the length of second, seventh conspicuously produced on one side of apex. Prothorax almost twice as wide as long, sides obtusely produced in middle, a wide depression across middle deepened towards each side; punctures dense and coarse as on base of head. Scutellum truncated posteriorly, with distinct punctures. Elytra about five times the length of prothorax, and beyond middle fully twice as wide, sides strongly dilated posteriorly, the apices gently separately rounded; punctures coarse, crowded and in places confluent; epipleurae gently concave and conspicuous, although not very wide, from base to apex. Each claw with an acute appendix. Length. 7.5 mm.

Hab.—New South Wales: Jenolan (J. C. Wibur).

The elytra almost cover the abdomen, and are without a wide triangular notch at the apex, but as their epipleurae, as seen from below, are conspicuous and the upper surface is coarsely punctate, the species was referred to *Rupilia*, rather than to *Ellopia*, the only other apterous genus to which it could be referred. From the sides the elytral punctures are seen to be feebly pubescent. The general appearance is somewhat like that of *Hoplostines viridipennis*, on an enlarged scale, but that species is winged.

RUPILIA CRIBRATA, sp. nov.

♂. Flavous, black and purple.

Head with a median line from base to apex, a conspicuous bisinuate line between eyes; with dense and coarse punctures on basal half. Prothorax across middle twice as wide as long, apex gently incurved to middle, base straight, sides angulate in middle, front angles acutely produced; surface uneven and with coarse, crowded punctures. Scutellum wide, with a few large punctures. Elytra almost four times the length of prothorax, and almost twice as wide as their widest part (about one-third from apex), tips feebly separately rounded, sides strongly margined; punctures dense and coarse; epipleurae distinct and parallel-sided from base almost to apex. Abdomen with a semi-circular apical notch. Claws acutely appendiculate. Length, 7.5 mm.

Hab.—Northern Territory (J. P. Tepper).

The antennae are missing from the types, but it has been described as it is a very distinct species, quite evidently a *Rupilia*, and connects *R. viridipennis* with the more typical species of the genus. The elytra cover the abdomen except for part of the pygidium. In general appearance it is like a species identified with some doubt as *R. rugulosa*, but the elytral epipleurae are parallel-sided almost throughout; from *R. impressa* and *R. ruficollis* it is readily distinguished by the angulated sides of prothorax. The flavous parts are the upper surface of head (except at sides and base), prothorax, scutellum, sterna, part of apical segment of abdomen and coxae; the black parts are the rest of the head, legs and abdomen, the latter in parts has a purplish gloss; the elytra are entirely deep purple; subopaque on the upper surface, with the epipleurae shining.

RUPILIA TRICOLOR, sp. nov.

♂. Reddish, elytra purple, antennae (except parts of three basal joints), and legs (except coxae and base of femora), black. Upper surface, except of abdomen, glabrous.

Head with a continuous median line, a transverse bisinuate one between eyes; punctures sparse and irregularly distributed. Antennae moderately long, third joint almost twice the length of second, seventh conspicuously curved to one side at apex. Prothorax about once and one-third as wide as long, base and apex slightly, the sides strongly incurved to middle; a deep transverse

impression slightly nearer apex than base, but interrupted in middle by the low walls of a longitudinal impression, the latter deeper behind than in front, base uneven; with fairly dense punctures about front angles, sparse and irregular elsewhere. Scutellum almost truncated at apex. Elytra almost thrice the length of prothorax, and almost thrice as wide at their widest part (slightly beyond the middle), surface uneven, and with dense and rather strong punctures. Claws acutely appendiculate. Length, 12 mm.

Hab.—North-Western Australia: Wyndham (— Stephens).

Close to *R. impressa*, but sides of prothorax quite strongly incurved to middle; about the base there are six slight and not completely free elevations due to the impressions; the prothorax grooved along middle and narrowest at the middle of the sides distinguish from the description of *R. brevipennis*. The elytra leave three dorsal segments completely exposed, and the median parts of the others, their sides are curved to slightly embrace the abdomen, and their epipleurae are very narrow and concealed.

RUPILIA MICROPTERA, sp. nov.

♀. Deep black, prothorax sterna and coxae of a dingy testaceous, elytra obscurely purplish, in parts greenish.

Head with a median line, becoming foveate between antennae, front of forehead shining and with sharply defined punctures, elsewhere mostly subopaque and shagreened. Antennae rather short and stout, third joint not quite twice the length of the second, its apex and that of the seventh wider than any of the others. Prothorax shining, about once and one-third as wide as long, base and apex gently incurved to middle, all angles obtusely dentate, sides angulate in middle; a large depression towards each side, each with two basal extensions, median line shallow and confined to apical half; with a few distinct punctures about sides, but elsewhere almost impunctate. Scutellum wide, shining, and with minute punctures. Elytra very small, strongly narrowed from near base to apex, shagreened, opaque, and with rugose, and not very large punctures. Length, 9 mm.

Hab.—South Australia: North-Eastern Corner (F. Parsons).

The elytra are decidedly smaller than those of any previously described species, each has an area about equal to that of the prothorax, their tips do not extend to the apex of the first abdominal segment, and the triangular notch between them extends almost to the base; their epipleurae, however, are quite distinct. On the type there is a large infuscation on the disc of the pronotum, but it appears to be due to decomposition. From most directions the claws appear to be quite simple, but each has an appendix closely applied to it.

NEORUPILIA.

To this genus of curious little insects with aborted wings and abbreviated elytra, two new species can now be added; with the previously known ones they may be distinguished as follows:—

Elytra with sharply defined markings.

Each humeral spot large and touching the margin *ornata*.

Each humeral spot thin, curved and not touching the margin *humeralis*.

Elytra uniformly coloured.

Elytra flavous *flava*.

Elytra green or greenish.

Prothorax also green *viridis*.

Prothorax flavous *stirlingi*.

NEORUPILIA FLAVA, sp. nov.

Pale castaneo-flavous, seven or eight apical joints of antennae partly or entirely infuscated. Elytra with sparse, semi-erect setae, or thin pubescence.

Head of moderate size, interocular groove narrow and almost straight, a narrow impression in front of its middle; punctures inconspicuous. Eyes small and prominent. Antennae moderately thin, third joint very slightly longer than second, and slightly shorter than fourth. Prothorax about once and one-third as wide as long, sides gently rounded and finely margined; punctures sharply defined, but rather small. Elytra subelliptic, widest slightly beyond middle, leaving part of abdomen exposed; with dense, sharply defined punctures, larger than on prothorax; epipleurae narrow posteriorly but traceable to apex. Length, 2-2.5 mm.

Hab.—Tasmania: Hobart, Huon River (A. M. Lea); West Tamar (Aug. Simson).

The pale elytra readily distinguish this species from all previously known ones; on one specimen the abdomen is infuscated, on several others its sides and the sides of the prothorax are faintly so, but the parts named are usually of exactly the same shade as the adjoining ones. At first glance it looks like a small pale *Monolepta*, but the exposed abdomen and aborted wings are distinctive from that genus.

NEORUPILIA HUMERALIS, sp. nov.

Black, prothorax (in parts infuscated), scutellum, elytral markings, legs (in parts infuscated), and three or four basal joints of antennae more or less flavous. Upper surface glabrous.

Head of moderate size, interocular groove curved slightly forwards, punctures inconspicuous. Eyes rather small. Antennae not very thin, second and third joints subequal, their combined length distinctly more than first or fourth. Prothorax about once and two-thirds as wide as long, lateral and basal margins distinct; a few rather large punctures in front angles, elsewhere minute but fairly numerous. Elytra subelliptic, leaving tips of abdomen exposed; punctures moderately dense, and sharply defined, even posteriorly; epipleurae very narrow posteriorly, but traceable almost to suture. Length, 2.5 mm.

Hab.—South Australia: Lucindale (F. Secker), Mount Gambier (A. M. Lea).

The antennae are stouter than in the previously named species; the elytral markings are very different from those of *N. ornata*, the only other one with distinct spots. The type has obscure infuscations on the sides and middle of the pronotum; each elytron has a narrow, curved, flavous mark on the shoulder, the one on the right being)-shaped; beyond the middle there is a narrow transverse spot, and the tip and epipleura are also narrowly flavous. On the specimen from Mount Gambier most of the pronotum is deeply infuscated, leaving two flavous vittae; on its elytra the humeral and apical markings are larger, and the post-median spot is broken up into two of which the inner one is obscurely connected with the humeral one.

OIDES.

The Australian species of this genus may usually be distinguished by their colours and markings, although both are sometimes variable. Being soft-bodied the abdomen is especially liable to postmortem contraction, the impressions on the pronotum also vary in extent from the same cause. The species before me may be thus distinguished:—

- A. Prothorax not entirely pale.
 - a. Prothorax with large black blotch *dorsosignata*.
 - aa. Prothorax with two small blackish spots *bimaculicollis*.
- AA. Prothorax entirely pale.
 - B. Elytra entirely pale *antennalis*.
plantarum.
- BB. Elytra partly dark.
 - C. Elytra narrowly pale only at the sides and suture.
 - b. Suture conspicuously pale, form narrow *soror*.
 - bb. Suture obscurely or not at all pale, form robust *laetabilis*.
- CC. Elytra with a conspicuous 3-shaped apical mark *arithmetica*.
- CCC. Elytra with a black oblong patch on each
- CCCC. Elytra with spots.
 - c. The spots six in number *sexmaculipennis*.
 - cc. The spots four in number.
 - d. Antennae entirely pale, spots black *albertisi*.
 - dd. Antennae partly black, spots purplish *continentalis*.
- CCCCC. Elytra vittate.
 - D. One dark vitta on each elytron.
 - e. Elytra highly polished and not shagreened *polita*.
 - ee. Elytra finely shagreened and subopaque.
 - f. Elytral vittae distinctly dilated posteriorly *variivitta*.
 - ff. Elytral vittae scarcely, if at all, dilated posteriorly *silphomorphoides*.
 - DD. Two dark vittae on each elytron *fryi*.
 - DDD. Three on each *sexvittata*.
 - DDDD. Four on each *tigrina*.

Notes on Above Table.

B. There are two species before me having the upper surface entirely pale, but two specimens identified by Blackburn as *O. antennalis*, I cannot distinguish from the co-types of *O. plantarum* with certainty, and they do not agree as well with Baly's description as another specimen identified as *O. antennalis*, so the two names should probably not be regarded as synonymous.

Of the four species not included in the table, *O. seminigra* should be associated with *O. dorsosignata*, but has two vittae, conjoined posteriorly, on each elytron; *O. ovatipennis* should be associated with *O. bimaculicollis*, but only the suture and sides of the elytra are narrowly pale; *O. velata* is evidently allied to *O. albertisi* and *O. continentalis*; for comments upon it, see under the latter species; for comments upon *O. quinquelineata*, see under *O. sexvittata*.

OIDES LAETABILIS, Clark.

O. circumdata, Baly, n.pr.

The elytra of *O. circumdata*, Baly, were originally described as olivaceous, with the margins narrowly pale, the type was probably immature, as the usual colour of the elytra is deep blue (occasionally they have a coppery gloss), the margins are very narrowly pale, the pale part sometimes slightly extended near the shoulders, and occasionally interrupted at apex; rarely the suture is obscurely diluted with red. From a specimen in better condition the species was subsequently named *O. laetabilis* by Clark¹, reference to the name being omitted from Masters' Catalogue; but as there was previously an ex-Australian *O. circumdata*,² the name *O. laetabilis* must stand for the Australian species.

OIDES SEXVITTATA, Duviv.

Four specimens, from Cairns and the Endeavour River, probably belong to this species; each has three black vittae on each elytron, free at both base and apex, the first not touching the suture, and on two specimens rather vaguely defined in the middle, the outer vitta usually wider than the others. The species is decidedly close to *O. tigrina*, but that species has four vittae, conjoined posteriorly, on each elytron. From comparison of the types Duvivier believed that *O. quinquelineata* belongs to the species, but judging by the description it is at least worthy of a varietal name, as there are but two free vittae on each elytron and a wide sutural one common to both.

OIDES SILPHOMORPHOIDES, Blackb.

On the type and other specimens from the Northern Territory (Darwin and Pine Creek), the dark vittae on the elytra of

1. Clark, Journ. Ent., ii, p. 259.

2. Montrouzier, Ann. Soc. Agr. Linn. Lyon, 1857, p. 72.

this species commence close to the base, and terminate near the apex; they are almost parallel-sided throughout, and parallel with each other, except for a slight posterior curvature; they are black or blackish, with, at most, a faint purplish gloss.

Var. A. Numerous specimens, from Darwin, and the King River, may be regarded as representing a variety; they differ from the typical form in having the vittae with a more purplish (rarely greenish) gloss, commencing at the base itself, slightly more dilated towards the apex, with their apices curved round, as a result the elytra appear to have a large U, the parts outside the vittae are conspicuously paler than the inner parts; the elytral punctures are also usually smaller than those of the typical form, although they vary on both forms.

OIDES SOROR, Blackb.

The general appearance of this species is much like that of a large *Calomela*, of the style of *C. curtisi*; its elytra are much narrower than those of *O. lactabilis*, and it is otherwise very distinct from that species. There are two specimens before me, the type and one from Roebuck Bay.

OIDES FRYI, Clark.

O. INSIGNIPENNIS, Blackb., var.

O. OCULARIS, Blackb., var.

O. IGNOTA, Blackb., var.

This species occurs from Dorrigo, in New South Wales, to Cairns, in Queensland; it varies in the width and intensity of the dark elytral vittae, in the dark parts of the antennae, in the punctures of elytra and pronotum, and in the transverse impressions of the latter. *O. insignipennis*, *O. ocularis*, and *O. ignota* appear to be varieties of it. Blackburn made no allowance for sexual and individual variation.

Var. OBSOLETA, var. nov.

Two females, from Bowen, appear to represent another variety; of the vittae on each elytron the outer one is distinct, but rather narrow on the shoulder, and vanishes posteriorly, except for a faint infuscation; the inner one, to the naked eye, is very faint even at the base, and absent elsewhere; nevertheless, in a suitable light, the junction of the two may be traced near the apex. The first joint of antennae is slightly infuscated at the apex, and the eleventh is entirely dark, the intermediate ones have the pale basal portion evenly decreasing in extent. The prothoracic impressions are conspicuous, and the stronger elytral punctures closer together than usual.

OIDES CONTINENTALIS, Weise.

This species has the general appearance of *O. albertisi*, of which perhaps it should be regarded as a variety, but the elytral spots purple (on one specimen greenish, on another somewhat bronzy) instead of black, the prothorax more uneven, and with larger punctures. It appears also to be close to *O. velata*, but differs from the description in having the head not dark at the base, the second and third joints of antennae partly dark, and the apical spots of different shape; on *O. velata* they were described as "twice as wide as long." This is certainly not the case on any of the seven specimens of the present species before me, on which they are either exactly as long as wide, or very slightly longer (4.5 mm., as against 4 mm. on one specimen). Moreover, the markings are not infuscations (as applied in the description), but sharply defined, coloured spots. The spots cover about half the surface, the two first are basal and almost circular, the others are subapical, slightly larger than the basal ones, and less evenly rounded; they are all very narrowly separated from the suture and sides, but to the naked eye appear to form two wide fasciae with sinuous inner edges; from five to seven apical joints of the antennae are black, the others are partly pale, the first sometimes entirely pale. The female differs from the male in being larger and wider posteriorly, abdomen less rigid and not notched at apex, and antennae and legs somewhat shorter.

OIDES BIMACULICOLLIS, sp. nov.

Flavous, part of head, two small round spots on prothorax, part of each antennal joint, and the tarsi black or infuscated; suture and three vittae on each elytron purplish or bronze.

Head with median line fairly deep; punctures inconspicuous. Antennae moderately long, fourth joint twice the length of the second. Prothorax very short, surface uneven; punctures rather small, and unevenly distributed. Elytra beyond middle fully twice the width of prothorax; with fairly dense and rather small, but sharply defined punctures, a double row of punctures near the margin, thence to the margin somewhat rugose. Length, 7-10 mm.

Hab.—Queensland: Cairns (E. Allen, F. P. Dodd and H. Hacker).

There are four dark vittae on each elytron, but only seven altogether, as the wide sutural vitta is common to both; (on *O. tigrina* the suture is pale, so that there are eight elytral vittae); from *O. tigrina* it is also distinguished by the bimaculate pronotum. The only other Australian species described as having the prothorax bimaculate is *O. ovatipennis*, whose elytra are black, with the suture and margins pale. On one specimen the basal half of the head is rather deeply infuscated, on a second specimen rather feebly so; on the third the base is rather narrowly

infuscated, but there is also a dark line between the eyes; each joint of antennae is conspicuously bicoloured, the black part increasing in extent apically. The total width of the sutural vitta is twice that of each of the others, and it is completely isolated, the second, third and fourth are all conjoined near the apex; the fourth is only about half the length of the others.

OIDES VARIIVITTA, sp. nov.

Flavous, elytra orange-flavous, with a wide black vitta on each, parts of antennae, tarsi, and parts of tibiae black or infuscated.

Head with a narrow median line and with a wide transverse one between eyes; punctures inconspicuous. Antennae rather stout, fourth joint slightly longer than the third or fifth. Prothorax almost thrice as wide as long, surface uneven; punctures rather small, and irregularly distributed. Elytra dilated to beyond the middle, where the width is more than twice that of prothorax; surface faintly shagreened and with rather small but sharply defined punctures; margins narrowly upturned. Length, 7.5 - 10mm.

Hab.—Queensland: Coen River (W. D. Dodd and H. Hacker).

The seventeen specimens before me should possibly be regarded as representing a Queensland variety or sub-species of *O. silphomorphoides*; but they differ from the type, and other Northern Territory specimens of that species, in being of a larger average size, elytra more dilated posteriorly and the dark vittae much more variable; more dilated posteriorly, and sometimes commencing beyond the basal third, instead of almost at the base. The vitta on each elytron, of eleven specimens, commences rather narrowly on the shoulder, but at the subhumeral depression it begins to evenly dilate till near the apex it covers half the width of the elytra or even more, its outer edge curves round with the margin, but its inner edge is oblique; on one specimen it is almost divided at the subhumeral impression, on another it is divided, there being a narrow spot on the shoulder and the main portion beginning at the basal third; on four others the humeral portion is absent, the vitta commencing at the basal two-fifths, or even beyond the middle. The female is larger, and more dilated posteriorly than the male, and with shorter antennae.

OIDES POLITA, sp. nov.

Bright castaneo-flavous, muzzle and elytral margins paler, a wide black vitta on each elytron, most of antennae, two apical joints of tarsi, and sides of four basal segments of abdomen black or infuscated.

Head with minute punctures. Antennae rather long and thin. Prothorax fully thrice as wide as long; surface slightly uneven; punctures rather small and unevenly distributed. Elytra beyond the middle more than twice the width of prothorax; punctures

minute, but sharply defined; margins rather widely upturned. Length, 9 mm.

Hab.—Queensland: Cairns (E. Allen).

The type at first glance appears to belong to one of the varieties of *O. vittivaria*, but differs in having the elytra not at all shagreened, and, consequently, they are highly polished instead of sub-opaque; along the middle they are the same shade of colour as the pronotum, the vitta on each wider on the shoulder than elsewhere, the punctures really small, although owing to "waterlogging" appearing larger on the pale parts, the margins conspicuously wider, the prothorax wider, and with shallower depressions (not much reliance is to be placed on this character, however), and the antennae decidedly longer and thinner, the fourth joint being at least half as long again as the third or fifth, and the sides of abdomen dark. The black vitta on each elytron extends almost from base almost to apex, at an even distance from the margin, except at the subhumeral depression, near the base it occupies more than half the width, posteriorly it is somewhat narrowed, but unevenly so on the inner side; four basal joints of the antennae are pale, the five following ones are blackish (the others are missing from the type).

OIDES SEXMACULIPENNIS, sp. nov.

Flavous, parts of antennae, of tibiae, and of tarsi infuscated; elytra with six, rather small, black spots.

Head with median line well defined; punctures inconspicuous. Antennae not very long, fourth joint distinctly longer than third or fifth. Prothorax fully thrice as wide as long; surface slightly uneven; with rather small, irregularly distributed punctures. Elytra widest before the middle, due to marginal expansion; with fairly dense and sharply defined, but rather small punctures. Length, 9–10 mm.

Hab.—Queensland: Coen (H. Hacker, No. 257).

Readily distinguished from other Australian species by the elytral spots; of these four are irregularly rounded, each about the size of an eye, and placed transversely slightly before the middle, the other two are slightly larger, still less regular, and subapical; of the antennal joints the first is entirely pale, the second to fourth are largely pale, the fifth and sixth rather narrowly at the base, and the eleventh at its apex; the infuscation of the legs is but slight. The female differs from the male in being wider, with shorter antennae and legs, and in the apex of abdomen.

OIDES ARITHMETICA, sp. nov.

Bright flavous, head, most of antennae, a 3-shaped mark on elytra, and abdomen black.

Head polished, median line faint, a deep impression between eyes; punctures indistinct except in front. Eyes large and

prominent. Antennae moderately long, fourth joint longer than the adjacent ones. Prothorax about thrice as wide as long; surface slightly uneven, with minute irregularly distributed punctures. Elytra widest almost in exact middle, margins comparatively wide; punctures small and rather sparse. Length, 8 mm.

Hab.—Queensland: Coen River (W. D. Dodd).

Readily distinguished by the conspicuous apical 3 on the elytra, the part on each elytron commences rather narrowly on the suture at about the apical third, is rather dilated at the apex, curves round on the side, from about the middle of which it turns inward to terminate as a rounded knob. In a good light three very thin neurational lines may be seen on each elytron. The front legs of the type are malformed, but the species is such a distinct one that it has been named.

DORYPHOROIDES, gen. nov.

Elytra with sides continued below level of sterna and abdomen, margins narrow; epipleurae deep, fairly wide adjacent to sterna and thin elsewhere. Metasternum large, with a long and rather acute median projection, continued to front of middle coxae. Tibiae unarmed at apex; claws each with a large appendix. Oblong-elliptic, strongly convex. Other characters as in *Oides*.

By Chapuis' table³ this genus should be referred to the first group, Adoriites, or the Galerucides, and there⁴ associated with *Cerochroa*, which appears to be the only other known genus of the subfamily, with the metasternum armed, but which has the antennae clavate. The armature is somewhat as in several species of *Doryphora*. Type of genus *D. amplipennis*.

DORYPHOROIDES AMPLIPENNIS, sp. nov.

Flavous; basal half of head, some of the mouth parts, scutellum, suture (very narrowly), sterna, abdomen, tibiae, tarsi and apex of femora black or blackish. Upper surface glabrous.

Head small, median line lightly impressed, a fairly deep impression between eyes; punctures inconspicuous. Antennae not very stout, extending to about hind coxae, third joint almost twice the length of second, the length of fifth, and slightly shorter than fourth, eleventh semidouble. Prothorax about thrice as wide as the median length, sides slightly oblique, hind angles obtuse front lines rounded off; surface slightly uneven, and with rather sparse, sharply defined punctures about middle, becoming smaller and denser on sides; base apex and sides finely margined. Scutellum rather large, curvilinearly triangular; with minute punctures. Elytra large, widest at about basal third, where the width is about thrice that of prothorax; punctures

3. Chapuis, Lacord. Gen. Col., xi, p. 154.

4. L.c., p. 156.

rather small, but sharply defined, and numerous but not crowded. Legs not very long. Length, 11–12 mm.

Hab.—Queensland: South Johnstone River (H. W. Brown).

The general appearance of this species is like that of *Macrohelodes crassus* (of the Dascillidae), on a greatly enlarged scale. On close examination very fine striae may be seen traversing every part of the metasternum, of both this and the following species, although comparatively few may be seen at the same time.

DORYPHOROIDES BICOLOR, sp. nov.

Bright flavous; antennae, except basal joint and part of the second, and most of elytra black.

Head small, median line narrow and well-defined, a fairly deep impression between eyes; punctures small, some parts obliquely strigose. Antennae extending almost to third segment of abdomen. Prothorax about thrice as wide as the median length, sides gently rounded; punctures not very large, but sharply defined, becoming denser and smaller on sides; base apex and sides finely margined. Scutellum almost impunctate. Elytra wide and strongly convex; with sharply defined but not very large or crowded punctures; margins moderately wide and upturned. Length, 12 mm.

Hab.—New Guinea: Manumbo.

About the size of the preceding species, but differently coloured, with longer antennae, elytra with somewhat wider margins and more conspicuous, although not very large, punctures. The pale portion of the elytra is basal and shorter than the prothorax, except on the sides, where it is subtriangularly continued to about one-third from the base.



Lea, A. M. 1925. "On some new Australian Chrysomelidae (Coleoptera)."
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