

DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW STAPHYLINIDAE FROM FIJI.

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IN addition to the Staphylinidae dealt with by Dr. Cameron in the preceding paper, a few species represented by single specimens were examined by him and returned as new; the more distinct ones are described herein.

TETRAPLEURUS SEMIOPACUS sp. nov.

Of a rusty red and opaque, but abdomen shining.

Head with two large but shallow depressions. Eyes prominent. Antennae not very long, three or four apical joints forming a loose club. Prothorax slightly wider than long, slightly wider than head across eyes, parallel-sided to basal third and then strongly narrowed to base, which is about half the width of apex; with three longitudinal depressions, of which the median one occupies about one-third of the width, and is divided into two parts by a curved ridge, each lateral depression also interrupted in middle. Elytra slightly longer than wide, and slightly wider than prothorax, sides parallel; with six regular ridges on each, alternating with deep grooves. Length, 1.75 mm.

Hab. Tavuni. Type, 1. 16455.

Dr. Cameron returned the type as a new species of *Tetrapleurus* ⁽¹⁾. In general appearance it is much like a small form of two Australian species of *Thoracophorus* (*scriptus* and *myrmecophilus*, originally referred to *Glyptoma*). The abdomen, antennae, and legs are of much the same colour as the other parts, but as the latter are opaque they appear differently coloured. Under a compound power the opaque parts appear to be rather coarsely shagreened or granulate-punctate, and even the abdomen to be finely reticulate.

PALAMINUS TRIVITTIPENNIS sp. nov.

Pale reddish-castaneous, abdomen, except at apex, somewhat darker, antennae, palpi, and legs flavous; sides of prothorax, sides and suture of elytra with narrow blackish vittae. Moderately clothed with whitish pubescence, longer on abdomen than elsewhere.

Head rather strongly convex, with strong punctures. Prothorax about as long as the apical width, sides rounded and diminishing in width to base, with a median ridge on basal half; punctures more crowded than on head. Elytra considerably longer than wide, sides gently rounded, punctures more even than

(1) Bernhauser, Verh. z. h. Ges. Wien, 1914.

on pronotum. Abdomen more than half the total length; four basal segments and part of the next with the usual granulate-reticulate sculpture, apex with two long spines and a shorter median one. Length, 4.5 mm.

Hab. Tavuni. Type, I. 16481.

About the size of *P. difficilis*, but prothorax and elytra with conspicuous, although narrow, markings. *P. niliensis* appears to be a slightly larger species, with darker abdomen, and with markings on head and middle of pronotum.

SCOPAEUS MYRMECOCEPHALUS sp. nov.

Dull reddish-castaneous, legs slightly paler, basal half of abdomen, except tips and sides of the segments, deeply infuscated on upper surface. Rather densely clothed with very short, depressed pubescence.

Head longer than wide, sides gently rounded behind the eyes, base evenly incurved to middle. Antennae extending almost to base of prothorax, second to tenth joints moniliform. Prothorax distinctly narrower than head, widest near apex, and then strongly narrowed to apex itself. Elytra about one-fourth longer than wide, slightly longer and distinctly wider than prothorax. Length, 2.5 mm.

Hab. Yauvea Lili. Type, I. 16460.

In general appearance close to the Australian *S. oricollis*, but larger, and apex of elytra and basal half of abdomen differently coloured. *S. flavocastaneus*, also from Australia, is larger and more uniformly coloured. The apex of the elytra is very little paler than the preceding parts, and the two shades are not sharply limited. The shape of the head strongly resembles that of many small ants of the genus *Iradomyrmex*. The whole of the upper surface is finely shagreened.

METOPONCUS HOPLOCEPHALUS sp. nov.

Head, prothorax, scutellum, and antennae of a rather dingy red, tarsi paler, elsewhere deep black, the elytra with a slight bluish gloss. A few hairs on the sides becoming longer about the apex of abdomen.

Head (including mandibles) about twice as long as wide, moderately convex, sides parallel from antennae to basal angles, which are rounded off; with four short oblique grooves in front, the inner ones very short, and between them a thin, conspicuous projection about half the length of the basal joint of antennae, and truncated at apex; punctures small in front, becoming smaller and sparser posteriorly. Antennae scarcely extending to base of head, most of the joints strongly transverse. Prothorax almost as long as head, and in front almost as wide, punctures sparse and mostly small. Elytra slightly longer and wider than head, almost impunctate. Length, 7.5 mm.

Hab. Viti Levu, in July. Type, l. 16463.

Readily distinguished from all other species known to me by the armed head; in general appearance it is close to *M. semiruber*, but the elytra and abdomen are entirely dark.

METOPONCUS PLATYCEPHALUS sp. nov.

Black, abdomen and tarsi reddish-flavous, antennae and palpi more reddish. With sparse hairs scattered about, becoming longer on sides, and more numerous at apex of abdomen than elsewhere.

Head very flat, distinctly longer than wide, angles rounded off; with two short oblique grooves on each side in front, and with a faint median line; punctures numerous but not crowded, and rather coarse, with a tendency to become longitudinal. Antennae rather stout, just extending to apex of prothorax. Prothorax slightly shorter and narrower than head, widest near apex, all angles rounded off; with an impunctate median line, bounded on each side by a row of distinct punctures, near each side an irregular row of punctures, and a few irregularly scattered. Elytra about as long and as wide as head, sutural striae well defined; with fairly numerous well-defined punctures, becoming small on sides. Abdomen with sparse, distinct punctures. Length, 7.5 mm.

Hab. Viti Levu, in July. Type, l. 16464.

Readily distinguished from *M. semiruber* by the wider and very flat head, with very different punctures. Each puncture of the upper surface contains an erect seta or hair.

METOPONCUS ERYTHROCEPHALUS sp. nov.

Black, head, antennae, palpi, and tarsi reddish, basal two-fifths of elytra flavous. With a few marginal hairs, becoming more numerous about apex of abdomen.

Head flat, almost twice as long (including mandibles) as wide, parallel-sided behind antennae, hind angles rounded off, neck very narrow; with a fairly long and oblique groove on each side in front, and a shorter and straight one behind each antenna; with numerous small punctures, and very finely strigose. Antennae just extending to prothorax. Prothorax shorter and narrower than head, widest near apex, all angles rounded off; with four punctures of moderate size in pairs, and numerous minute ones. Elytra slightly longer and wider than prothorax, with remnants of sutural striae only near base; punctures sparse and ill-defined. Abdomen almost impunctate. Length, 5.5 mm.

Hab. Viti Levu. Type, l. 16465.

Considerably smaller than all the other Fijian species, and very differently

coloured; the head is not quite as flat as in the preceding species, and its punctures are very different. At first glance the head appears to have a few small punctures only, but on close examination in certain lights its whole surface is seen to be very finely strigose. The flavous part of the elytra is somewhat triangularly advanced about the suture; the prothorax at first appears to be as black as the abdomen, but in some lights its front part is seen to be slightly diluted with red.

PACHYCORYNUS PALLIDUS sp. nov.

Pale flavo-castaneous, apical half of elytra infuscated. A few short hairs or setae scattered about, and becoming longer at tip of abdomen.

Head rather large and flat, excluding the jaws about one-fourth longer than wide; a small fovea touching each eye; two short medio-frontal grooves; punctures numerous but not crowded, of moderate size, and sharply defined. Antennae about as long as the head, including mandibles, most of the joints transverse. Prothorax distinctly longer than wide, apex almost semicircularly rounded; punctures sharply defined, but smaller and sparser than on head, and absent from a rather narrow median line. Elytra slightly longer and wider than prothorax, almost parallel-sided; a distinct stria on each side of suture; punctures slightly more numerous than on head, but smaller and less sharply defined. Abdomen with five basal segments almost parallel-sided. Legs rather short and stout. Length, 3.5 mm.

Hab. Viti Levu. Type, I. 16466.

The abdomen and femora are somewhat paler than the head, but even this is not very dark. The head has a median impunctate line, which in front appears as a slight ridge between the frontal grooves.

COPROPORUS MORULUS sp. nov.

Black; muzzle three apical segments of abdomen, and legs of a rather dingy brownish-flavous, antennae somewhat darker, apex of elytra obscurely reddish. Sides of abdomen sparsely setose.

Head with a few inconspicuous punctures. Antennae about as long as the prothorax is wide. Prothorax fully twice as wide as long, base much wider than apex, outlines continuous with those of head and elytra; almost impunctate. Elytra slightly longer than the apical width, and shorter than the basal; punctures minute but fairly dense. Abdomen with five strong apical spines. Length, 1.75 mm.

Hab. Ovalau, in June. Type, I. 16473.

A strongly convex species, structurally near *C. cinetipennis*, but prothorax

black; the colours are much as in *C. adutaceus*, but that is a smaller and much flatter species. About one-third of the elytra is obscurely diluted with red, but the shades are not sharply limited, and even the tip from some directions appears almost black. The abdomen of the type is much contracted.

LEUCOCRASPEDUM CRYPTOCEPHALUM sp. nov.

Dark piceous-brown, head, sides, and apex of prothorax, tips of abdominal segments (the two apical ones more widely than the others), and legs paler, antennae still paler, the apical joint slightly infuscated. Densely clothed with short, depressed pubescence, the sides of the abdomen with numerous black setae or bristles, becoming longer and more numerous about apex.

Prothorax semicircular, twice as wide as long, hind angles slightly clasping elytra, punctures scarcely visible. Elytra slightly longer than prothorax along middle, and their outlines continuous with those of that segment, apex gently incurved to middle; with crowded and small punctures. Abdomen about three-fifths the total length, punctures much as on elytra. Length, 2 mm.

Hab. Viti Levu. Type, I. 16475.

In general appearance very close to the Australian *L. sidniense* (some specimens of which have the body parts similarly coloured), but antennae thinner (thinner than on all the described Australian species), only the eleventh joint infuscated, and that but slightly, and abdomen with longer setae. The head is completely covered by the prothorax, but as the apex of the latter is semi-transparent, part of it is vaguely traceable from above. The prothorax and elytra, except that the latter are more abbreviated, are strongly suggestive of *Sericoderus* of the Corylophidae.

DIGLOTTA MARITIMA sp. nov.

Of a dingy brownish-flavous, legs paler, most of fourth segment of abdomen blackish. With very short, depressed whitish pubescence.

Head with hind angles rounded off. Eyes small and lateral. Antennae almost extending to base of prothorax, second joint slightly shorter than first, distinctly longer than eleventh, and about twice the length of each of the others. Prothorax slightly transverse, almost parallel-sided. Elytra distinctly transverse, and distinctly shorter than prothorax. Length, 2 mm.

Hab. Levuka. Type, I. 16476.

A small, depressed, dingy species, the only specimen of which was taken under a stone well below high tide; the base of its head was crushed at the time of capture, and there is a median depression on the pronotum, which is probably

also accidental. The head is slightly wider than the prothorax, and about the width of the abdomen near the apex (where it is slightly wider than elsewhere), but at first glance the insect appears (except for its extremities) parallel-sided throughout. Under a compound power the whole of the upper surface appears finely shagreened.