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LIII.—Descriptions of two new reptiles obtained by Mr. A. S. Meek in the Trobriand Islands, British New Guinea

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that it is a species of *Taphes*; but the specimen being unique and fragile, has not been thoroughly examined.

Tenebrionidæ.

Pedinus (Blindus) japonicus, Seidlitz in litt.

In the *Ins. Deutschland*, v. p. 376 (1893), Dr. Georg Seidlitz notices, in the middle of a long paper on European Coleoptera (a mode of publication certainly open to censure), a Japanese species of *Pedinus*. He says perhaps it is a variety of *P. strigosus*, a well-known and very common Japanese insect, but his descriptive lines are not sufficient to entitle his name to more than a manuscript value. All he says is "prothorace basi parum emarginato, punctis vix elongatis, haud confluentibus obsito, femoribus posticis maris paullo curvatis, subtus basi tenuiter pubescentibus." L. 8-9 mill. Dr. Seidlitz's specimens came from Hildendorf, whose collections, some years prior to 1893, were examined and written about by Harold, and it seems probable Harold saw the specimens to which Seidlitz refers.

LIII.—*Descriptions of Two new Reptiles obtained by Mr. A. S. Meek in the Trobriand Islands, British New Guinea.* By G. A. BOULENGER, F.R.S.

Lygosoma longiceps.

Section *Liolepisma*. Habit lacertiform; the distance between the end of the snout and the fore limb nearly equals the distance between axilla and groin. Head twice and a half as long as broad; snout very long and pointed, much depressed. Lower eyelid with an undivided transparent disk; nostril pierced in the middle of the nasal; no supranasal; anterior loreal as deep as the nasal; frontonasal longer than broad, forming a broad straight suture with the rostral; præfrontals forming a median suture; frontal small, acutely pointed behind, as long as the frontoparietals and interparietal together, in contact with the first and second supraoculars; four supraoculars, first large; seven supraciliaries; frontoparietals distinct, nearly as large as the interparietal, which is smaller than the frontal; parietals forming a suture behind the interparietal; three pairs of nuchals; five upper labials anterior to the subocular. Ear-opening oval, smaller than the eye-opening, without lobules. 24 smooth scales round the middle of the body, dorsals largest, laterals smallest. Two enlarged præanals. The hind limb reaches the wrist of the adpressed fore limb. Digits depressed at the base, compressed at the end, third and fourth equal; subdigital lamellæ smooth, 19 under the fourth toe. Dark brown above, with three

white, black-edged longitudinal streaks, the middle extending to the end of the snout, the outer to the eyes; tail golden; upper lip and lower parts white.

	millim.
Total length.....	85
Head.....	11
Width of head.....	4.5
Body.....	30
Fore limb.....	11
Hind limb	14
Tail	44

A single specimen.

Dendrelaphis papuensis.

Maxillary teeth 21 or 22. Eye as long as its distance from the nostril. Rostral broader than deep, visible from above; internasals as long as the præfrontals; frontal once and a half to once and two thirds as long as broad, as long as its distance from the end of the snout, a little shorter than the parietals; loreal elongate; one præ- and two postoculars; temporals 2+2; eight upper labials, fourth and fifth entering the eye; five or six lower labials in contact with the anterior chin-shields, which are shorter than the posterior. Scales in 13 rows. Ventrals 185-190; anal divided; subcaudals 119-126. Olive-brown above, head and neck dark, blackish; a black streak on each side of the head and neck, passing through the eye; upper lip white; vertebral scales on anterior part of body lighter, edged with whitish in front; ventrals and subcaudals pale olive.

Total length 1050 millim.; tail 310.

Several specimens.

The same collection contains, among other more widely distributed reptiles, examples of *Lepidodactylus pulcher*, Blgr.; *Lygosoma virens*, Ptrs. (with 32 or 34 scales round the body); *L. Mivarti*, Blgr.; and *Hyla infrastrigata*, Gthr.

LIV.—*Descriptions of new Genera of Zephroniidae, with brief preliminary Diagnoses of some new Species.* By R. I. POOCK.

Genus SPHÆROTHERIUM, Brandt.

Sphærotherium, Brandt, Bull. Mosc. vi. p. 198, 1833 (= *Oligaspis*, Wood).

Resembling *Zephronia* in the structure of the *vulva*; the *copulatory feet* of the second pair in the male differing in being furnished with a strong stridulating-ridge.