VIII.—Descriptions of new Genera and Species of New Zealand Coleoptera. By Capt. T. Broun, F.E.S.

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Group Cnemacanthidæ.

Mecodema laeviceps, sp. n.

Robust, nigrescent, slightly shining; labrum, palpi, antennæ, and tibiae and tarsi rufo-piceous.
Head broad, incurved behind the moderately prominent eyes, almost smooth, having only a few feeble rugæ near the eyes; on the epistome there are two long and three short striae; labrum rounded, slightly emarginate in the middle, with six setigerous punctures. Antennæ with the basal four joints glabrous, the remainder are finely punctate, and gradually become more pubescent towards the extremity, the fifth, however, is nearly nude. Thorax 3 3/4 lines in length by 3 3/4 in breadth, apex slightly incurved, base medially emarginate; its sides are only indistinctly crenate and are nearly straight for two-thirds of their length, they are sinuously narrowed backwards towards the obtuse posterior angles; the lateral margins are distinctly explanate near the anterior angles, and less so near the basal fossæ; these last are of moderate size, but appear flattened close to the cariniform margins; the discoidal furrow does not attain the front or base, and is marked with seven or eight punctures, the largest of these is in front; near each side there are some faint striolæ, and along the base there are some short shallow ones. Elytra oblong-oval, each with eight well-marked punctate dorsal striae, which become irregular behind, the punctures, especially towards the sides, are distinct and close; the three interstices nearest the suture are broad and plane, the others become narrower, so that the eighth is almost cariniform, the marginal punctuation is irregular. Legs moderately slender, anterior tibiae with produced outer angles and stout inner spurs.

Underside shining, rufo-piceous, nearly smooth; on each segment, near the middle, there are two setigerous punctures and a large impression at each side, the terminal, in addition thereto, has four punctures at its extremity.

This species is, no doubt, nearly allied to M. lucidum, Castelnau, but the postocular punctuation is absent; it is, moreover, a broader insect. The elytra near the base are much broader: in my specimen of M. lucidum they are so narrowed that the shoulders become quite obsolete. The external angle of the front tibia is almost obtuse.

Length 13, breadth 4 lines.

Ida Valley.

One individual from Mr. J. H. Lewis.

Mecodema striatum, sp. n.

Elongate, rather narrow, glossy black, legs nigro-piceous.

Head moderately elongate; between the frontal impressions and each eye there are three coarse rugæ, on the
forehead there are five, some fine punctures occur behind and six larger ones on the labrum; close to each eye there is a large puncture with duplicate setae; the vertex is smooth. Mandibles stout, elongate, striate. Eyes moderately prominent. Antennae short, their basal four joints glabrous. Thorax hardly any broader than long, its sides gently rounded, sinuously narrowed behind, posterior angles not at all projecting, lateral margins crenulate; dorsal groove very distinct and almost touching the basal and apical margins, its surface is almost quite smooth, though a few fine abbreviated striae may be seen near the front and base, basal fovee deep and close to the angles. Elytra oviform, gradually but considerably narrowed posteriorly, the shoulders, though somewhat narrowed, are evidently broader than the base of the thorax; their sculpture consists of rather deep, quite impunctate striae, which become confluent towards the extremity; the three interstices, on each, nearest the suture are nearly plane, the others are convex, on the seventh there is one puncture just behind the middle thigh and two or three along the stria outside, the raised space parallel with the side is very smooth, and the common punctiform sculpture of the marginal channel is nearly altogether absent. Anterior femora moderately inflated, the outer angle of the tibia prolonged, basal four joints of the tarsus with prominent external angles; intermediate tibiae scabrous, with slightly produced outer extremity, the posterior simple.

Underside shining black; the head with close undulating sculpture, flanks of prosternum closely punctate; abdomen with fine irregular linear impressions, the apex of the terminal segment has three setigerous punctures on each side of the middle, but the usual pair of punctures on the central portion is wanting.

There is no need for comparison with other species in this instance, as the deep regular impunctate elytral striae will at once lead to its recognition.

♂. Length 10, breadth 2 3/4 lines.

Puysegur Point.

One example, from Mr. Sandager’s collection, was kindly sent to me by Mr. Lewis.

Mecodema Walkeri, sp. n.

Elongate, shining, coppery black; tarsi and palpi piceous, tips of these latter paler.

Head narrower than thorax, with eight longitudinal sulci
on the forehead, near the eyes it is similarly irregularly rugose, with a single setigerous puncture near each eye; on the vertex there are only faint transverse irregular impressions. Labrum slightly notched in front and bearing six setae. Eyes prominent. Antennae short, their basal four joints glabrous, the others pubescent. Thorax $3\frac{3}{4}$ broad by 3 lines long, widest near the front, rather gradually narrowed backwards, more abruptly near the base, apex subtruncated, base slightly incurved, lateral margins only feebly crenulate, posterior angles obtuse; the basal fossae are situated close to the sides, but do not reach the hind margin, the discoidal groove is well marked; in front there are some fine longitudinal striae, and across the disk faint linear impressions. Elytra elongate-oval, with rounded shoulders; on each, between the middle and the side, three indistinctly elevated lines occur, the intervening spaces are moderately coarsely and closely punctured and become rugose behind, nearer the smooth flat suture the punctures are finer and irregular, but do not form series or striae; the lateral sculpture is not coarser than that near the outside of the dorsum. Legs moderately slender; anterior tibia with produced outer angles, intermediate slightly acuminate, the posterior simple. Terminal joint of maxillary palpi rather broader than in M. sculpturatum.

Underside glossy black, head with undulating sculpture, the rest of the body nearly smooth. At the extremity of the last segment there are two setigerous punctures on each side of the middle, and, on one side, there is an additional pair, which, however, in my specimen, is wanting on the other side.

♀. Length 13, breadth $4\frac{1}{4}$ lines.

Akaroa.

This may be be placed near M. alternans and M. Suteri; it is, however, much larger than either of these and differently sculptured. The name of its discoverer, Mr. J. J. Walker, F.L.S., has been attached to the species.

Obs.—At the same time Mr. Walker supplied me with the male of Trichosternus akaroensis, which appears to be usually smaller than the other sex, measuring only $10 \times 3\frac{3}{4}$ lines.

Group Feroniidae.

Trichosternus Hudsoni, sp. n.

Oblong, moderately convex, glossy; head and thorax viridescent, elytra sometimes with a coppery hue; legs
nigro-piceous, tarsi and antennae rufo-piceous, palpi often more rufescent.

Head, including the prominent eyes, as wide as the front of thorax, and, excluding the mandibles, about equalling it in length; it is quite smooth and bears the usual frontal impressions. Labrum subtruncate, with six setigerous punctures across its front margin. Mandibles long and robust, the left one strongly curvate at the extremity. Thorax $2\frac{1}{4}$ to $2\frac{3}{4}$ lines long by $2\frac{3}{4}$ to 3 in breadth, its apex incurved, base medially emarginate; the sides are moderately rounded, and are slightly narrowed, yet scarcely sinuate, behind, posterior angles rectangular; the dorsal groove generally attains the base and apex; near the latter there is a slight curved transverse impression; the basal fossae are large, occasionally there is a slight intervening depression. Scutellum striate at base. Elytra ovate-oblong, with dentiform shoulders, rather broad but moderately sinuata towards the apices; their striae are deep and finely punctured, the sutural interstices are plane, the others convex, on the third there are three punctures, and on the seventh four or five.

Underside shining, black; the abdomen with fine irregular linear sculpture, the basal segment has two distinct punctures near the middle of the hind margin, and there are four at the extremity of the terminal one.

This is a much smaller and less robust insect than T. antarcticus, with simple femora, and the outer angle of the middle tibiae is not produced. It is distinguished from T. bucolicus by its deeper striae and more convex elytral interstices.

♂. Length 9–10½, breadth 3½–3¾ lines.

Wellington.

Five specimens, under the number 192, have been received at various times from Mr. J. H. Lewis and Mr. S. V. Hudson. They were all collected in the same locality, and are undoubtedly a distinct local form. The species is named in honour of the gentleman who discovered it.

Genus of doubtful position.

EupsoRus, gen. nov.

Body moderately elongate, rough. Maxillary palpi elongate, basal joint short, the next long and gradually incrassate, third almost transverse, fourth slender and acuminate, as long as the preceding two combined. Antennæ inserted below the lateral margins of the forehead,
slender and elongate; basal joint stout, slightly arched; 2nd longer than broad, about half as long as the basal one; 3rd rather longer than the contiguous ones; joints 5–8 elongate, the last, however, distinctly shorter and stouter than the 5th; terminal three a little expanded, 10th slightly broader than 9th. Legs simple, unarmed; the anterior tibiae on the inside, below the middle, with a wide excision. Tarsi stout, each of the basal four joints transverse, the first largest, the fifth about half the length of the others conjointly; claws small and slender.

Head subquadrate, moderately rounded and narrowed in front. Clypeus prolonged anteriorly. Eyes coarsely facetted, subrotundate, only slightly convex. Thorax notched laterally. Elytra subquadrate, costate. Hind body gradually attenuated, not longer than the elytra, the basal three segments strongly margined.

The characters given above show that this genus cannot be associated with Omalium, in which the terminal joint of the tarsi equals the basal four taken together, and the clypeus is not produced so as to cover the mandibles. In Micropeplus the body is similarly costate, but the tarsi are only tri-articulate, and the antennæ are nine-jointed and abruptly clavate. It may be located between these two genera, but, even there, on account of the notch along the inner face of the front tibiae similar to that seen in the Carabidæ, it will occupy an isolated position.

Eupsorus costatus, sp. n.

Body slightly nitid, almost uniformly pale brown, sparingly clothed with decumbent pallid setæ.

Head smaller than thorax, with two deep longitudinal cavities, the margins and central portion asperate. Thorax about as long as it is broad, its sides explanate and of somewhat rounded outline, interrupted, however, by three or four unequal indentations, so that the basal portion appears as if abruptly constricted; there are two strong, but not quite straight, discoidal costæ, which seem rough, but the dilated sides are nearly smooth and shining and very sparsely setose. Elytra just as broad as they are long, almost parallel-sided, shoulders rounded; apices bisinuate, so that the true basal segment of the abdomen may be detected from above; they bear three costæ, the suture forming the central one, and there is a curvate humeral elevation on each; their whole surface is coarsely punctured. Hind body transversely convex; the four fully-exposed segments
have rather more conspicuous setæ than the elytra, they are, however, rather short and depressed, and the punctuation seems less coarse; the third segment is rather larger than either of the basal two, the apical is narrow and conical. Legs and tarsi finely setose, the two hind pairs of tibiae straight.

Length 1\(\frac{1}{2}\), breadth \(\frac{5}{8}\) line.
Ida Valley.

A single mounted individual of this remarkable little insect was kindly sent to me by Mr. J. H. Lewis.

Group Pselaphidae.

Patreus, gen. nov.

Body elongate. Antennal tubercles small. Hind body elongate, basal three segments large, nearly equal, with deep sutures. Metasternum elongate. Prosternum without visible carina. Intermediate tibiae remarkably short, curvate; basal joints of intermediate tarsi enormously developed, second smaller than first, the third elongate and slender; with one claw.

This genus should be placed near Exeirarthra, the antennæ, however, instead of being like those of Sagola, more nearly resemble those of Zelandius. From the latter it is distinguished by the more slender form, impunctate surface, much smaller and more anteriorly narrowed head, oviform thorax, shorter antennæ, and slender legs. From all the other Euplectini known to me it may be easily recognized by the strongly developed basal joints of the middle tarsi, which indeed somewhat resemble the male feet of an Aphilon, one of the Phytophaga, but with the basal joints homogeneous in place of being distinctly separated. The tarsal structure of Exeirarthra, another curious form of this group, is materially different, the penultimate joint of the anterior tarsi being distinctly lobate, whilst the terminal is provided with two claws.

Patreus Lewisi, sp. n.

Elongate, nitid, castaneo-rufous; legs, antennæ, and palpi yellow; sparingly clothed with long, slender, greyish pubescence.

Head small, the vertex deeply and unevenly excavate. Antennæ pubescent, basal joint large, 2nd shorter and not quite as stout, joints 3–8 small and bead-like, 9th larger than the preceding one, but not so broad as the 10th, 11th
very large. *Eyes* prominent. *Thorax* oviform, rather longer than broad; there is a distinct ante-basal linear impression, a fovea at each side, and a smaller median fovea, but there is no well-developed discoidal groove, the surface is smooth. *Elytra* rather longer than broad, moderately rounded laterally; on each there is a fine sutural stria and short intra-humeral impression, the shoulders appear as if longitudinally elevated. *Legs* moderately long, the front and hind tibiae straight, their tarsi elongate. *Hind body* with four exposed segments, the basal three strongly margined and of nearly equal length, the first slightly flattened medially.

♂. Length ½, breadth ¼ line.
Ida Valley.

I have much pleasure in naming this inconspicuous but interesting little beetle in honour of Mr. J. H. Lewis, who sent me a mounted specimen which he found in an ant's nest. The female apparently has not been seen.

*Euplectus caviceps*, sp. n.

*Elongate*, shining, fulvescent, impunctate, clothed with decumbent greyish pubescence; antennæ, palpi, and legs yellow.

*Head* nearly as broad as the thorax, narrowed anteriorly, its whole central portion deeply hollowed, and with a fine dark longitudinal stria within the cavity, the frontal margin is on nearly the same plane as the flattened tubercles. *Eyes* quite lateral, rather small, convex, coarsely facetted. *Antennæ* moderately short and stout, basal joint stout, 2nd oviform, nearly as large as the 1st, joints 3-6 small and moniliform, 6th slightly smaller than 5th, 7th and 8th transverse and distinctly broader than the preceding one, 9th and 10th transverse, about twice the size of the 8th, 11th large, conical, acuminate, and pubescent. *Thorax* quite oviform, with a transverse impression near the base, terminating in a fovea at each side; between the former and the basal margin there is a small median fovea, and there is also an elongate discoidal impression. *Elytra* subquadrate, their sides moderately rounded, shoulders narrowed; the sutural striae are well marked, and there is an elongate intra-humeral impression on each. *Hind body* oblong, basal three segments strongly margined and about equal, fourth nearly as long as third, the terminal depressed. *Legs* elongate and slender. *Tarsi* slender, apparently with one claw only.

♂. Length ½, breadth nearly ¼ line.
Thompson's Gorge.
Described from one mounted male, which was found under a stone by Mr. J. H. Lewis and forwarded as No. 5877.

**Euplectus sulciceps**, sp. n.

_Elongate_, shining, pale castaneo-rufous, sparingly clothed with slender depressed grey hairs; legs and antennae fulvous.

_Head_ nearly as broad as the thorax, subtrigonal; at each side, behind the eye, there is a fovea which is prolonged forwards as a broad groove. _Antennae_ short and stout, 2nd joint nearly as large as the exposed portion of the 1st, joints 3–7 small and differing but little from one another, 7th and 8th transverse, 9th evidently larger than the 7th, 10th twice the size of the 7th and distinctly broader than the 8th, 11th large, conical, and acuminate. _Thorax_ oviform, with a fovea at each side united to its fellow by a transverse linear impression near the base, close to which there is a smaller central fovea; there is also a slight longitudinal impression on the disk. _Elytra_ subquadrate, shoulders narrowed, with a distinct sutural stria and humeral impression, which is sometimes divided, on each. _Hind body_ longer than the elytra, its first exposed segment covered with exceedingly minute scales, the following three larger, nearly equal and margined, 4th and 5th deflexed. _Legs_ simple.

Congeneric with the preceding species, but differing therefrom in the form of the head and other details.

Length 5⁄8, breadth nearly ¼ line.

Thompson’s Gorge, Otago.

A single specimen, No. 5910, mounted on cardboard. Also found by Mr. Lewis.

**Group Byrrhidæ.**

_Curimus vestitus_, sp. n.

_Convex_, oviform, slightly nitid, fusco-piceous, legs reddish, antennæ and palpi piceous; densely covered with flat, small, yellowish-grey and white scales; these last predominate near the hind angles of the thorax, and form irregular spots near the sides of the elytra behind the middle; there are also many erect grey setae on the sides of the body, on the legs, and on the forehead.

_Head_ suboblong, rather flat, not squamose in front, obtrusely rounded there. _Labrum_ prominent. _Eyes_ quite lateral and longitudinal, not at all conspicuous, much
narrowed backwards. *Mandibles* bifid at extremity. *Thorax* strongly transverse, gradually narrowed towards the acute anterior angles, with a sinuation near each eye, so that the middle of the apex seems rounded, the punctuation concealed and shallow. *Scutellum* triangular. *Elytra* as wide as thorax at the base, their sides nearly parallel, but much curvally narrowed posteriorly; their striae are sharply impressed and impunctate, the interstices are plane and finely coriaceous.

*Femora* grooved underneath; *tibia* straight inwardly, rather slender towards the knees, with about six setigerous denticles along the outside, the anterior with a broad shallow impression along the front for the accommodation of the tarsi, the other pairs deeply grooved along the posterior face so that the tarsi, in repose, are almost hidden. *Tarsi* stout and nearly nude, the terminal joint nearly as long as the preceding four taken together.

*Antennæ* sparingly hirsute, 2nd joint nearly as long and stout as the exposed part of the 1st; 3rd and 4th equal, about twice as long as broad; 5th and 6th longer than broad, but shorter than the preceding; 7th short, 8th and 9th transverse, 10th distinctly broader than 9th; 11th large, oblong, closely adapted to the 10th, so these two apparently form the oblong club.

*Underside* opaque, sparsely studded with suberect, short, coarse grey setæ. Abdomen, like the breast, with coarse shallow punctures; the three intermediate segments short, with strongly curved sutures; the terminal moderately long and narrow, the visible central portion of the basal one large and subtriangular.

Rather smaller and more convex than Nos. 432 and 2512, and recognizable by the dense squamosity. The last species (2512) may be separated at once by the quite acuminate terminal joints of the maxillary palpi.

Length 1½, breadth 1 line.

Ophir, Otago. Two specimens found by Mr. Lewis. The measurements are from a "set out" example, the other retracted one is smaller.

**Group Lucanidæ.**

*Mitophyllus curvidens*, sp. n.

Oblong, moderately convex, slightly nitid, variegated, mostly nigrescent, occasionally tinged with violaceous, the sides of thorax and an elongate space on the elytra ferruginous; irregularly clothed with elongate, depressed, pallid
scales; on the elytra more erect, coarser, whitish ones form irregular spots; legs and antennae pitchy red.

Head, exclusive of mandibles, quite transverse, the middle curvedly depressed in front, distinctly punctate, nearly nude behind. Thorax transversely quadrate, bisinuate at base and in front, its sides somewhat explanate, particularly near the front, only slightly rounded; its sculpture is like that of the head, but not so close on the disk, where, in some lights, bluish spots may be seen. Elytra parallel-sided, obtusely rounded posteriorly, slightly wider than thorax at base; there are no obvious elevations; their punctuation resembles that of the thorax. Anterior tibiae slightly curved, finely and closely denticulate or serrate externally; the outer extremity is somewhat produced, and there is a dentiform projection before the middle.

Underside shining, punctate, variegated castaneous, sparingly clothed with pale decumbent elongate squamæ or setæ. Prosternum obtusely angulated medially in front. Metasternum large, grooved along the middle. Ventral segments 2-4 decrease a little in length.

Male.—In a specimen of *M. irroratus* (No. 445), which Dr. Sharp kindly identified for me in London over thirty years ago, I find that the mandibles, in repose, form a circle leaving a central gap large enough to admit a pin’s head; their apices are tridentate, and the uppermost tooth is somewhat prominent.

In *M. curvidens* the mandibles are shorter, their apices are simple and pointed, the central gap is just large enough to allow the point of a pin to penetrate; on the outside of each, near the middle, there is an acute horizontal protuberance, and, near the extremity, a pair of comparatively large lobes arise; these are directed slightly backwards and outwards; underneath they are broad and plane. The mandibles, in fact, somewhat resemble in miniature those of the grand African dung-beetle, *Heliocopris isidis*.

Female.—The mandibles are rather longer and much further apart than in the same sex of *M. irroratus*; they bear no distinct tooth above, but appear as if cut halfway down near the extremity, so that the apices seem slender and simple; the acute horizontal angulation near the base is well developed. The thorax of *M. irroratus* is much narrowed towards the front, so that the middle is distinctly wider; in *M. curvidens* this is not the case.

The antennæ, in this sex, are similar, the basal joint being smooth, curvate, and about as long as the following six conjointly; the 2nd is transverse, the 3rd and 4th are
longer than broad, the 5th and 6th subquadrate; the 7th is rather larger than the preceding one, and acutely produced in front; the three leaflets of the club are of nearly equal length, but they are barely half as long as those of the male. The eyes are large and prominent.

\[ \begin{align*}
\text{♂} & & \text{Length 5, breadth } 1\frac{3}{4} \text{ lines.} \\
\text{♀} & & \text{Length 4\frac{1}{4}, breadth 1\frac{3}{4} lines.}
\end{align*} \]

Karori, Wellington.

Two mounted males and one female, marked No. 68, were forwarded to me for examination by Mr. G. V. Hudson.

**Group Melolonthidæ.**

**Mycernus, gen. nov.**

*Body* ovate-oblong, slightly convex, not pubescent. *Clypeus* deeply emarginate medially. *Palpi* short; terminal joint of the maxillary truncate at apex, subsecuiriform; the labial very short. *Antennæ* 8-articulate, rather short; the club composed of three leaflets, which are not longer than the preceding five joints combined. Anterior *tibiae* tridentate externally in both sexes, the upper tooth, in the male, sometimes small. Posterior *coxae* with stout short prolongations, these only moderately curved. *Sternal process* slender and very narrow, horizontal, its front edge vertical and hardly extending forwards beyond the intermediate *coxae*. *Pygidium* exposed, broad, widely rounded.

The type bears a remarkable superficial resemblance to *Pyronota festiva*, which, however, is well differentiated by its large, conspicuous, intercoxal process.

*Psilodontia* is, undoubtedly, the most nearly related genus, but its intercoxal lamina is curved forwards and downwards to the breast. Its *antennæ* are dissimilar, and their club consists of more elongate and somewhat curvate leaflets. The clypeus is truncate or slightly rounded apically. The eyes are smaller and less convex. All the palpi are longer. *Tarsi* longer, their 3rd and 4th joints slender at base, whereas in *Mycernus* the corresponding joints of the anterior are oblong. The appendages of the hind *coxae* are slender, much curvate, and acute at the extremity, quite hook-like in fact. The pygidium is only half as broad and almost quite truncate behind.

**Mycernus elegans, sp. n.**

*Glossy*, brilliant green; a longitudinal discoidal stripe and an irregular space near each side of the thorax; the
suture and a lateral streak on each elytron, and the scutellum, are rufous; legs and antennae testaceous.

Head convex between the eyes, nearly smooth there; clypeus with raised margins, its sculpture rugose-punctate, but rather shallow. Thorax transverse, widely emarginate at apex; base bisinuate, with rectangular angles; anterior angles subacute; the sides are indistinctly angulate before the middle, gradually narrowed anteriorly, nearly straight behind; the base, therefore, is rather wider than the front; the surface is almost smooth and polished; the sides bear a few grey setae similar to those on the legs. Elytra oblong, apices rounded, their sides gently curved, shoulders obtuse; they are punctate-striate, the outer striae, however, are shallow or obsolete; interstices nearly plane, with a few minute distant punctures. Underside infuscate, rather sparingly clothed with white setae.

Legs elongate, the hinder pairs of tibiae bicalcarate at apex. Antennae sparsely hispid: basal joint clavate at extremity; 2nd also stout, subglobular, 3rd slightly longer than 4th, each of these nearly twice as long as broad; 5th broad but very short, thicker at one part than the other; club feebly pubescent.

♀. Length 3, breadth 1½ lines.

Ophir. Amongst the sands of the Manuherikia River.

Six specimens, both sexes, discovered recently by Mr. J. H. Lewis.

Prodontria, gen. nov.

Body convex, subovate, nearly nude. Clypeus with reflexed margins, obtusely rounded, its basal suture nearly straight, the front face perpendicular. Labrum horizontal, deeply notched, so that the outer lobes appear prominent. Palpi rather short, their terminal joints elongate; the labial apparently invisible. Antennae inserted just below and in front of the eyes, 8-articulate; basal joint clavate, as long as the following three conjointly, these three hardly twice as long as broad; the four terminal leaflets are elongate and minutely pubescent. Thorax strongly transverse, deeply incurred in front, bisinuate at base, distinctly marginated. Scutellum large, rounded. Elytra convex, broadly oval, marginated, truncate at extremity. Pygidium exposed, vertical, rounded. Tibiae nude, the anterior tridentate externally; the other pairs with spiniform setæ, the apical rims semicircular, truncate and sub serrate, and with short coarse ciliae. Tarsi elongate, 5-jointed, claws simple.
Abdomen with five segments, the basal four nearly equal, fifth very short, scarcely visible towards the sides.

This genus is closely allied to Odontria, and should precede it in the New Zealand list. The typical species of both genera, however, differ in shape and general appearance, and may be distinguished almost at a glance. In Odontria the metasternum is moderately elongate, and the middle femora are, in repose, received in a broad groove or impression, which is limited by fine frontal and posterior margins. In Prodontria the metasternum is more reduced, so that the space between the middle and hind pairs of legs is less than that between the front and intermediate ones, just the reverse of what obtains in the older genus, and, moreover, the middle thighs have no depressions for their accommodation, there being a fine elevated carina on that part of the sternum, and behind it the face seems nearly vertical.

Prodontria Lewisii, sp. n.

Robust, subovate, a little nitid, almost nude above, there being only a grey fringe under the base of thorax and a few erect scattered setæ on the clypeus that can be easily seen; colour fusco-testaceous, the legs and antennæ testaceous.

Head quite half the width of thorax, its central portion distinctly and irregularly punctured, the clypeus coarsely and rugosely punctured, the intervals minutely. Thorax twice as broad as it is long, deeply and widely incurved in front, anterior angles acute and attaining the middle of the eyes; its sides strongly and irregularly rounded, but in one specimen there is an obsolete angulation at each side, and in it the sides appear to be gradually narrowed towards the base and apex; base strongly bisinuate, its angles distinct but not at all projecting; the surface with distinct but finer punctures than the head. Scutellum punctate. Elytra rounded laterally, not wider than thorax at the base, apices truncate; each elytron has eight more or less evident striae, these are moderately finely and regularly punctured, but the apical sculpture becomes confused and punctiform, and the outer striae are somewhat abbreviated; interstices finely and irregularly punctured, in some of these punctures minute setæ may be detected.

Underside testaceous, more or less finely punctured, sparingly and finely pubescent, but bearing elongate silky greyish hairs on the prosternum. Club of antennæ composed of four
leaflets in both sexes, and about as long as the preceding four joints combined.

Length $\frac{7}{4}$, breadth $4\frac{1}{2}$ lines.

Cromwell.

Described from three mutilated individuals found by Mr. J. H. Lewis on the sand-hills of Molyneux River.

Group **Dynastidæ**.

**Pericoptus frontalis**, sp. n.

*Fusco-piceous*, a little shining; legs and antennæ ferruginous.

Thorax strongly transverse, anterior angles oblique and very obtusely rounded for quite a third of the entire length, its sides nearly straight behind, base bisinuate; the frontal protuberance is very small or obsolete, and the impression just behind it is shallow; the fovea-like depression near each side is more distinct. *Elytra* oblong, apices subtruncate; each bears a sutural stria, the punctuation is distinct but irregular.

Underside rather closely and finely sculptured, the punctures on the abdomen are most distinct. *Pygidium* closely and finely punctured. Sternal villosity very slender and elongate, testaceous.

Head with rather shallow scanty punctuation behind; the anterior margin of this part is rather abruptly deflexed, but not at all ridged, and forms a sort of step to the lower plane of the frontal portion; this latter anterior part is somewhat horizontal and has a transverse depression at its base, its sides are nearly straight for half its length, but are then obliquely narrowed, the reflexed and truncate apical margin, however, occupies about one-half of the whole width; the frontal sculpture consists of moderate longitudinal ruge near the sides, but the middle is nearly smooth; there are no distinct punctures there.

The head is, I think, sufficiently differentiated from that of the other species to render its recognition easy when carefully compared with typical specimens, but as many other students may not possess these types, I now add brief notes for reference.

*P. truncatus*.—Head short, its frontal portion flattened, but forming a rather abrupt declivity; in shape it is, roughly, transversely oval.

*P. punctatus*.—Head, in front, on nearly the same plane as in *P. truncatus*, but, instead of being transversely oviform,
it is greatly narrowed anteriorly, so as to be of somewhat triangular outline.

P. stupidus.—Head indefinitely transversely elevated on the middle, the clypeus much narrowed to the front, and the front edge in the middle a little reflexed and obscurely emarginate. Head rough all over the upper surface.

P. nitidulus.—Head, in front, short, deflexed, narrowed anteriorly, but quite truncate at the middle of the apex; there is no obvious transverse elevation limiting this clypeal portion from the vertex. Head almost smooth above, the frontal and lateral punctuation less coarse than is usually seen.

Length 9, breadth 5 lines.
Cromwell sand-hills, Molyneux River.
Described from a mutilated individual forwarded by Mr. J. H. Lewis.

Group Opatridæ.

*Syrphetodes nodosalis*, sp. n.

Opaque, fusceous, speckled with ochraceous and pale ferruginous squamæ; antennæ, palpi, and tarsi ferruginous.

Thorax 2 lines broad by 1½ long, exclusive of the anterior angles, which project as far as the front of the eyes; it is widest behind the middle; the sides are gradually widened anteriorly, sometimes there is a slight sinuosity there, towards the base they are distinctly sinuate; the posterior angles are acute; there is an obtuse elevation behind the middle; the front is emarginate and slightly raised, but the discoidal sculpture is quite hidden by the decumbent, variegated, setiform squamæ. Scutellum strongly transverse, dark fusceous. Elytra oblong, gradually narrowed and rounded posteriorly; at the base they are evidently wider than the thorax; at each shoulder, but not forming a lateral projection, there is an obtuse nodiform elevation; there is another at each side of the scutellum, two before the middle, and two more in line with these but placed further back; an elongate elevation near the suture, on top of the hind slope, usually consists of two contiguous nodosities; there are also some smaller inequalities; their sides are somewhat explanate, and are marked with large foveæ; the apex is triangularly excised; the discoidal punctures are very irregular, but there is a distinct sutural series on the posterior declivity.

Antennæ stout, setose, reaching backwards to the shoulders;
3rd joint twice the length of the 2nd; 4–8 of nearly equal length, but becoming more slender, terminal three joints minutely pubescent.

*Legs* elongate and maculate.

*Underside* nigro-fuscous, with depressed ochry setae. Epipleuræ broad and plane.

Undoubtedly nearly allied to *S. simplex*, but differing therefrom in its broader thorax, which, moreover, is quite distinctly nodose above; the humeral angles are wider and less rounded, and the elytral nodosities are more numerous, though very much smaller than those seen on *S. crenatus, S. dorsalis*, and *S. bullatus*.

Length $4\frac{1}{2} - 5\frac{1}{4}$, breadth $1\frac{3}{4} - 2$ lines.

Pelorus Sound. Found by Mr. J. J. Walker.

*Var.*—Joints 4 and 5 of the antennæ slightly longer, more slender, and less setose. Thorax narrower, $1\frac{3}{8}$ line. The antemedian elytral nodosities obsolete. This probably is a sexual variety.

*Paraphylax sternalis*, sp. n.

*Subquadrate*, covered with a hard coating of fuscos cappy matter, through this some dark setæ protrude; when denuded the surface is found to be slightly shining infuscate red.

*Head* smooth, much wider in line with the eyes than it is elsewhere, so that these organs appear very prominent; the clypeus is a little longer and narrower than is the case in *P. binodosus*, and there is a fine central longitudinal groove between the eyes which is lacking in that species. *Antennæ* with the basal joint transversely quadrate and having a very slender basal attachment; 2nd hardly longer than 1st; 3rd stout, oviform, about twice the length of the preceding one; joints 4–8 oviform, each becoming slightly shorter and narrower, all these more or less dark and somewhat scabrous; 9th triangular, longer than broad, slender at base, distinctly longer than 8th, 10th of similar form, but rather shorter and broader, 11th rotundate—these last three red, with less and finer pubescence, their outstanding setæ also are much finer. *Thorax* cordiform, transverse; the sides, when cleaned, appear flat, with an obtuse lateral lobe partially covering the front thigh; behind this they are curvedly narrowed, so that there is no trace of posterior angles; the disk is abruptly elevated, and bears two conspicuous nodosities in front, which are separated by a deep channel. *Scutellum* obsolete. *Elytra* quadrate, abruptly deflexed and contracted apically, their basal portion depressed and deeply incurved;
near the suture, on each, there is one regular series of distinct and moderately close punctures extending from base to apex; the second series reaches from the apex to beyond the middle, but between it and the shoulder there are some irregular, oblique, and more distant rows; the series near the side are irregular and almost curvate; the surface is uneven, but there are no well-defined nodosities. Legs variegated with brown, testaceous, or red, yet seldom constant, the setae similarly mottled.

Underside covered with infuscate matter and numerous flavescent setae. When carefully scraped the prosternum appears truncate instead of being somewhat emarginate; interposed between the front edge and the coxae there is a transverse groove, and behind this a distinct ridge; the coxae are rather further apart than in P. binodosus, and the intervening space is plane instead of being concave, as it is in that species.

Length 2½–3; breadth 1½–1½ lines.

Wellington.

Mr. G. V. Hudson kindly sent me some specimens of this interesting species.

Group Ehipiphoridae.

Rhipistena cryptarthra.

Narrow, elongate, dull black, clothed with short decumbent cinereous pubescence; antennæ and tarsi fuscous, palpi paler.

Head densely and minutely punctate. Thorax very much, yet gradually, narrowed anteriorly, so that there it is not half the width of the head; its base is deeply bisinuate, and the posterior angles clasp the shoulders; it is very obtusely elevated along the middle, and its sculpture is like that of the head. Scutellum large, triangular. Elytra elongate, scarcely any wider than the thorax at the base; apices acutely rounded; they are closely and minutely sculptured, and have, on each, two or three indistinct costæ. Tarsi long and slender.

Antennæ elongate, basal joint stout and evidently longer than third, second rather longer than broad, third hardly any longer than it is broad and slender at the base, fourth excessively short and almost indistinguishable; joints 5–10 very short, each with a long slender lobe equaling the four basal joints taken together; eleventh equally elongate; these seven lobes, in repose, are closely adapted to one another.
The anterior tibiae are unarmed, the others are provided with small spurs; the hind claws are finely appendiculate, so that the extremity appears very slender.

The great length of the lobes and the abbreviation, or concealment, of the fourth joint of the antennæ differentiate this species.

Length $3\frac{1}{2}$, breadth $\frac{5}{6}$ line.

Tarukenga. Two males taken off shrubs in the bush adjoining the Rotorua Railway.

Rhypistena sulciceps.

Opaque, black, clothed with depressed ash-coloured pubescence; the hairs on the head are, however, more distinct and almost quite grey; legs fuscous, the front tibiae and the two anterior pairs of tarsi are of a pale chestnut colour.

Similar to R. lugubris, but differing therefrom in being more distinctly, yet finely, and more densely punctured, in having a well-marked furrow on the back of the head, and in the antennal structure. The basal joint of the antennæ is almost as long as the following two conjointly, the third is not twice the length of the second, the fourth is very short, and the lobes of the others are stouter than those of that insect. The tibiae, excepting the front pair, have short slender spurs.

Length $3\frac{3}{4}$, breadth $\frac{2}{4}$ line.

Mount Arthur. One example found by Messrs. Cheeseman and Adams many years ago.

[To be continued.]

IX.—Description of a new Species of the Neuropteroous Family Nemopteridae. By W. F. Kirby, F.L.S., F.E.S.

Since the publication of my notes on this family in the 'Annals' for 1890, the most important addition to it received in the Natural History Museum has been a long series of a new and rather variable species from Asia Minor, which I describe below. I was at first inclined to think that more than one species might be represented among these specimens, but cannot find any tangible characters to subdivide them. The insects of this family, though of considerable size and probably gregarious in their habits, are very frail, and are rarely received in any number or in good condition.

The present insect is most nearly allied to my genus Chasmatoptera, the type of which is an Australian insect; but it is not unlikely that it may ultimately be referred to a new

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