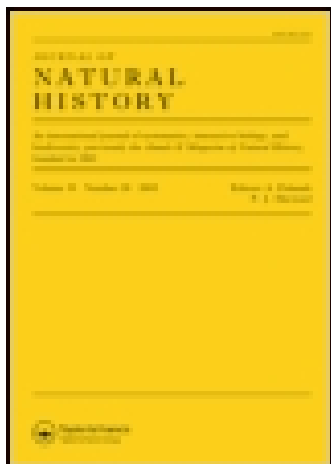


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Annals and Magazine of Natural History: Series 6

Publication details, including instructions
for authors and subscription information:
<http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/tnah12>

LIV.—Descriptions of new Coleoptera from New Zealand

Capt. Thos. Broun

Published online: 06 Oct 2009.

To cite this article: Capt. Thos. Broun (1894) LIV.—Descriptions of new
Coleoptera from New Zealand , Annals and Magazine of Natural History:
Series 6, 14:84, 419-428, DOI: [10.1080/00222939408677829](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222939408677829)

To link to this article: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00222939408677829>

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the astragalus there is a more embryonic condition than in any known Dinosaur, which is a well-marked generic separation of this type from all known Saurischia, with which the hollow bones and their conformation probably associate it. The embryonic condition of the intermedium may account for the absence of the distal notch in the articular surface of the tibia, which otherwise characterizes the Saurischia. It makes a good distinctive character by which the Euskelesauridæ, to which I refer this fossil, may be distinguished from Megalosaurian allies found in Europe.

I express my thanks to the Committee of the Albany Museum for the opportunity of describing this fossil.

LIV.—*Descriptions of new Coleoptera from New Zealand.*

By Capt. THOS. BROWN.

[Continued from p. 386.]

Group **Xantholinidæ.**

Othius puncticeps, sp. n.

Elongate, subparallel, slightly shining; head and thorax piceo-fuscous, elytra and hind body fusco-castaneous; the legs, antennæ, palpi, and mandibles reddish; pubescence yellowish, conspicuous, but on the head and thorax there are only a few dark elongate setæ.

Head gradually and slightly narrowed anteriorly, longer than broad, with numerous scattered punctures; the central portion, however, is impunctate. *Thorax* about a fourth longer than broad, its sides subparallel, with rounded angles; there are two punctures near the middle and some smaller ones near the margins. *Elytra* subquadrate, apex obliquely incurved or emarginate, their surface rather closely and coarsely punctured, the interstices minutely sculptured. *Hind body* elongate, finely and irregularly punctate.

Much smaller than *O. adustus*; the eyes much smaller, palpi shorter, head and thorax relatively longer and narrower, the sculpture different. *O. angustus* is larger and differently marked.

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

Mount Pirongia. Two examples, December 1894.

Group **Staphylinidæ.**

Cafius algophilus, sp. n.

Black, head and thorax shining; elytra and hind body

dull, densely covered with cinereous pubescence; legs and antennæ rufo-fuscous, tarsi paler.

Head oblong, a little narrowed anteriorly; the broad space along the middle is almost quite smooth, the rest of the surface is distinctly and rather closely punctured, behind the eyes the punctures are more shallow; it bears many slender flavescent setæ. *Labrum* deeply notched in the middle. *Eyes* oviform, rather small. *Mandibles* elongate, dark red. *Antennæ* somewhat variegate, basal joint piceous, nearly the length of the next two; fourth evidently longer than broad; joints 5 to 10 become a little shorter, the tenth, however, is not transverse, eleventh longer than the preceding; pubescence short. *Thorax* longer than broad, widest near the front, rounded there, its sides gradually narrowed backwards but nearly straight, base subtruncate, with rounded angles; along each side of the smooth dorsal space there is a series of moderately small, closely placed punctures, sometimes duplicated; outside these (except on an elongate spot before the middle and a smaller one near each hind angle) the punctuation is close and distinct; its whole surface, though apparently smooth, is densely and minutely sculptured, it is more scantily clothed than the head. *Scutellum* large, triangular, finely asperate and pubescent. *Elytra* oblong, closely and finely punctate, slightly asperate near the base. *Hind body* narrower than the elytra, strongly marginated laterally, closely and finely punctate. *Legs* finely pilose; *front tarsi* with the basal four joints moderately expanded, the first joint of the other two pairs hardly as long as the following three taken together.

Though similar to *Cofus maritimus* (No. 202) in its general aspect, this species may be easily separated therefrom by the denser sculpture of the head and thorax.

Length $2\frac{1}{2}$, breadth nearly $\frac{1}{2}$ line.

Mokohinou Island. Found by Mr. Sandager amongst gravel under sea-weeds.

Quedius sciticollis, sp. n.

Robust, elongate, shining; head and thorax piceous, the former with violaceous, the latter with iridescent reflexions; elytra, tarsi, and palpi rufo-castaneous; hind body and legs of a rather darker chestnut colour, more or less iridescent.

Head oviform, narrower than the thorax, distantly, finely, and irregularly punctured; there are three large punctures along the inside of each eye, two distant ones near the base, and one or two at each side behind the eyes. *Labrum* deeply

notched in the middle, with coarse, erect, fuscous setæ, and with a pale frontal appendage. *Clypeus* pallid and membranous. *Eyes* half the length of the side of the head. *Antennæ* fuscous, joints 4 to 11 opaque and densely pubescent, first shining, piceous, nearly double the length of the next one, which is rather shorter than the third; this and the second are pale castaneous. *Thorax* rather broader than long, gradually narrowed anteriorly, front angles rounded; its punctuation like that of the head, but becoming even finer and more distant behind; there are two large punctures near the apical margin, two before and two behind the middle, the last pair widely distant, and a few others along the basal and lateral margins; there is a feeble discoidal stria along the middle. *Elytra* quadrate, densely transversely sculptured, with depressed greyish hairs. *Hind body* elongate, its sculpture longitudinal, pubescence greyish; terminal styles long, rufescent. *Scutellum* large, punctate. The front tarsi with the basal four joints dilated.

The beautifully iridescent head and thorax and their sculpture show that this is distinct from the other New Zealand species. Its proper position is near No. 1844.

♂. Length $4\frac{3}{4}$, breadth 1 line.

Waiorongamai, near Mount Te Aroha. One, November 1893.

Quedius conspicuellus, sp. n.

Glossy, black; hind body violaceous, with more or less conspicuous patches of yellow hairs; basal joint of antennæ piceous, its apex and all the second joint castaneous, 4 to 10 dull.

Head broadly oval, wider than the thorax, with three large punctures along the inner margin of the eye, two close to the base; a shallow transverse impression on the forehead can hardly be said to consist of two confluent punctures; immediately behind this there is another feebly marked transverse impression. *Clypeus* membranous, dark. *Labrum* deeply emarginate in the middle. *Eyes* moderately prominent, occupying half the side of the head. *Antennæ* long, reaching the thoracic base, second joint shorter and thicker than the third, tenth slightly longer than broad. *Thorax* a little broader than long, with two large punctures before the middle and a few marginal ones. *Scutellum* large, punctate. *Elytra* not longer than broad, closely and finely sculptured, with slender cinereous and yellowish hairs. *Hind body* finely sculptured, apical styles castaneous. *Tarsi* variegated pitchy red, the anterior only moderately expanded.

♀. Head narrower, frontal impressions obsolete, tenth antennal joint hardly longer than broad; there is one round impression between the eyes in front.

This, without doubt, comes near Sharp's *Q. latifrons*, but there are no flavescent spots on the wing-cases, and the labrum is not rounded in the middle.

Length $4\frac{3}{4}$, breadth quite $\frac{7}{8}$ line.

Te Aroha. The pair I have were sent by Mr. J. H. Lewis.

Quedius scutellaris, sp. n.

Glossy, black, the legs and antennæ piceo-rufous, tarsi red; pubescence ash-coloured.

Head broadly oviform; there is a shallow angulate mark in front; two punctures along inside of each eye, two behind the eye, and two or three close to the base. *Clypeus* membranous, rather pale. *Labrum* reddish, short, with a deep central emargination, and bearing long, coarse, dark setæ. *Eyes* rather small, not extending halfway along the side of the head. *Antennæ* stout, not attaining the base of the thorax, the basal three joints reddish, second shorter than the first or third; joints 5 to 10 subquadrate and dull. *Thorax* rather broader than long, rounded and depressed anteriorly; base rounded, posterior angles obsolete; there are small punctures before the middle of the disk, two close to the apex, and three or four near the sides. *Scutellum* large, triangular, impunctate. *Elytra* quadrate, only moderately and not very closely punctured. *Hind body* elongate, finely sculptured, styles piceous. *Front tarsi* dilated.

The perfectly smooth scutellum is an exceptional feature, and the reduction in number of the interocular punctures is unusual. It is quite distinct from Sharp's *Q. antipodum*.

♂. Length $5\frac{1}{2}$, breadth nearly 1 line.

Ashburton. Mr. W. W. Smith presented me with his specimen, which is still unique I believe.

Quedius puncticollis, sp. n.

Shining, black, the legs testaceo-fuscous, tarsi pale infusate red, mandibles rufescent.

Head nearly as broad as the thorax, with four large punctures in a transverse series between the eyes, two oblique longitudinal rows (three or four in each) further back near the sides; the lateral space behind the eye is more finely punctured; it bears some dark elongate setæ. *Eyes* half the length of the head. *Labrum* very short, but with a large

frontal membrane. The *antennæ* reach the base of the thorax, the basal three joints are shining piceous, the slender stalk-like basal portions of the fourth and fifth are quite red, joints 4 to 11 opaque and, except the eleventh, obconical. *Thorax* almost as long as broad, anterior angles depressed, sides nearly straight, base rounded; on each side of the middle there is a longitudinal series of three very distinct punctures, one nearer the head is not in line with either of these series, being situated more towards the side; there are a few other punctures near the sides and basal margin. *Scutellum* large, closely punctate. *Elytra* subquadrate, finely and closely punctured, densely covered with fine cinereous pubescence. *Hind body* elongate, finely sculptured, its clothing greyish yellow, styles moderate.

This can hardly be confounded with Sharp's *Q. insolitus*; the shape of the thorax is different, the head is differently marked, and the posterior tarsi of *Q. insolitus* have short basal articulations.

Length $3\frac{1}{2}$, breadth $\frac{3}{4}$ line.

West Plains, Invercargill. Mr. Alfred Philpott kindly forwarded one of each sex.

Var. ♀.—*Antennæ* shorter, first joint pale castaneous; head nearly smooth behind the eyes; thorax with four punctures in each longitudinal series, exclusive of the supplementary frontal one, the punctures near the basal margin indistinct or absent; the pubescence on elytra yellow.

Quedius ambiguus, sp. n.

Elongate, black; head and thorax brilliant, hind body iridescent.

Head almost as broad as the thorax, with a row of four punctures along the inner margin of each eye and two larger ones between the series in front. *Labrum* not deeply notched; the membranous space behind it is short and dark. *Eyes* slightly prominent, large, occupying two thirds of the side of the head. *Antennæ* as long as the head and thorax, the basal two joints dark red, 4 to 11 opaque, tenth longer than broad. *Thorax* rather broader than long, with a pair of punctures before the middle. *Elytra* slightly broader than long, closely and finely punctate, with slender ash-coloured pubescence. *Hind body* more or less æneo-violaceous, its clothing a little more flavescent than that of the elytra. *Legs* variegated castaneous or piceous.

This closely resembles *Q. enodis* (No. 207), but may be separated therefrom by the two frontal interocular punctures.

Length 3, breadth $\frac{5}{8}$ line.

Tarukenga, about 8 miles from Rotorua.

Quedius taieriensis, sp. n.

Black, hind body hardly at all iridescent; elytra elongate, densely covered with depressed flavescent pubescence; legs and antennæ variegated rufo-fuscous.

Head oviform, the centre and the forehead smooth, the rest of its surface moderately finely punctured. *Eyes* not extending halfway along the sides of the head. *Clypeus* membranous, pale. *Labrum* short, slightly emarginated. *Antennæ* longer than the head and thorax, all the joints evidently longer than broad. *Thorax* longer than broad, base subtruncate, very smooth, with two deep punctures before the middle; behind this the sides are almost straight. *Scutellum* triangular, punctate and pubescent. *Elytra* oblong, a third longer than broad, a little narrowed towards the base, their close punctuation rendered indistinct by the clothing. *Hind body* elongate, finely sculptured, styles dark. *Anterior tarsi* only moderately expanded.

In general outline this resembles *Q. agathis* (No. 2453), but the latter has a narrower head and more rounded thorax. It is also somewhat similar to *Q. insolitus*, but the thorax is less narrowed anteriorly and the basal joint of the hind tarsi is not so short.

Length $3\frac{1}{4}$, breadth $\frac{3}{4}$ line.

Taieri, Otago. My specimen was given to me by Mr. S. U. Fulton.

Obs. When computing the size of the eyes in all the foregoing species the side of the head has been reckoned from the point of the antennal insertion backwards.

Group *Pæderidæ*.

Lithocharis cæca, sp. n.

Slender, elongate, subparallel, shining; pale ferruginous, sometimes flavescent, the legs, antennæ, and palpi testaceous.

Head longer than broad, gradually narrowed anteriorly, moderately finely and distinctly punctured, more densely near the sides than on the crown; the forehead truncate. *Eyes* exceedingly minute, hardly visible. *Antennæ* minutely pubescent, first joint as long as the next two, both of which are longer than broad and about equal; joints 4 to 10 decrease

in length, tenth transversely quadrate, eleventh conical. *Peduncle* well developed. *Thorax* longer than broad, widest near the front, gradually narrowed backwards, with obtuse angles; the punctuation is like that on the front of the head, there is an indistinct discoidal line. *Elytra* very short, subquadrate, a little narrowed near the shoulders; their sculpture is moderately close but indefinite, appearing punctate or granulate; they bear fine, short, pale pubescence. *Hind body* elongate, finely sculptured, rather thickly covered with fine pallid pubescence, the fifth segment much longer than the preceding ones. *Femora* thick, especially the anterior. *Tarsi* short, the basal four joints of the front pair transverse.

The abortive eyes, short wing-cases, and slender build are distinguishing characters.

Length $1\frac{1}{2}$, breadth nearly $\frac{1}{4}$ line.

Mount Pirongia and Te Aroha. Two found at each locality on the ground.

Hyperomma sanguineum, sp. n.

Nitid, elongate, dark vinous red, the antennæ, palpi, and tarsi fulvescent; sparingly clothed with ash-coloured hairs.

Head rather longer than broad, the genæ slightly rounded; it has some large almost serial punctures, which, however, do not extend to the middle; there are also many minute irregularly distributed punctures. *Thorax* about one third longer than broad, almost as wide at the base as it is in front; all its angles are rounded; along each side of the middle there is a not very regular series of about fifteen punctures; several similar punctures are distributed near the sides, and numerous minute ones are visible over the whole surface. *Elytra* short, hardly longer than broad, the shoulders rounded, with distinct sutural striæ; their sculpture consists of large punctiform impressions and small punctures. *Hind body* elongate, finely sculptured, with conspicuous styles.

Rather larger than No. 2454, the head and thorax longer and differently sculptured; the *mandibles* are shorter and stouter and each has a large median tooth on the inside; the *antennæ* are more elongate and slender; the *maxillary palpi* differ, the penultimate joint being rather longer and less dilated towards the extremity, whilst the terminal one, instead of being short and conical, is about two thirds the length of the preceding one.

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

Mount Pirongia. One (minus a leg), found in December 1892.

Group *Omaliidæ*.*Omalium fusciventre*, sp. n.

Elongate, subparallel, shining, sparingly clothed with short, rather fine, yellowish hairs; those on the hind body are, however, rather longer and more easily seen; head, thorax, and antennæ red; elytra brighter and paler red, but with the suture near the base and the hind part of each side fuscous; abdomen fuscous, its extremity paler; legs testaceous.

Head finely and not very closely punctured, the frontal impressions rather shallow. *Eyes* moderate, but little convex. *Antennæ* pubescent, first joint stout and finely sculptured, second little more than half the size of the basal one, longer than broad, oviform; third longer than broad, rather slender; fourth and fifth small and bead-like; 6 to 10 evidently broader than the preceding ones, 8 to 10 transverse, eleventh large. *Thorax* rather broader than long, its sides distinctly margined and well rounded in front; behind the middle they are gradually narrowed and nearly straight; the posterior angles are rectangular but not acute; its surface is rather more distinctly punctured than the head, the two dorsal impressions are well marked, and there is a fovea-like depression at each side. *Elytra* oblong, wider than the thorax, slightly narrowed towards the base, their hind angles rounded; the suture is well defined and rather more elevated behind than in front; their punctuation is regular and almost serial, but becomes a little less distinct behind. *Hind body* of the same width, but rather longer than the elytra, finely sculptured, fifth segment longest. *Legs* simple. *Tarsi* with the basal joints, taken together, much shorter than the terminal one.

This most resembles No. 1861; the head is more distinctly punctured, the eyes are less convex, and the enlarged joints of the antennæ are more transverse. No. 1854 also is somewhat similar.

Length 1, breadth $\frac{1}{4}$ line.

West Plains, Invercargill. My specimen was found by Mr. Alfred Philpott.

Omalium australe, sp. n.

Body rather broad, narrowed anteriorly; pubescence yellowish, moderately elongate, conspicuous behind; on the sides of the thorax there are some long, slender, erect setæ; head and thorax red, darker than the elytra and antennæ; hind body rufo-castaneous; legs testaceous.

Head nearly as large as the thorax, finely but not closely

punctured; the frontal impressions large and rather deep, so that the margins over the antennal insertion appear raised. *Eyes* prominent. *Antennæ* with fine outstanding setæ; first joint stout; second rather small, not much longer than broad, oviform; third longer than the second; fourth and fifth oviform, slightly longer than broad; 6 to 10 incrassate, sixth and seventh subrotundate, 8 to 10 transverse, eleventh larger than tenth. *Thorax* subcordate, about as long as it is broad, much narrowed behind, basal angles not prominent; it is rather more distinctly punctured than the head; the two dorsal impressions are deep, especially behind, and are rather distant from the base; there is a distinct impression at each side. *Elytra* less than twice the length of the thorax, gradually narrowed towards the base; their punctuation rather fine, not close nor serial, and becoming more indistinct near the apices; behind the base there is a slight transverse impression and there is another alongside the suture on each. *Hind body* quite as long and broad as the elytra, finely sculptured, with conspicuous pubescence. The basal joints of the *tarsi* are half the entire length.

O. sagoloides, Sharp, is undoubtedly the nearest ally, but this species has no basal callosities on the elytra, and the suture, owing to the longitudinal impressions, appears elevated.

Length $1\frac{1}{4}$, breadth $\frac{3}{8}$ line.

West Plains, Invercargill. One example from Mr. Philpott.

Omalium Philpotti, sp. n.

Subparallel, elongate, moderately shining; fusco-castaneous, the hind portion of the elytra darker than the basal; legs testaceous; the basal five joints of the antennæ red, remaining joints fuscous and opaque.

Head rather finely and not at all closely punctured, interocular foveæ small, frontal impressions shallow. *Thorax* rather small, transverse, its sides moderately rounded, narrowed behind, posterior angles rectangular; discoidal impressions broad, shallow in front; the lateral fossæ indistinct; its punctuation more distinct than that of the head, but not closer. *Elytra* about a third longer than broad, closely and rather finely punctate. *Hind body* as long as the wing-covers, finely sculptured; apical segment testaceous.

Underside reddish chestnut, finely punctured and pubescent.

O. australe has the thorax much more contracted behind and the elytra distinctly narrowed towards the base. *O. fusciventre* has a cordiform thorax with well-marked lateral foveæ, which this species has not. *O. perplexum* is larger and altogether different.

Var.—Body more rufescent, apical half of antennæ not infuscate.

Length $1\frac{1}{2}$, breadth quite $\frac{1}{4}$ line.

West Plains, Invercargill. This species bears the name of its discoverer, Mr. Alfred Philpott.

Omalium perplexum, sp. n.

Subparallel, rather flat, shining, piceous; the thorax and shoulders (sometimes the whole base of the elytra) chestnut-red; legs paler, tarsi testaceous.

Head much narrowed in front of the eyes, with two broad longitudinal impressions, its punctuation moderately coarse and close, but nearly quite wanting in front. *Eyes* large and prominent. *Antennæ* as long as the head and thorax, the basal five joints shining red; second joint thicker but hardly as long as the third, the following small and bead-like, 6 to 10 about twice the width of the preceding one, densely pubescent and opaque, eleventh larger than tenth, also dark. *Thorax* broader than long, front angles rounded, its sides finely margined and nearly straight behind; basal angles rectangular, but not acute; its sculpture is a little coarser than that of the head, but the narrow space along the middle is smooth; at each side of this smooth space there is a large but not very deep impression, which approaches the base more than it does the apex; there is another impression at each side. *Elytra* evidently longer than broad, parallel-sided; their sculpture consists of almost regular series of distinct punctures, interstices very slightly raised; near the apices the punctuation becomes irregular; they bear only a few short, slender, scarcely noticeable hairs. *Hind body* not larger than the elytra, finely punctate, with fine but quite distinct pubescence; the basal three segments broadly margined, the fourth more finely margined and a good deal longer than the third; its apex and the terminal segment are castaneous. *Tibiæ* with fine, short, erect setæ. Sexual characters normal.

♀. Slightly larger, darker; the pubescence on the head and thorax, though fine, can be easily seen.

O. Helmsi, Fauvel, in. litt., is very much like this species, but it has the sides of the thorax more rounded before the middle, and its punctures are almost disposed in longitudinal rows; the setæ on the tibiæ are more numerous and the coloration is different.

Length $1\frac{1}{4}$, breadth $\frac{3}{8}$ line.

Invercargill. Mr. Philpott, one pair.

[To be continued.]