

the water passing thence into the cavity of the Actinia, and assures us that whatever is then found in the Actinia will have been *formed* in it.

Mr. Gosse's observations are directly contradictory of ours. He found the fluid always presenting a milky reaction, except once, and always presenting definite morphotic elements. I regret that he did not also employ Mr. Couch's precaution of filtering the water; it would have given more weight to his objections. Nevertheless, as the matter now stands, a glaring contradiction needs to be reconciled. Mr. Gosse, justly enough, places entire reliance on his results; but he cannot object if I still place reliance on the negatives reached by Mr. Couch and myself, until they are satisfactorily explained. Perhaps some of your readers may feel interested enough in the question to examine it carefully and furnish materials for a decision. I am at present too busily engaged in other researches to repeat the observations with the requisite caution.

The problem to be solved is this:—Can albumen be detected as a *constant* ingredient? Are there any *constant*, definite morphotic elements capable of being received as incipient blood-disks, or chyle-corpuscles?

The mere *presence* of albumen, or of corpuscles, is what *à priori* would be expected: but this proves nothing; for animalculæ are equally present, and various other substances. It is the *constancy* of albumen and corpuscles—and this alone—which can have any physiological import in the present question.

Mr. Gosse very properly criticises an expression of mine respecting the yellow spheres "which make *solid* the tentacles of the *Anthea*,"—an unhappy word, certainly; but it was meant to convey an idea of the greater consistence of the tentacles in *Anthea*, in consequence of which, as I conceive, the tentacles are but slightly retractile. Inasmuch as I had elsewhere described the tentacles as "tubes," it is clear that by calling those of the *Anthea* "solid" I used an inaccurate expression, but could scarcely have meant more than that the spherules lined the tubes.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Yours truly,

G. H. LEWES.

XLIV.—*Descriptions of new Ceylon Coleoptera.*

By JOHN NIETNER, Colombo, Ceylon.

[Continued from page 183.]

AMONGST the 300 species of *Bembidiidæ* which have been described from almost all parts of the world, with the exception

of Australia, it would appear there are also none from Southern Asia. However, since the publication of Lacordaire's 'Genres des Coléopt.' (1854), in which this statement occurs, various species must have found their way into the Prussian cabinets with my collections from Bengal and this island. In the former country the *Carabidæ* are very abundantly represented; and I recollect with pleasure the great variety of them (from the gigantic *Anthia* down to the smallest *Bembidium*) with which the banks and the sands of the Ganges used to furnish me, when leisurely travelling upon this river some years ago, from August to October, just after the rains. Nowhere have I seen, nor do I expect to see, such swarms of *Cicindela*; their buzzing flight, when disturbed, was heard like that of bees. It appeared to me that they did not quit the sands, their favourite haunts, when the tide rose, but allowed themselves to be covered over by the water, as other semi-aquatic beetles do. Without specially hunting for them, I brought away with me some ten species, mostly new, and, amongst the rest of the *Carabidæ*, as many *Bembidia*. In this island, both in the hills and the plains, there is not a bank of a pond, lake, or river which has not, as in more northern latitudes, its *Bembidia*; and, contrary to what one would expect, they appear to be more common in the hot low country than in the cool hill region. The majority of the species described below may any day be found upon the banks of the Colombo Lake. None of the species which, as I said, must have found their way with my collections to Berlin and Stettin, and thence perhaps elsewhere, have, to my knowledge, been described. The descriptions given below must therefore, I am fain to believe, be an interesting addition to the literature of this section of the *Carabidæ*, however inferior they may be to what they might have been had they been produced in Europe, and the insects been collated with allied typical species. I have none of those typical representatives of the genus at hand, nor is my recollection of them sufficiently distinct to permit of my drawing comparisons between them and the Ceylon insects now before me; nevertheless I hope I have set forth the peculiarities of my species with sufficient precision to distinguish them from, or identify them with, any other Cis-Himalayan species that may hereafter be described. As a hopeless confusion appears to exist amongst the subgenera into which the original genus has been broken up, I have not attempted to refer my species to any of them, for fear of thereby doing anything but throwing additional light on the subject. There is no doubt that many more species exist in this island, and that, indeed, as in the case of the Staphylinidæ, they will eventually be found

to be quite as abundantly represented within the tropics as without. Nothing but their smallness has hitherto prevented their discovery.

69. *Bembidium opulentum*, N.

B. oblongum, subconvexum, nebuloso æneum purpureo micans, elytris apice sordide testaceis, subtus nigro-piceum, pedibus antennarumque basi testaceis, ore brunneo. Long. corp. $1\frac{3}{4}$ —2 lin.

Capite inter oculos 2-sulcato, oculis magnis, prominulis, labro fortiter transverso, brevi, integro, mandibulis porrectis, antennis art. 2^o sequentibus parum brevior; thorace transversim cordato, antice posticeque truncato, haud emarginato, depresso, margine basique elevato, medio capite parum latiore, apicem versus modice, basin versus fortius abrupteque angustato, angulis basalibus fortiter truncatis profundeque foveolatis, linea longitud. media abbreviata diviso; elytris ovatis, humeris obsoletis, profunde striato-punctatis, punctis apicem versus obsoletis, ante et infra medium utrinque foveolatis, apice lunula magna sordide testacea. (Mas latet).

Prope Negombo, in ripis Maha-Oyæ fluvii, specimina nonnulla cepi.

The insect is of a bronze colour, a purple reflexion appearing on the back in irregular patches as the light may fall upon it. The palpi and the base of the antennæ are of a yellowish colour; the apex of the third joint of the maxillary palpi, however, as well as that of the second, third, and fourth antennal joints, is brown, of which colour is also the remaining part of the antennæ. The second antennal joint is the shortest, the third and fourth are rather longer than the following. The mandibles are rather straight and porrected. The sides of the thorax are almost angular, and furnished with a setigerous puncture at the broadest part; that is, just before the middle. There are seven distinct rows of punctures on either elytron, and an accessory one along the side of the scutellum, the rows decreasing in length towards the margin and the punctures in depth towards the apex, the first row on either side, however, changing before the apex into a furrow which falls in with that which separates the margin from the rest of the elytron. Before and beyond the middle, in the region of the third row of punctures, is an excavation containing a puncture which is situated upon the third interstice. The excavation nearest the base is the deepest. The apex of the elytra is marked with a spot of dirty yellowish colour, prolonged on either side along the margin, which is here rather broad.

If my memory serves me right, the insect resembles the *Tachypus flavipes*.

70. *Bembidium truncatum*, N.

B. oblongum, valde depressum, brunneo-testaceum, oculis nigris, pedibus, antennis palpisque pallide testaceis. Long. corp. $1\frac{1}{2}$ lin.

Capite magno, thorace quarta parte prope minore, inter antennis 2-foveolato, oculis mediocribus, antennis art. 3^o reliquis minore, 4^o–11^o subæqualibus, fortius ovatis; thorace breviter cordato, antice posticeque truncato, haud emarginato, basi subquadrato, parum prolongato, foveis basalibus obsoletis, sed linea basali transversa profunda lineaque longitud. med. distinctis; elytris oblongis, apice *transversim truncatis*, juxta suturam utrinque obsolete 1-striatis, ante et infra med. puncto impressis.

In prov. occid. rarius.

The small size, large head, and truncated elytra effectually distinguish this species. The truncated posterior angles of the thorax, and the general appearance, induce me to consider it as allied to the preceding species—at all events to approach nearer to it than to any of the following species. The eyes are rather small for this genus. There are no traces of striæ on the elytra, with the exception of a single indistinct one along the suture.

71. *Bembidium tropicum*, N.

B. oblongum, depressum, brunneo-testaceum, capite brunneo, elytris dorso nigris cyaneo-micantibus, pedibus, antennis palpisque testaceis. Long. corp. $1\frac{1}{2}$ lin.

Capite inter oculos 2-foveolato-sulcato, oculis mediocribus, antennis fortius filiformibus, art. 3^o reliquis brevioribus; thorace breviter transversim cordato, antice posticeque truncato haud emarginato, basi subquadrato, angulis basalibus elevatis sed haud foveolatis, linea transversa basali profunda, infra lineam strigoso, linea media longitud. diviso; elytris oblongo-ovatis, utrinque juxta suturam 4-striatis, striis externis et his apicem versus obsoletis, in striis punctatis, infra marginem stria profunda abbreviata, ante medium et apicem in interstitio 4^o puncto magno impressis, punctis ante-apicalibus piliferis in sulcum ad apicem prolongatis semicirculum formantibus; tarsis 4 anterioribus art. 4^o subtus apice spinis squamulaceis 2 instructo.

In prov. occid. copiosum.

Of a light brown colour, with the head darker; the elytra blackish on the back with a slight blue reflexion, the base, sides, and apex brownish. The colours being more or less washed into each other, no distinct pattern is observable; the brown spot of the apex, however, is generally pretty clearly set-off from the adjoining dark part. The paraglossæ are hardly longer than the ligula, which itself is rather large. The antennæ are rather hairy and strongly filiform (not, as in most other species, increasing in thickness towards the apex, the joints growing at

the same time more and more oval); joint 3 is the shortest, 2 and 4 are rather longer than the others. The back is impressed with 3-4 distinct striæ on either side of the suture, the external ones being obsolete, as are also the remaining ones towards the apex. There is an additional deep stria within the marginal one, extending from the middle to the apex. Before the middle and before the apex there is a puncture situated upon the 4th interstice; the ante-apical one of these has a hair in the centre, and is prolonged to the apical angle in the shape of a deep, curved furrow. This being the case on either side, the two furrows together form a semicircular figure. The tarsi are each furnished with bristles, especially at the lower margin of the apex of the joints. In the four anterior tarsi joint 4 is furnished at that place with two long bristles, the apex of which fits-in at the base of the claws. These bristles partake somewhat of the nature of squamulæ, by being dilated in the shape of a lancet. I have noticed them occasionally to be bifid at the apex, but I do not think that they are so always.

72. *Bembidium triangulare*, N.

B. oblongum, depressum, testaceum, capite brunneo, elytris sutura fasciaque lata transversali media nigris, pedibus, palpis antennisque pallide testaceis, his medio fusciscentibus. Long. corp. 1 lin.

Præcedenti affine, ejus capite, thorace et tarsis; differt thorace linea basali punctata, infra lineam vix strigoso; elytris utrinque profunde 6-punctato-striatis, striis apicem marginemque versus sensim obsoletis, ante medium in stria 4^a puncto impresso, stria inframarginali abbreviata et impressione semicirculari apicali ut in præcedente.

Variat colore obscuriore.

In prov. occid. communissimum.

Very closely allied to the preceding species, but easily distinguished by the size and colour, which is generally lighter than that of the former, and the deeply striated elytra; the insect is, moreover, more common than the former. The prevailing colour of the elytra is not, as in the preceding species, black, but it is that of the rest of the body, yellowish, with merely a black suture and black belt across the middle; the edges of this belt are washed together with the colour of the adjoining parts. The semicircular impression at the apex of the elytra is the same as in the former, and forms, with the abbreviated inframarginal stria, which is also the same, a triangular figure, tip down, base open, whence I have derived the name. The head, with the antennæ, tarsi, &c., are those of the former, as I have said above.

73. *Bembidium Ceylanicum*, N.

B. oblongum, depressum, testaceum, oculis nigris, elytris sæpissime fascia media transversali fusca obsoletissima, pedibus, palpis antennisque pallide testaceis. Long. corp. $\frac{3}{4}$ lin.

Præcedenti simile, ejus capite, thorace et tarsis, facillime tamen distinguendum antennis apicem versus incrassatis, articulis magis magisque ovatis, art. 2^o sequente longiore, 3^o et 4^o subæqualibus subcylindricis, reliquis ovatis; thorace, linea basali fortiter punctata excepta, basi lævi; elytris utrinque juxta suturam leviter 3-punctato-striatis, striis reliquis et his basi apiceque sensim obsoletis, ante et infra medium ad striam 3^m puncto pilifero impressis, impressione semicirculari apicali ut in præcedente sed stria inframarginali non abbreviata.

In prov. occid. communissimum.

Easily distinguished from the former, to which it is allied, by its size, colour, and the incrassated antennæ. The elytra, moreover, show only three distinct striæ on either side of the suture, two more, however, being just traceable; they are obsolete at the base, apex, and towards the margin. Within the latter there is an additional deep stria, entire, and not, as in the preceding two species, only from the middle to the apex. The semicircular impression of the apex, however, is the same; so are the tarsi, &c.

74. *Bembidium Klugii*, N.

B. ovatum, convexum, æneum, elytris maculis 2 subapicalibus rufo-flavis, subtus piceum, pedibus dilutioribus, tibiis, tarsis antennarumque basi testaceis. Long. corp. $1\frac{1}{2}$ lin.

Capite inter oculos longitud. 2-impresso, oculis maximis, antennis art. 2^o sequentibus parum brevior, his subæqualibus; thorace transversim ovato, antice posticeque truncato, haud emarginato, basi abrupte angustato quadrato, angulis basalibus profunde foveolatis, inter foveas punctis 1-seriatim impresso, linea media longit. subtili diviso; elytris ovatis, apicem versus leviter angustatis, utrinque profunde 7-punctato-striatis, basi lævi, striis apicem versus obsoletis, ante apicem inter stria 3^m–6^m macula orbiculari rufo-flava apiceque impressione semicirculari.

In prov. occid. et centrali, hic usque alt. 3500 ped., non infrequenter legi.

This species ascends from the sea-level of the Western Province to an elevation of 3500 feet on the hills, where I have not unfrequently met with it upon the sandy banks of the Pundhool-Oya, a rocky mountain-stream in the district of Kotmalie. Its robust, ovate, convex shape places it at once in a different division from any of the former. It is of bronze colour, with two orange-coloured spots behind; the mouth is brown, with the

exception of the palpi, which, together with joints 1 and 2 of the antennæ, are yellowish; joint 3 of the maxillary palpi, however, is of the general colour of the mouth. The labrum is square and entire; the 2nd antennal joint is rather shorter than the rest. The thorax is transversely ovate—that is to say, its greatest width is at the middle—not, as in a cordate thorax, before it; the foveæ are connected by a series of punctures, which gradually deepen towards the centre; the longitudinal divisional line is also deeper at the apical extremity than at the other parts. The elytra are impressed with seven deep furrows on either side, deeply punctured at the bottom; these furrows decrease in length towards the margin, and in depth towards the apex, with the exception, however, of the first on either side, which goes straight down to the apex. At the latter comparatively smooth place is the semicircular impression noticed in the three preceding species, and to be noticed in all the following. The base of the elytra is smooth. No traces of punctures, such as are usual in the region of the 3rd or 4th interstice, are observable. The lower side of the insect is of a pitch-colour; the basal part of the legs and thighs are lighter, and the tibiæ and tarsi very light.

75. *Bembidium ebeninum*, N.

B. ovatum, convexum, nigrum, elytris ante apicem maculis 2 rufo-flavis, subtus piceum; pedibus, palpis antennisque testaceis, his apicem versus obscurioribus, reliquis oris partibus brunneis. Long. corp. $1\frac{1}{2}$ lin.

Præcedenti affine, ejus capite et thorace, facillime tamen distinguendum, præter colorem, antennis fortius filiformibus, elytris lævibus juxta suturam utrinque 2-striatis, striis basi abbreviatis, externa apicem versus obsoleta, ante et infra medium leviter foveolatis, ante apicem macula ovata rufo-flava, infra marginem stria profunda apiceque semicirculariter impressis.

In prov. occid. non rarum.

Very closely allied to the preceding species, and equally pretty. Head and thorax entirely those of the former; the antennæ, however, are more filiform, and the divisional line of the thorax is not deepened at the apical extremity. The elytra are smooth, with only two striæ along the suture on either side, the rest not being even traceable; both these striæ are abbreviated at the base, and the outer one becomes obsolete towards the apex; the inner one, however, goes fully down to the apex, and falls in with a deep inframarginal furrow, which is wanting in the preceding species; before and beyond the middle is a small impression; before the apex are two oval spots of orange-colour; the apex has the semicircular impression noticed in the preceding species.

76. *Bembidium orientale*, N.

B. fortiter ovatum, convexum, æneum, elytris maculis 4 magnis flavis, apice sordide subtestaceis, subtus piceum; abdomine brunneo, pedibus, antennarum basi palpisque pallide testaceis. Long. corp. $1\frac{1}{4}$ lin.

Capite inter oculos longitud. 2-impresso, oculis maximis, antennis art. 3^o et 4^o subæqualibus, 2^o his vix brevior; thorace transverso, leviter ovato, antice posticeque truncato, haud emarginato, leviter angustato, basi quadrato, 2-foveolato, inter foveas punctis 1-seriatim impressis, linea longit. media diviso; elytris ovatis, apicem versus fortius angustatis, utrinque profunde 7-striatis, basi lævi, striis marginem apicemque versus magis magisque obsoletis, in stria 3^a ante et infra medium puncto impressis, infra humeros inter striam 5^m et marginem macula ovata, ante apicem inter striam 2^m et marginem macula obliqua flava, apice sordide obsoleteque testaceis, hic semicirculariter et infra marginem stria profunda impressis.

In prov. occid. commune.

Easily distinguished by its strongly oval shape, the thorax being hardly contracted at the base, and no doubt belonging to a different subgenus from the preceding and the following. The head is exactly that of *B. Klugii*. The antennæ have the 2nd joint hardly shorter than the 3rd, and this and the following subequal; joints 1–4 are of a light yellowish, the rest of a brown colour; joint 3 of the maxillary palpi is of a dark, the remaining ones and the labial palpi of a pale yellowish colour. The labrum is square, entire, and, with the rest of the mouth, brown. The mandibles are furnished with 3–4 small teeth below the middle. The ligula is broader than in any of the other species. The thorax, besides in shape, is distinguished by having the foveæ removed from the basal angles towards the centre. The elytra are impressed with seven distinct striæ on either side, the first of which runs down to the apex, where it falls in with the inframarginal one; the rest decrease in length towards the margin, and in depth towards the apex; beyond the 7th another is just traceable, and beyond this there is a deep inframarginal one. The apex is impressed with the semicircular figure which distinguishes all the species here enumerated, with the exception of *B. opulentum* and *truncatum*. The colour of the insect is a dark, bright metallic green, variegated with four large yellow spots on the elytra; two of these are near the shoulder and of oval shape, the other two near the apex and oblique; the apex is of a dirty yellowish colour. The lower part of the insect is of a pitch-colour, lighter towards the apex; the legs are yellowish, darker towards the base.

77. *Bembidium emarginatum*, N.

B. ovatum, convexum, piceum, capite dilutior, elytris ante apicem

maculis 2 rufo-flavis, subtus brunneum ; pedibus, antennarum basi palpisque testaceis. Long. corp. 1 lin.

Capite antice fortius acuminato, fronte utrinque profunde pluries sulcata, oculis mediocribus prominulis, *labro profunde subangulate emarginato*, antennis art. longitudine subæqualibus ; thorace breviter cordato, antice posticeque truncato, non emarginato, basi quadrato, foveis basalibus lineaque longit. media fere obsoletis, linea basali transversa tamen distincta ; elytris ovatis, juxta suturam utrinque 2-striatis, stria externa basi apiceque abbreviata, ante et infra medium puncto obsoleto impressis, ante apicem macula orbiculari rufo-flava apiceque sordide obsoleteque testaceis, hic semilunariter et infra marginem stria profunda impressis.

Variat colore dilutiore.

In prov. occid. rarum.

This and the two remaining species are mutually allied, and probably belong to the subgenus *Lopha*. However, I am less sure of this with regard to the present species than to the two following.

The head is pointed in front, and the labrum (an unusual occurrence) deeply notched ; two deep furrows run from the clypeus straight across the forehead to the vertex ; and from their base other smaller ones radiate towards the eyes. Joints 2-5 of the antennæ, which in almost all cases are of unequal length, are not so in the present ; the first two or three joints are yellowish, the rest are brown. Joint 3 of the maxillary palpi is dark, the remaining ones and the labial palpi yellowish. The elytra are impressed with two striæ on either side of the suture ; the remaining ones are just traceable. The one next to the suture goes straight down to the apex, where it falls in with a deep inframarginal furrow ; the 2nd is, as usual, abbreviated. The apex is impressed with the semicircular figure ; and there are two punctures on either side.

78. *Bembidium ornatum*, N.

B. ovatum, subconvexum, brunneum, elytris maculis 4 flavis, pedibus, antennis palpisque pallide testaceis. Long. corp. 1 lin.

Præcedenti simile, præter colorem facillime tamen distinguendum corpore graciliore, fronte utrinque 2-sulcata, labro integro, elytris infra humeros et infra marginem utrinque macula orbiculari flava, punctis nullis.

Variat colore obscuriore et dilutiore et sæpius apice sordide testaceo.

In prov. occid. commune.

Easily distinguished from the preceding species, with which it agrees in all other respects ; no striæ, however, are traceable

upon the elytra between the two near the suture and the infra-marginal furrow.

79. *Bembidium scydmaenoides*, N.

B. ovatum, convexum, obscure brunneum, elytris maculis 4 magis minusve obsoletis dilutioribus, pedibus, palpis antennarumque art. 2. primis testaceis, his apice reliquisque obscurioribus. Long. corp. 1 lin.

Præcedenti simile, corpore robustiore, fortius ovato magisque convexo, thorace basi fortius quadrato facillime distinguendum.

In prov. occid. communissimum.

Tribe HARPALIDÆ.

Megaristerus, n. g., N.

Corpus oblongum, depressum, glabrum. Caput mediocre antice, obtusum. Mentum profunde subquadrate emarginatum, edentatum, lobis extus rotundatis, apice acuminatis. Ligula minima, oblonga, paraglossis magnis connatis eam totam amplexantibus, antice rotundatis, subcordate emarginatis. Palpi maxill. art. ultimo subcylindrico, apice magis minusve angustato, truncato, lab. eodem obovato, truncato. Labrum transversum, antice posticeque angustatum, margine anteriore profundius emarginato, setoso. Clypeus emarginatus. Mandibulæ validæ, trigonæ, apice leviter arcuatæ, dextera mediocri labro oblecta apice acuminata medio 1-dentata, sinistra robustiore porrecta (hinc n. g. *Megaristerus*) apice obtusa medio 2-dentata. Antennæ humeros parum superantes, filiformes, art. 2^o sequente parum brevior, reliquis subæqualibus. Thorax rotundato-cordatus, postice angustatus angulis rotundatis, antice leviter emarginatus angulis distinctis. Elytra parallela, apice rotundata. Pedes ut in g. *Acupalpus*, tarsi maris 4 ant. tamen art. 1^o subtus nudo.

Victus Harpalorum.

Apparently closely allied to *Amblystomus*,—differing, however, in the sculpture of the tarsi, and in the antennæ, labrum, and palpi; and, as in the diagnosis as given by Lacordaire in his 'Gen. des Col.,' the paraglossæ of *Amblystomus* are simply said to be rounded in front, a further distinction would appear to reside in the notch which exists in that part of the paraglossæ of my genus *Megaristerus*. Also allied to *Acupalpus*, the sculpture of the tarsi being exactly the same,—in saying which, I bear particularly in mind that the intermediate ones of the male are hardly dilated. From this genus, however, it is effectually distinguished by the shape of the ligula. From both *Amblystomus* and *Acupalpus* the present genus, moreover, differs in the vestiture of the four anterior tarsi of the male, the first joint being naked below—and in the mandibles, the left one of which is much larger

and plumper than the right one, protruding from under the labrum, whilst the latter is hidden by it; the former is at the same time obtuse at the apex, whilst the latter is pointed. In the *M. Indicus* this peculiar construction is hardly striking, but in the other two species it is *very much so*, and imparts a curious appearance to the head of the insect.

80. *Megaristerus mandibularis*, N.

M. piceo-niger, leviter metallescens, subtus brunneus, antennis, tibiis tarsisque testaceis, ore brunneo. Long. corp. $1\frac{1}{2}$ –2 lin.

Capite inter antennis 2-foveolato, mandibula sinistra robustissima porrecta, dextera mediocri labro obtecta; thorace basi 2-foveolato, linea longitud. utrinque abbreviata media diviso, antice lunate impresso; scutello majore; elytris obsolete striatis, striis juxta suturam distinctioribus, cum thorace parce subtiliterque punctulatis, inter med. et apic. ad striam 2^m puncto impresso.

Prope Colombo rarus.

81. *Megaristerus stenolophoides*, N.

M. brunneo-piceus, elytris obscurioribus metallescentibus maculis 4 flavis, margine suturæque apice brunneis, pedibus, antennarum basi palporumque apice pallide testaceis, ore, mandibulis brunneis exceptis, testaceo. Long. corp. $1\frac{1}{2}$ lin.

Præcedenti similis, corpore robustiore minus depresso et colore facile tamen distinguendus. Differt præterea palpis max. art. 4^o minus distincte, lab. eodem fortius truncato; thorace magis transverso, basi obsolete ruguloso; elytris profundius striatis, puncto ad striam 2^m fere obsolete, cum thorace haud punctulatis, maculis 4 subobliquis flavis; 2 humeralibus in interstitiis 5^o–6^o, 2 subapicalibus in interstitiis 3^o–4^o.

Prope Colombo rarus.

82. *Megaristerus Indicus*, N.

M. obscure viridi-æneus, elytris maculis 2 humeralibus obliquis pustulisque 2 subapicalibus flavis, subtus brunneus, tibiis tarsisque testaceis, antennarum basi oreque brunneo-testaceis. Long. corp. $1\frac{1}{2}$ lin.

Differt a *M. mandibulari* mandibula sinistra altera vix robustiore, elytris infra humeros inter marginem et striam 2^m macula obliqua intus angustata ante apicem in interstitio 3^o pustula parva flavis, apice fortius quam in præcedente rotundatis.

Prope Colombo mihi, Maderaspatani a Dom. Hon. W. Elliot specimina nonnulla nocte ad lumen capta.

Tribe POGONIDÆ.

Spathinus, n. g., N.

Corpus obovatum, subconvexum, glabrum. Caput mediocre, antice

trigonum, oculis magnis, semiglobosis, prominulis, collo brevi. Mentum transversum, profunde quadrate emarginatum, dente sat forti acuto, lobis intus inter med. et apicem leviter oblique truncatis, extus rotundatis, apice acuminatis. Ligula minuta, elongata, paraglossis latis connatis eam haud multo superantibus, apice intus oblique truncatis subacuminatis. Palpi art. ultimo conico acuminato, max. art. 3^o invertito, ultimo æquali, lab. eodem robustiore. Labrum quadratum, antice profunde emarginatum, angulis ant. rotundatis. Mandibulæ porrectæ, trigonæ, apice acuminatæ, basi dentatæ. Antennæ sat robustæ humeros parum superantes, art. 2^o-3^o subæqualibus, subcylindricis sequentibus brevioribus, his subæqualibus, obovatis. Thorax transverse subquadratus, antice lateribus leviter rotundatus, postice parum angustatus, basi leviter rotundatus, angulis subrectis. Elytra ovata, apice rotundata. Pedes anteriores tibiis profunde emarginatis, tarsis maris art. 1^o-3^o leviter dilatatis, subtus squamulis munitis, art. 1^o subcylindrico, 2^o-3^o subrotundatis, 4^o subtrigono, unguiculis simplicibus.

Victus Bembidiorum.

Apparently closely allied to *Trechus*, and an aberrant form of the same tribe to which the latter genus belongs. The mentum and palpi appear to agree entirely; the insects differ, however, in the structure of the ligula (which, in *Spathinus*, is entirely that of a *Bembidium*) and the sculpture and vesture of the anterior male tarsi. In spite of the latter anomalies, the preeminently characteristic shape of the palpi convinces me that the insect must find a place where I have put it. It is also closely allied to my genus *Ochtheophilus*, differing from it, however, in the ligula, palpi and labrum. The generic name *Spathinus* signifies a staggard, and I have chosen it with regard to the shape of the terminal joint of the palpi. The insects are common throughout the south-west and west of the island, where they live in the manner of the *Bembidia*, under decaying vegetable matter, upon the banks of lakes and rivers, &c.

83. *Spathinus nigriceps*, N.

S. alatus, tenuiter hirsutus, brunneo-testaceus, capite nigro, elytris apice fuscis, ore, antennis pedibusque testaceis. Long. corp. $1\frac{1}{2}$ lin.

Capite inter antennis profundius 2-foveolato, fronte medio leviter depressa; thorace lævi, linea longit. media diviso; elytris juxta suturam obsolete striatis.

84. *Euplynes Dohrnii*, N.

E. ovatus, subconvexus, rufo-testaceus, oculis nigris, elytris viridibus, femoribus apice tarsisque geniculis fusciscentibus. Long. corp. vix $4\frac{1}{2}$ lin.

Capite inter antennis bifoveolato; antennis art. 2^o brevi, reliquis

subæqualibus; palpis art. ultimo subelliptico truncato, labialibus elongatis; thorace breviter transversim cordato, antice posticeque truncato, longitudine sesqui latiore, depresso, lateribus basique elevato, hic leviter bifoveolato, angulis basalibus subrectis leviter rotundatis, linea med. longitud. diviso, subtiliter transversim ruguloso; elytris ovatis, leviter dilatatis, thorace duplo fere latioribus, striatis, in regione basali in stria 3^a, ad et infra medium in stria 2^a puncto impressis, in regione media utrinque depressis, ante apicem leviter angustatis et sinuatis, apice levissime transversim truncatis, angulo interno in spinam producto; pedibus tibiis fortiter tarsisque 4 posticis dorso modice costatis.

In campis silvisque prov. occid. et in montibus prov. central. usque alt. 4000 ped. sub vegetab. per occasionem copiose legi.

This insect frequents localities of a very different nature: I have taken it in great abundance in the Negombo district, in hot, sandy fields, under heaps of weeds, &c.; but I have also taken it on the banks of the Colombo Lake, and in the damp forests of Pusilawa, 4000 feet above the sea, under fallen trees; its favourite haunt, however, appears to be the former description of locality. It would appear to be very distinct from the *E. cyanipennis*, described by Schmidt-Göebel in his 'Col. Birm.,' in thorax, sculpture of apical part, and position of punctures of elytra, costated 4 posterior tarsi, &c. On the other hand, the curious depression of the elytra, which has much the appearance of being accidental, is the same (it occurs also in my genus *Anchista*). I am not quite satisfied with the description of the ligula and tarsi as given by Schmidt-Göebel. The former I should call "truncated at the apex, anterior angles strongly rounded-off." In the insect before me it is certainly not rounded in the middle; if anything, it is rather the contrary. The tarsi I should describe thus:—"Joints 1-4 of the two anterior male tarsi dilated; joint 1 nearly as long as the two following together, subcylindric; joint 2 nearly as long again as the following, elongate-trigonal; joint 3 subtrigonal; joint 4 (in all tarsi) bilobed; joints 1-3 furnished below with two series of lamellated papillæ fenced in by bristles; joint 4 densely penicillated; claws simple."

I take this opportunity to add a general remark. The author above quoted, at the end of the description of his *E. cyanipennis*, quotes a passage from Helfer's 'Burmese Journal,' implying "that the species lived exclusively upon trees, and that most of the Carabidæ of that country had the same habit." The latter part of this observation I feel inclined to look upon as a rash and unjustifiable assertion on the part of Helfer. There can be little doubt (and the above is an additional example) that the *Carabidæ* of this island have much resemblance to those of Burmah; still

my long experience in it has not furnished me with any instances of any of them living *upon* trees, with the exception of the *Tricondylæ*, *Collyrides*, and certain *Cicindelæ*. The *Casnoniæ* and *Ophioneæ* are in the habit of ascending grasses and low herbs, and certain *Lebiidæ* and the genus *Catascopus* live under the bark of trees : this is all. As to the insect described above, although it appears to adapt itself with facility to a variety of physical circumstances, and although it takes occasionally to its wings and flies into houses in the evening, I have never found it *upon trees*.

XLV.—On another new species of *Lardizabala*.

By JOHN MIERS, F.R.S., F.L.S. &c.

[Continued from p. 192.]

I HAVE lately observed, in the herbarium of the Paris Museum, another undescribed species of this genus, the description of which I here append to the former :—

3. *Lardizabala infuscata*, n. sp.; — volubilis, foliis biternatis, foliolis ellipticis apice vix acutis vel obtusiusculis, puncto calloso onustis, terminalibus in petiolulum longiusculum cuneatis, lateralibus sessilibus basi inæqualibus et obtusioribus, glaberrimis, crasso-coriaceis, supra intense fusco-viridibus, nitentibus, simpliciter nervosis, nervis patentibus immersis, subtus pallidioribus brunneis, lucidis, costa nervis venisque prominentibus, marginibus revolutis integris vel obsolete crenulatis; stipulis orbicularibus majusculis, fuscis; racemis ♂ axillaribus folio sub-brevioribus.—Chile Australis: v. s. in herb. Mus. Paris (Hombron, Voyage de l'Astrolabe et Zélée).

This species is at once recognized from *L. biternata* by the extremely dark colour of its leaves and by their much greater thickness and opacity, thus offering a strong contrast to the light green colour of the typical species. In the latter the leaflets are 3-nerved from near the base, but in this plant no such lateral nerves are present; in the typical species a portion of the early pubescence is always found remaining upon the nervures and petioles, but here they are quite free from hairs; the petioles of the intermediate leaves are also much longer in this species. The internodes between the axils are $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. long; the leaves altogether are $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. long; the main petiole is 5 lines long; the two lateral secondary petioles are 5 lines, the intermediate one 12 lines long; the lateral leaflets are 17–21 lines long, 9–11 lines broad; the intermediate leaflets are $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. long, including their petiole of 3 lines, and 10–14 lines broad; the orbicular stipules are 6–8 lines in diameter; the raceme is $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, with about fifteen alternate male flowers.



Nietner, John. 1858. "XLIV.—Descriptions of new Ceylon Coleoptera." *The Annals and magazine of natural history; zoology, botany, and geology* 2, 418–431.

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