

On new African Genera and Species of Curculionidæ.

By FRANCIS P. PASCOE, F.L.S.

[Read 15th April, 1886.]

(PLATE XLI.)

THE localities from which the greater part of the species here described are derived are, I believe, new to scientists. They are:— Momboia*, a missionary station north of Lake Nyassa; Landana†, a new settlement on the Congo; and Mayotte, one of the Comoro Islands (off Madagascar). It may be that some of these have been already described; but entomological literature is now so extensive that it is difficult to be quite sure, particularly as so many entomologists are satisfied with giving a bare and sometimes inadequate description (*pour prendre date*, as the French say) without any reference to affinities or to diagnostic characters, often of more importance than the descriptions themselves.

I may observe that there is probably no family of insects in which greater diversity of appearance in the same genus is to be found than among the Curculionidæ. Species the most dissimilar are not to be separated by any characters which are usually deemed to be of generic importance; and in extreme cases we have to fall back on secondary characters which, after all, may be quite as natural. On the other hand, species which are very much alike in appearance are found to belong to widely different groups, while the absence in many cases of any correlation between the characters makes the classification difficult, and necessitates an undesirable but unavoidable number of genera if anything like definiteness is to be maintained.

The following is a list of the species and the subfamilies to which they belong:—

BRACHYDERINÆ.
Piazomias peregrinus.
—— macer.

Siderodactylus Oberthurii.
—— delectans.
—— puellaris.

* I owe these species to the kindness of Mr. Simpson, of the Geographical Society.

† To M. René Oberthür, of Rennes, I am indebted for these and a number of other interesting forms obtained by his collectors in other parts of the world.

Dermatodes metallescens.

Pamphæa, n. g.

— *deficiens.*

Stigmatrachelus vittatus.

— *ruptus.*

— *longiceps.*

— *flexuosus.*

Catamonus suffusus.

Stiamus, n. g.

— *brachyurus.*

Ectitheis, n. g.

— *divisus.*

Platyomicus aridus.

Straticus, n. g.

— *funestus.*

OTIORHYNCHINÆ.

Systates laticollis.

Dicasticus, n. g.

— *quadrinus.*

— *laticollis.*

— *celatus.*

LEPTOPINÆ.

Ostra, n. g.

— *nodulosa.*

TANYRHYNCHINÆ.

Tanyrhynchus ellipticus.

ATEELABINÆ.

Attelabus chrysideus.

BALANINÆ.

Balaninus brevirostris.

Timola, n. g.

— *suturalis.*

ITHYPORINÆ*.

Desmidophorus Satanas.

— *encaustus.*

Neiphagus, n. g.

— *dentatus.*

— *fascicularis.*

CRYPTORHYNCHINÆ.

Peristhenes, n. g.

— *adustus*.

ZYGOPINÆ.

Saphicus, n. g.

— *variegatus.*

CALANDRINÆ.

Stenophida, n. g.

— *linearis.*

PIAZOMIAS PEREGRINUS.

P. oblongo-ovatus, niger, squamis minutis albis vestitus; prothorace nigro, ad latera linea alba munito, disco sulcis plurimis inciso. Long. 4 lin.

Hab. Delagoa Bay.

Oblong-ovate, black, clothed with very small white scales, absent, however, on the disk of the prothorax, and condensed into a conspicuous stripe on the outer margin of the elytra; head and rostrum with a longitudinal median groove, with a ridge on each side of the latter; antennæ pitchy; the second to the fourth joints of the funicle equal; prothorax subglobose, black, the disk with narrow longitudinal grooves—some confluent—and a line of white scales at the sides; elytra striate-punctate, the punctures oblong, interstices convex; body beneath at the side covered with black, the middle with white scales; legs paler, studded with white setæ.

This species resembles the Chinese *P. velatus*, but it is narrower,

* In the 'Annali del Museo Civico di Genova' (ser 2^a, vol. ii. p. 248) I have ventured to raise this, one of Lacordaire's secondary groups of Cryptorhynchinæ, to the rank of a subfamily.

and the sculpture of the prothorax is very different and, so far as I know, of a kind confined to this and the following species. On the elytra of one of my specimens there are a few small black spots.

PIAZOMIAS MACER.

P. anguste-ovatus, niger, opacus, squamis concoloribus sejunctim vestitus; prothorace latitudine latiori. Long. 3 lin.

Hab. Delagoa Bay.

Narrowly ovate, opaque black, clothed with minute black non-contiguous scales; head and rostrum as in the preceding, but the second joint of the funicle longer than the succeeding ones; prothorax longer than broad, with numerous grooves; elytra more coarsely punctured and studded with white setæ; body beneath and legs pitchy brown, with numerous silvery hairs.

A slender species, with no appearance of scales except under a strong lens.

SIDERODACTYLUS OBERTHURII.

S. ellipticus, ferrugineus, griseo-squamosus; elytris leviter rotundatis, lineatim punctatis, interstitiis planis, latioribus. Long. 4 lin.

Hab. Landana.

Elliptic, ferruginous, with grey contiguous scales; rostrum shorter than the head, concave in front; antennæ pitchy, sparsely setulose; the two basal joints of the funicle equal in length; prothorax convex, longer than broad, sulcate in the middle, scales arranged in circles on slightly raised approximate granules; scutellum nearly round; elytra nearly twice as broad as the prothorax at the base, gradually rounded at the sides, punctures in narrow inconspicuous lines, the interstices broad and flat, the scales round, nearly contiguous, many brown, forming small indefinite spots; body beneath and legs scaly and setulose.

The peculiar arrangement of the scales on the prothorax at once differentiates this species, which I have dedicated to M. René Oberthür, of Rennes, to whom I am indebted for many rare species.

SIDERODACTYLUS DELECTANS.

S. oblongus, squamis læte viridulis dense tectus, setulis nigris adpersus; elytris minus convexis, seriatim punctatis, interstitiis latioribus, squamis angustis griseis uniseriatim remote obsitis. Long. 3 lin.

Hab. Old Calabar.

Oblong, densely covered with pure pale-green scales, and with

sparse black setæ; rostrum concave in front and longitudinally sulcate; eyes prominent; antennæ as in the last; prothorax rather longer than broad, the basal margin not broader than the apical, the disk with contiguous elevated scaly tubercles, each tipped with a black seta; scutellum small, narrow; elytra nearly twice as broad as the prothorax at the base, seriate-punctate interstices broad and with a single row of remote elongate greyish scales; body beneath with golden-green scales; the legs with greyish scales, all the femora with a small tooth beneath.

There are three kinds of scales on this species:—(1) the normal round scale, (2) the long narrow greyish scale like the tip of a camel's-hair brush, and (3) the seta, which is a modified scale.

SIDERODACTYLUS PUELLARIS.

S. oblongus, squamis viridulis, postice roseo-griseis, dense tectus, setulisque nigris adspersus; elytris seriatim punctatis, interstitiis angustis parum convexis. Long. $3\frac{1}{2}$ lin.

Hab. Old Calabar.

Oblong, closely covered with pale greenish, passing posteriorly into rose-grey, scales, with scattered black setæ; rostrum flat in front and longitudinally sulcate; antennæ scaly; funicle with the two basal joints equal in length; prothorax oval, the basal margin not broader than the apical, the disk with low scaly tubercles; scutellum narrowly oblong; elytra half as broad as the prothorax at the base, seriate-punctate, punctures conspicuous, interstices narrow, slightly convex; body beneath densely covered with golden-green scales; the legs with greyish, but the femora, except at the apex, with pale green scales; anterior femora with a small tooth beneath.

Perhaps a variety of the preceding, but differently coloured.

DERMATODES METALLESSENS.

D. oblongo-ovatus, niger, squamulis viridi-metallicis undique tectus; scapo antennarum pone oculum extenso. Long. 6 lin.

Hab. Mombia.

Oblong-ovate, black, everywhere covered with pale metallic green scales; head and rostrum longitudinally sulcate; scape elongate, attaining the posterior border of the eye; prothorax rather broader than long, rounded at the sides; scutellum scutiform; elytra much broader than the prothorax at the base, the shoulders rounded, striate-punctate, the interstices slightly elevated; anterior tibiæ slightly flexuous.

I refer this species to *Dermatodes*, an Eastern genus, rather than to *Stigmatrachelus*, an African one, on account of the scaly corbels of the posterior tibiæ, the principal distinction between the two genera. The length of the scape is sometimes dependent on sex; it may be that the other sex of this species (♀?) has the shorter scape of its congeners.

PAMPHÆA.

Dermatode affinis. Scapus partem posteriorem oculi attingens; oculi parum prominentes. Prothorax basi rectus. Propectus brevissimum. Processus intercoxalis angustior. Abdomen segmento secundo tertio quartoque longiori; sutura prima arcuata.

In *Dermatodes*, and indeed in every large genus, these and every other character are subject to exceptions; but here, taken together, they constitute a sufficiently well-marked genus. The straight base of the prothorax and a corresponding straightness at the base of the elytra are perhaps the most prominent characters. The comparatively non-prominent eyes are accompanied by a narrower head; while in the more typical *Dermatodes* the prominence of the former is so exaggerated as, in some species, to be semi-pedunculate. The species described below is covered with approximate white hair-like scales; but with the derm showing between them, the coloration appears to be a pure pale grey.

PAMPHÆA DEFICIENS.

P. anguste-ovalis, piceus, pilis albis approximatis vestitus; rostro integro, antice planato; scutello subquadrato. Long. $3\frac{1}{2}$ lin.

Hab. Mayotte.

Narrowly oval, pitchy, everywhere clothed with white approximate hairs; head and rostrum not grooved, the latter flat in front; antennæ ferruginous, the two basal joints of the funicle equal, the third to the fifth gradually shorter, the last broadly triangular, club elliptic; prothorax slightly transverse; elytra broader than the prothorax at the base, the sides on the basal half nearly parallel; fore tibiæ denticulate on the inner margin.

STIGMATRACHELUS VITTATUS.

S. ovatus, niger nitidus, squamis albis vittas formantibus, in medio elytrorum fascia irregulari elevata esquamosa instructus, interstitiis nonnullis elevatis. Long. 5 lin.

Hab. Madagascar.

Ovate, black, with narrow well-defined stripes composed of

densely-set white scales; the intervals narrower, without scales, and glossy black, an irregular band (also glossy black) in the middle of the elytra; head grooved, rostrum ridged, eyes rather prominent; antennæ slender, black; the funicle with the second joint scarcely longer than the first; prothorax slightly transverse, with three elevated black stripes; elytra striate-punctate, alternate interstices narrow and glossy black, two or three near the suture elevated, the other interstices broad and flat, covered (the irregular band excepted) with white scales, forming square patches between the stripes, and coarsely punctured, the punctures in the striæ impinging on the black interstices and giving them a moniliform appearance; body beneath and legs covered with small white scales.

A remarkable species as regards colour and sculpture, but allied to *S. alternans*, which, *inter alia*, has all the interstices raised and a broad black band on the elytra followed by an equally broad white one.

STIGMATRACHELUS RUPTUS.

S. ovatus, niger nitidus, albo-squamosus; elytris fasciis irregularibus ante et pone medium macula triangulari esquamosis notatis, interstitiis postice solum sed parum elevatis. Long. 5 lin.

Hab. Madagascar.

Ovate, black, shining, closely clothed with white scales except certain parts above; eyes prominent; head grooved between the eyes; rostrum ridged in front; antennæ black; the funicle with the second joint longer than the first; prothorax with three black glossy stripes, the central broadest and longitudinally grooved; elytra seriate-punctate, punctures small, distinct, but those on the band and posterior spot large and quadrangular, interstices slightly raised posteriorly; body beneath and legs clothed, the former with white, the latter with white scales mixed with brown.

Allied to the last, but the disposition of the naked patches different, and the interstices of the elytra nearly uniform.

STIGMATRACHELUS LONGICEPS.

S. oblongo-ovatus, niger, elytris squamis albidis obsitis; capite pone oculos magis elongato; rostro modice incrassato. Long. 5-6 lin.

Hab. Momboia.

Oblong-ovate, black, the disk of the elytra clothed with whitish scales; head behind the eyes elongate; rostrum rather stout, hardly longer than the head, ridged in the middle; antennæ

black, second joint of the funicle slightly longer than the first, the club elliptic; prothorax scarcely broader than long, closely punctured; scutellum small; elytra half as broad again as the prothorax, gradually narrower behind, striate-punctate, striæ linear and glossy black, the punctures oblong approximate; legs and body beneath with minute white scattered hairs.

A very distinct species, as are several others belonging to this genus; *inter alia*, it has a longer head and prothorax than any of its congeners.

STIGMATRACHELUS FLEXUOSUS.

S. ovatus, capite angustiore, oculis haud prominentibus; niger, squamis griseis fuscisque vestitus; funiculo brevi; elytris fasciis flexuosis notatis. Long. 4 lin.

Hab. Madagascar.

Ovate, black, covered with grey and brown scales, on the elytra forming irregular bands; head narrower, eyes not prominent; rostrum with a median ridge; antennæ black, all the joints of the funicle shortened, the last broadly transverse, and not very distinct from the club; prothorax broader than long, convex; elytra striate-punctate, the striæ scaled, punctures oblong, non-approximate; body beneath and legs with yellowish-grey scales and setæ.

This species departs considerably from the normal forms of the genus, but there is nothing but secondary characters to justify its separation. It has the same deep groove between the eyes as in most others of the genus.

CATAMONUS SUFFUSUS.

C. ovatus, piceus, squamis viridulis, roseo-griseisque intermixtis, dense tectus; interstitiis elytrorum squamis elongatis uni- et biserialim obsitis. Long. $5\frac{1}{2}$ lin.

Hab. Old Calabar.

Ovate, pitchy, closely covered with pale greenish and rose-grey scales; eyes not prominent; rostrum twice as long as the head, moderately stout, with a well-marked ridge in front; antennæ closely covered with grey scales and thinly setulose; second joint of the funicle longest; prothorax transverse, a large scale in each puncture, the intervals with smaller scales; scutellum subscutiform; elytra half as broad again as the prothorax at its base, finely striate-punctate, interstices raised, with one or two rows of long, narrow, greyish scales; body beneath and legs closely scaly and setulose.

In colour and sculpture very distinct from *C. melancholicus*. The intermixture of differently coloured scales—the grey predominating—makes the coloration somewhat indefinite.

STIAMUS.

Rostrum breve, capite haud abscissum; scrobes infra oculos currentes. Antennæ graciles; scapus pone oculum haud productus; funiculus tenuatus; clava distincta. Prothorax subtransversus, basi apiceque truncatus. Elytra prothorace basi paulo latiora, humeris productis. Femora incrassata, subtus dente minuto armata; tibiæ anticæ intus denticulatæ; tarsi articulo penultimo late bilobo; unguiculi basi connati. Abdomen segmentis duobus basalibus ampliatis.

This genus may be placed near *Brachyderes*, but without any salient character absolutely differentiating it from the other genera of the group to which it belongs, nearly all of which are destitute of any tangible characters; those given by Lacordaire being generally of very little more than specific value.

STIAMUS BRACHYURUS. (Plate XLI. fig. 6.)

S. obovatus, niger nitidus; elytris postice latioribus, apice singulorum producto. Long. $4\frac{1}{2}$ lin.

Hab. Mayotte.

Obovate, black, shining, with very small white setæ, and scattered minute scales; rostrum slightly concave in front; antennæ pitchy; first two joints of the funicle equal, the remainder shorter and subequal, and gradually pilose to and including the club; prothorax rounded and punctured; elytra slightly convex, gradually broader behind, then rounded to the apex, which is narrowly but shortly produced at the suture, seriate-punctate, punctures coarse and subremote, the intervals slightly corrugated; body beneath and legs with a few white setæ.

ECTITHEIS.

Caput antice rotundatum; rostrum robustum, apice utrinque elevatum; oculi rotundati, prominuli, grosse granulati. Antennæ modice elongatæ. Prothorax planatus, ad latera dilatatus, postice elevatus. Scutellum nullum. Elytra oblongo-ovata, prothorace basi latiora. Pedes mediocres, corbellis tibiæ apertis; tarsi articulo primo late triangulari; unguiculi approximati.

The flattened disk of the prothorax somewhat shortened and truncated behind, leaving an evident space above its junction with the metathorax between the disk and the elytra—is a peculiarity which at once distinguishes this genus; in some respects it

approaches *Scobius*, a heterogeneous group as it stands at present.

ECTITHEIS DIVISUS. (Plate XLI. fig. 3.)

E. suboblongus, niger, vix nitidus; rostro in medio leviter, apicem versus profunde, sulcato; prothorace confertim et subtiliter punctato. Long. 5 lin.

Hab. Natal.

Suboblong; black, very slightly shining; rostrum not longer than the head, broadly and lightly sulcate at the base, deeper and narrower towards the apex; antennæ black; scape extending to the prothorax, first joint of the funicle longer than the second, the rest much shorter and conical; prothorax expanded and rounded at the sides, closely and finely punctured; elytra slightly convex, shoulders acutely produced, seriate-punctate, punctures large, approximate, interstices raised and minutely punctured; tarsi pilose.

PLATYOMICUS ARIDUS. (Plate XLI. fig. 5.)

P. ovatus, omnino dense fuscescenti-albido-squamosus, setulis minutis dispersus; prothorace ad latera roundato, disco trisulcato; elytris tuberculis duobus munitis. Long. 6 lin.

Hab. Momboia.

Rather broadly ovate; everywhere densely covered by brownish-white minute scales, and more or less setulose; head with a narrow impressed longitudinal line; eyes small, prominent; club of the antennæ shortly ovate, blackish; prothorax very transverse, the disk with a deep central groove and another less marked on each side; scutellum triangular; elytra broad, very convex, the shoulders angular and prominent, striate-punctate; punctures shortly linear, minute, alternate interstices elevated, behind the middle one assuming a curved form, towards the apex two small conical tubercles.

The pale colour of this species is a very marked character; like *P. echinus* and *P. cordipennis*, the prothorax is without a tubercle at the sides.

STRATICUS.

Caput exsertum; oculi rotundati; rostrum crassiusculum, a fronte separatum. Scrobes foveiformes. Antennæ longiusculæ, scapo prothoracem attingente, crassiusculo; funiculus linearis; clava parva, distincta. Prothorax basi truncatus. Scutellum nullum. Elytra ovata, basi prothoracis haud latiora. Pedes mediocres; femora modice incrassata, mutica; tibiæ rectæ, inermes; corbellis apertis; unguiculi basi cornuti. Abdomen segmento secundo tertio longiore.

In Lacordaire's system this genus would probably be placed with *Laparocerus*, notwithstanding its shorter and stouter antennæ, and foveiform scrobes; the former being the principal character of the "*groupe*." In facies it resembles *Calyptops granosa*, but from this genus it is at once distinguished by its connate claws.

STRATICUS FUNESTUS.

S. obscure niger; prothorace confertim granulato; elytris ovatis convexis, interstitiis granulatis. Long. 6 lin.

Hab. Momboia.

Dull black, the elytra slightly pitchy; rostrum longer than the head, tricarinate in front, the middle carina passing above the transverse groove at the base; second joint of the funicle a little longer than the first, the remainder oblong, club tomentose; prothorax moderately transverse, with numerous glossy granules; elytra ovate convex, broadly striate, the striæ closely punctate, interstices with a line of ill-defined granules; legs setulose.

SYSTATES LATICOLLIS.

S. oblongo-ovatus, niger opacus, sat sparse griseo-squamosus et setulosus; rostro acute tricarinato; scapo incrassato; prothorace transverso. Long. $3\frac{1}{2}$ lin.

Hab. Landana.

Oblong ovate; dull black, rather sparingly clothed with greyish scales and setulæ; rostrum longer than the head, with three sharply raised ridges in front; antennæ black, clothed with depressed greyish hairs; scape stout, extending to the base of the prothorax; first two joints of the funicle elongate and equal, the remainder shorter and subequal; prothorax broader than long, the apex narrower than the base, the disk with several small granules; elytra oval, striate-punctate, the punctures large, transverse, and the intervals granuliform, here and there the scales crowded and forming small grey spots; body beneath and legs with scattered scales and setulæ.

The prominent characters of this species are its stout scape extending to the base of the prothorax, the three-ridged rostrum, and the broader prothorax.

DICASTICUS.

Caput transversum; oculi rotundati prominuli; rostrum crassum a fronte abscissum; maxillæ obtectæ. Scrobes superæ, apicales, arcuatæ. Antennæ elongatæ; scapus cylindricus, crassiusculus; funiculus linearis; clava

discreta. Prothorax basi apiceque truncatus. Scutellum nullum. Elytra prothorace paulo latiora, parum convexa. Pedes mediocres; femora in media crassa; tibiæ rectæ, intus ad apicem breviter mucronatæ; tarsi articulo penultimo late bilobo; unguiculi basi connati. Abdomen segmentis duobus basalibus ampliatis.

I place this genus near the "Celeuthetides" of Lacordaire notwithstanding the connate claws, and that the "*groupe*" is almost exclusively confined to the Malaysian and Polynesian islands*.

DICASTICUS QUADRINUS. (Plate XLI. fig. 2.)

D. oblongo-ovalis, niger opacus; prothorace suboblongo; elytris in medio tuberculis quatuor (::) rufo-nitentibus instructis. Long. 7 lin. (rostr. incl.).

Hab. Momboia.

Oblong-oval, black opaque; rostrum slightly bisulcate, narrower behind the scrobes, the latter confined to a somewhat triangular but slightly curved excavation and seen from above; antennæ black, with numerous curved setæ; scape extending to near the middle of the prothorax; first two joints of the funicle equal, the rest shorter and subequal; club elliptic; prothorax scarcely longer than broad, depressed above, with two diverging rows of nearly obsolete tubercles; elytra narrowest at the base, the humeral angles acute, the sides rounded, broadest before the middle, gradually declining behind, the apex broadly rounded; four well-marked glossy reddish tubercles on the back, and two or three nearly obsolete at the sides, the scutellar region with two oblong similar tubercles, seriate-punctate, the intervals with very minute scales.

DICASTICUS LATICOLLIS.

D. oblongo-ovatus, niger opacus; prothorace lato; elytris supra inæqualibus, basi tuberculis (circa sex) nitide-nigris instructis. Long. 6 lin.

Hab. Momboia.

Oblong-ovate, black opaque; rostrum flat anteriorly, the scrobes curved; antennæ blackish, with numerous grey setæ; first two joints of the funicle equal in length, but the basal rather thicker; prothorax much broader than long, finely punctured, the middle of the disk with a well-limited impression; elytra at the base not broader than the prothorax, the humeral angles not produced, the surface irregular and somewhat tuberculate, with small round scales and short black setæ between the punctures, close to the suture at the base about six small glossy

* Schönherr's three species of *Siteutes* are said to be from the Cape.

black granules, each elytron rounded at the apex; body beneath and legs with numerous setæ.

Readily distinguished from the last by its broad prothorax, the humeral angles not acute, and the absence of the four median tubercles.

DICASTICUS CELATUS.

D. angustior, niger opacus; prothorace subcylindrico, supra æquali, granulis plurimis nitide nigris juxta suturam usque ad medium instructis. Long. 4 in.

Hab. Momboia.

Narrower, black opaque; rostrum with a raised median line; scrobes curved; antennæ blackish with grey setæ; first two joints of the funicle equal; prothorax rather longer than broad, the sides slightly rounded, the base and apex equal in breadth, the disk with several glossy black granules; elytra as in the two preceding, but with a regular superficies, substriate-punctate, several small granules close to the suture confined to the basal half; body beneath and legs pitchy, setulose.

The narrower form and almost cylindrical prothorax suffice to distinguish this species. In this genus and in many others the scales are easily detached, but from what remains they appear, under a strong lens, to have more or less a metallic green lustre; they are very small, but, although very close together, not contiguous.

OSTRA.

Rostrum mediocre, apicem versus dilatatum, a capite separatum; scrobes apicales, superæ breves curvatæ. Antennæ graciles, scapo prothoracem attingente; funiculus linearis, articulis elongatis; clava parva, distincta. Prothorax transversus, lobis ocularibus haud prominulis. Scutellum parvum. Elytra ampliato-rotundata, prothorace basi haud latiora. Femora mutica; tibiæ haud uncinatæ; unguiculi liberi. Mesosternum breve. Abdomen segmento secundo tertio longiore.

If I am right in placing this genus near *Leptops* it will be the only African one of the "*groupe*," if we except *Gyponychus*, a doubtful member however. The ocular lobes are only moderately developed and are without vibrissæ. As in *Leptops*, the scrobes are visible from above.

OSTRA NODULOSA.

O. brevis, plerumque griseo-squamosa, supra tuberculato-fasciculata; rostro prothorace brevior. Long. 3 lin.

Hab. Madagascar.

Short, covered mostly with greyish scales, and fasciculated tubercles above; rostrum shorter than the prothorax, compressed above at the base, with a shallow excavation on each side between the eye and the scrobe; antennæ scaly and setulose; second joint of the funicle half as long again as the first, and equal to the three next together; prothorax short, an elongated tubercle on each side anteriorly, and many small tubercles towards the base; elytra semiglobose, each with two rows of large approximated tubercles, the spaces between with broadly impressed punctures; the base with a few glossy granules; body beneath and legs scaly and setulose.

ATTELABUS CHRYSIDEUS.

A. silaceus, squamis piliformibus aureis sejunctim vestitus; clava antennarum articulis arcte connexis, articulo ultimo funiculi valde transverso; femoribus dente maximo instructis. Long. 2 lin.

Hab. Delagoa Bay.

Silaceous, clothed with non-approximate golden hair-like scales; head behind the eye longer than the rostrum; antennæ with the first two joints much the thickest, the last before the club very transverse; the latter stout, compact, and not distinctly separated from the funicle; prothorax bisinuate at the base, coarsely punctured, the middle with a shallow interrupted groove; scutellum indistinct but very short and very broad; elytra subquadrate, about half as long again as broad, each with four strongly marked ridges, the intervals somewhat pitted but impunctate; femora with a large triangular tooth beneath, its outer edge serrated; tibiæ sinuate at the base, the anterior denticulate; body beneath ferruginous, with a few scattered minute hairs.

Quite an isolated species so far as I know, although in some respects approaching *A. costipennis*, Fähræus, judging from the description (Coleopt. Caffr. p. 244). It does not enter any of the sixteen sections into which the genus has been divided by M. Jekel (Insect. Saunders.).

TANYRHYNCHUS ELLIPTICUS. (Plate XLI. fig. 1.)

T. ellipticus, niger, elytris ferrugineis; prothorace brevi, basi semicirculari; tarsis articulo primo late cordato. Long. 4 lin.

Hab. Natal.

Elliptic; dark, elytra ferruginous, with very small and scattered scales; setæ; rostrum slightly compressed, deeper

and curved toward the apex, and having five raised lines in front; antennæ ferruginous, scape much curved and extending to the prothorax; funicle with the six last joints equal; prothorax short, semicircular at the base, the side well rounded, the disk covered with glossy approximate granules; no scutellum; elytra oblong cordiform, moderately convex, the shoulders embracing the base of the prothorax, seriate-punctate, the interstices unequal; body beneath and legs pitchy; femora unarmed; basal joint of the tarsi broadly cordate; claws divergent.

This species is remarkable for the semicircular base of the prothorax and the corresponding sweep of the elytra; other species have the same tendency, but not to so great an extent.

BALANINUS BREVIROSTRIS.

B. fuscus, squamulis murinis sejunctim vestitus; elytris albo notatis; rostro brevi, basi incrassato; funiculo articulis tertio quartoque æqualibus. Long. 2 lin.

Hab. Landana.

Dark brown, clothed with yellowish-grey approximate scales; elytra with two or three indefinite whitish bands behind the middle; rostrum longer than the prothorax, ferruginous, thicker at the base; antennæ ferruginous; third and fourth joints of the funicle equal; prothorax rather broader than long, slightly ridged anteriorly; scutellum oblong; elytra narrowly striate-punctate, interstices broad, flat; legs ferruginous, femora acutely toothed; body beneath black, with scattered white scales.

Not unlike our *B. villosus*, which, like most others in this cosmopolitan genus, has a perfectly filiform rostrum. From the insertion of the antennæ being behind the middle of the rostrum, I believe the specimen here described to be a female; in the male the rostrum should be shorter, and the antennæ inserted in the middle. In some species the rostrum of the females is twice as long as the body.

TIMOLA.

Caput globosum; rostrum filiforme; scrobes medianæ, laterales; oculi magni, ovati. Antennæ scapo oculum attingente; funiculus elongatus; clava distincta. Prothorax transversus, basi subtruncatus. Elytra basi prothorace latiora. Pygidium breve. Pedes mediocres; femora in medio incrassata, mutica; tibiæ rectæ, inermes; tarsi æquales, articulo penultimo late bilobo, ultimo parvo; unguiculi liberi. Abdomen segmentis tribus subæqualibus, suturis rectis.

The facies of the species constituting this genus readily suggests

a *Balaninus*, yet it does not appear to differ in any technical character. Lacordaire says of the section to which *Balaninus* belongs that, although it comprises more than thirty genera, they "present so great a variety in their organization that they represent not less than thirteen different types" (Gen. vi. p. 537).

TIMOLA SUTURALIS.

T. ovata, nigra, supra squamis oblongis silaceis lineatim ornata; rostro antennisque ferrugineis; corpore infra pedibusque sejunctim albo-squamosis. Long. $2\frac{1}{2}$ lin.

Hab. Grahamstown.

Ovate, black, with oblong silaceous scales forming well-marked lines; rostrum ferruginous, smooth, much longer than the prothorax; antennæ ferruginous; first joint of the funicle nearly as long as the two next together; club broadly oval; prothorax rugose, obsoletely punctured, a stripe on each side; scutellum triangular, covered with yellow scales; elytra slightly rounded at the sides, the suture and a stripe on the margin of the disk silaceous, striate-punctate, punctures oblong, indefinite; pygidium black; beneath and legs with white hairs and scales.

DESMIDOPHORUS SATANAS. (Plate XLI. fig. 8.)

D. suboblango-ovatus, niger, hirsutissimus et fasciculatus; capite rude confertim punctato; rostro nitido, dimidio basali reticulato-apicali grosse sejunctim punctato; elytris fasciculis plurimis instructis. Long. 7 lin.

Hab. Madagascar.

Rather narrowly ovate comparatively; black, closely covered with long hairs, many of them fasciculate; head roughly punctured; rostrum glossy black, the basal half reticulate, the apical half with coarse punctures more apart; antennæ pitchy, smooth; funicle elongate, its second joint longest; prothorax scarcely broader than long, rounded in the middle, contracted at the base, the apex with two fascicles directed forwards; elytra at the base twice as broad as the prothorax, seriate-punctate, hairy with white hairs sparsely intermixed, the longer black hairs forming many fasciculi (about 18); legs stout, the anterior femora with a small tooth beneath; tibiæ short, thick; body beneath with few hairs.

The figure and description of Olivier's *fascicularis* (Entomol. v. p. 166, No. 83, pl. i. fig. 9), which was said to be from Cayenne, do not agree with the species known in collections as *D. penicillatus*,

Dej. Cat., and from which the above differs in its smaller size, narrow form, and sculpture of the rostrum, in which it is nearly smooth with a few small irregularly scattered punctures. The form of the scutellum is uncertain, being masked by the hairs.

DESMIDOPHORUS ENCAUSTUS.

D. breviter ovatus, fuscus, pilis silaceis variis; elytris brevibus, convexis, humeris oblique truncatis, fasciculis parvulis fuscis instructis, basi maculis duabus pallidis notatis. Long. 6 lin.

Hab. Madagascar.

Shortly ovate, brown varied with silaceous hairs; rostrum black, shining, coarsely punctured; prothorax transverse, rounded at the sides, but broadest at the base, closely and deeply punctured; scutellum rounded; elytra short, convex, much broader than the prothorax at the base, shoulders obliquely truncate, striate-punctate, punctures unequal approximate; interstices raised, second, fourth, and sixth having on each three brownish fasciculi, the base with a pale oblong spot on each side the scutellum; legs with greyish hairs; femora unarmed; body beneath dark brown.

A short stout species like *D. ursus*, which is not fasciculate, has prominently angular shoulders, thick short tibiæ, and the third joint of the funicle longer than the two preceding.

NEIPHAGUS.

Rostrum incrassatum, apice lamella triangulari elevata instructum; scrobes medianæ, obliquæ, infra oculos currentes. Oculi rotundati. Antennæ mediocres; funiculus breviusculus; clava distincta. Prothorax convexus, margine antico ad latera sinuato. Elytra convexa, postice abrupte declivia. Rima pectoralis angusta; mesosternum integrum, depressum. Abdomen segmentis tribus intermediis subæqualibus. Pedes robusti; femora antica dente parvo armata; tibiæ intus mucronatæ, posticæ corbellis cavernosis; tarsi triangulares; unguiculi basi connati.

Allied to *Desmidophorus*, but with the three intermediate segments equal or nearly equal in length, and with small connate claws.

NEIPHAGUS DENTATUS. (Plate XLI. fig. 7.)

N. crassus, niger opacus, supra fere esquamosus; funiculo articulis quatuor basalibus modice elongatis et fere æqualibus; elytris haud fasciculatis. Long. 6 lin.

Hab. Momboia.

Robust, brownish black, opaque; head and rostrum closely

and coarsely punctured, each puncture enclosing a small scale; antennæ pitchy, last three joints of the funicle transverse, the four basal longer and equal; prothorax convex, narrowed anteriorly and in a slighter degree at the base, the disk with more or less confluent punctures, the middle with a longitudinal carina, the apex with two small fasciculi directed forwards; scutellum not raised; elytra twice as broad as the prothorax at the base, the shoulder conically produced, the sides gradually narrowing, but broad at the apex, coarsely seriate-punctate, the declivity with a tubercle on each side; body beneath and legs roughly scaly and setulose.

NEIPHAGUS FASCICULARIS.

N. crassus, fuscus, rude griseo-squamosus; funiculo antennarum articulis quatuor basalibus modice elongatis, secundo longiori; elytris fasciculis plurimis instructis. Long. 6 lin.

Hab. Momboia.

Robust, dark brown, with irregularly set grey scales; head and rostrum coarsely punctured; antennæ pitchy, the four basal joints of the funicle moderately elongate, the second longest; prothorax subtransverse, abruptly constricted anteriorly, the apex with two fasciculi, and on the convex portion behind two larger fasciculi, a well-marked median carina, and a coarse close-set punctuation on the disk, each puncture filled in with a large scale, many of them elongate and directed forwards; scutellum transverse, elevated; elytra nearly twice as broad as the prothorax at the base; the shoulder conically produced, gradually narrower to the moderately broad apex, striate-punctate, with from six to eight tuberculated fasciculi on each; legs scaly and closely setulose.

A very distinct species; the tubercles on the elytra are not all equally developed.

PERISTHENES.

Rostrum mediocre; scrobes medianæ infra oculos terminatæ. Antennæ breves; funiculus leviter gradatim lator, clava continuata, hac elongata. Prothorax transversus, basi parum bisinuatus. Scutellum elevatum. Elytra ampla, convexa. Rima pectoralis ante coxas intermedias terminata, apice cavernosa. Pedes breves; femora mutica; tibiæ intus mucronatæ; tarsi triangulares, articulo ultimo elongato; unguiculi basi connati. Abdomen segmentis duobus basalibus ampliatis.

The affinities of this genus are apparently strongest with

Ædemonus (Erichsonii), but the short funicle gradually passing into the club, and the connate claws are at once distinctive.

PERISTHENES ADUSTUS. (Plate XLI. fig. 9.)

P. oblongus, fusco-niger opacus, prothorace elytrisq[ue] fascia post-mediana, e squamulis griseis formata, obsitis. Long. 6 lin.

Hab. Momboia.

Oblong; dull brownish black, with closely set greyish scales on the prothorax and on the elytra, where they form a post-median band, broadest towards the sides; rostrum slightly curved, shorter than prothorax, and irregularly punctured; antennæ ferruginous; club nearly as long as the funicle, pubescent; prothorax small, notched at the base, a broad deep longitudinal impression at the apex, which overhangs the head; scutellum oblong oval, black; elytra much broader at the base than the prothorax and about three times as long, very convex, with large, shallow, slightly approximate punctures, the apex of each rather obliquely truncate; body beneath closely covered with rufous-grey scales; legs varied with brown scales.

SAPHICUS.

Antennæ funiculo 7-articulato, articulo basali elongato, secundo paullo minus elongato, cæteris gradatim brevioribus. Rima pectoralis inter coxas intermedias protensa, apice aperta. Abdomen segmento basali ampliato, tribus intermediis brevissimis. Pygidium obtectum. Femora compressa, breviter dentata, postica elongata. Corpus crassum.

The character of the pectoral canal extending beyond the intermediate coxæ clearly differentiates this genus from *Psalistus*, Gerst., in which it does not pass beyond the anterior coxæ. *Sphadasmus*, with which it agrees in facies, has no pectoral canal.

SAPHICUS VARIEGATUS. (Plate XLI. fig. 4.)

S. brevis, niger, pilis niveis interrupte maculatim vestitus; antennis piceis; rostro modice elongato, medio basali carinato; prothorace transverso, in medio alte elevato et acute carinato, basi fortiter bisinuato; scutello oblongo; elytris brevissimis, in medio valde gibbosis, apice singulorum rotundato; tibiæ compressæ; tarsis posticis articulo basali elongato. Long. 4 lin.

Hab. Madagascar.

STENOPHIDA.

Opisthene affinis, sed articulo penultimo tarsorum integro, versus apicem excavato, ultimo elongato, in excavatione postice inserto; unguiculis liberis; pygidio deflecto, apice rotundato.

Oxyopisthen, Thoms., was intended to supersede Schönherr's *Megaproctus*, the name being preoccupied; but Lacordaire, considering the African species generically distinct from the Indian, adopted the name in his great work (Gen. des Coléopt. viii. 282), with characters confining it to the former. In *Oxyopisthen* the large penultimate joint has a short cleft for the insertion of the claw-joint; the claws short and united; and the pygidium sub-horizontal and pointed at the apex. The species here described has the narrow contour of a *Periphemus*.

STENOPHIDA LINEARIS.

S. elongata, parallela, picea; elytris lineatim striato-punctatis; interstitiis latis planatis, uniseriatim punctatis. Long. 3 lin.

Hab. Momboia.

Narrowly elongate, parallel at the sides, pitchy; head between the eyes with a shallow depression; rostrum slightly curved and closely punctured; first joint of the funicle rather larger than the second, the club not broadly triangular; prothorax nearly as long as the elytra, finely and closely punctured; scutellum elongate; elytra narrowly striate-punctate, punctures inconspicuous, interstices broad and flat, each with a row of close-set round punctures; pygidium punctured at the base, beyond studded with white scales; body beneath finely punctured; tibiæ sulcated, strongly mucronate.

DESCRIPTION OF PLATE XLI.

Fig. 1. *Tanyrhynchus ellipticus*.

2. *Dicasticus quadrinus*.

2a. Ditto, side view of head.

3. *Ectitheis divisus*.

4. *Saphicus variegatus*.

4a. Ditto, a partial side view in outline.

Fig. 5. *Platyomicus aridus*.

6. *Stiamus brachyurus*.

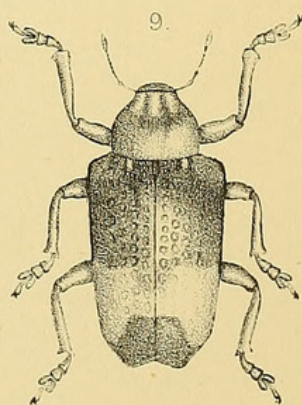
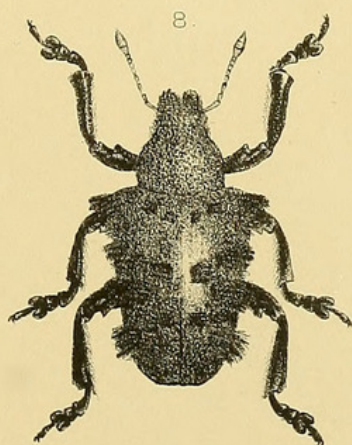
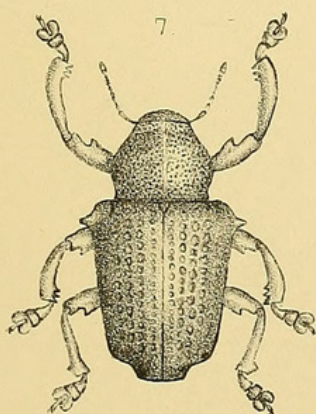
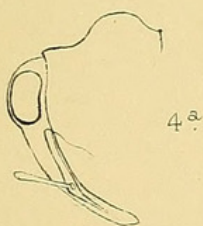
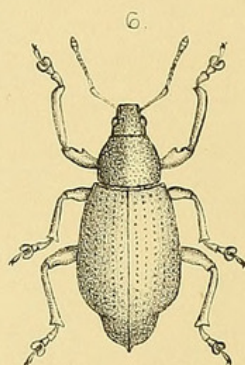
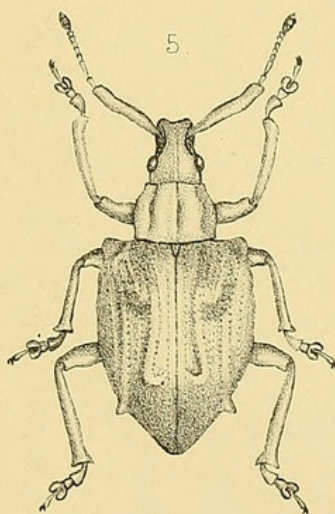
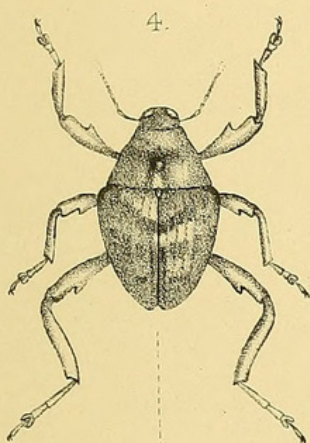
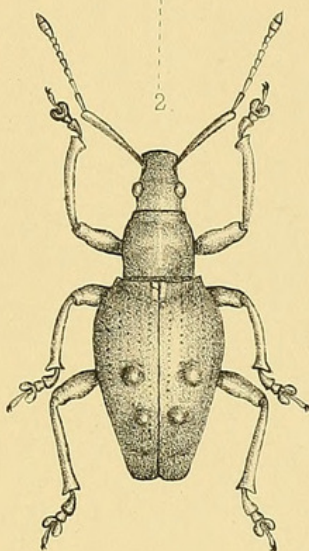
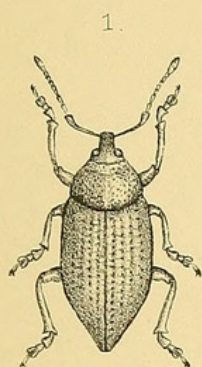
6a. Ditto, side view of head.

7. *Neiphagus dentatus*.

8. *Desmidophorus Satanas*.

9. *Peristhenes adustus*.

All the figures are greatly enlarged from nature; figs. 7 and 9 are relatively much too broad.





Pascoe, Francis P. 1886. "On new African Genera and Species of Curculionidae." *The Journal of the Linnean Society of London. Zoology* 19(114), 318–336. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1886.tb02228.x>.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/99211>

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1886.tb02228.x>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/377064>

Holding Institution

Smithsonian Libraries and Archives

Sponsored by

Biodiversity Heritage Library

Copyright & Reuse

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

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