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XXVIII.—*On new Species of Histeridæ and Notices of others.*
By G. LEWIS, F.L.S.

THIS paper, the twenty-eighth, follows one published last April, and the series as a whole will in a measure serve as a supplement to Marseul's Monograph of 1853-1864. Marseul established very few genera, less than forty in all, and apparently he was reluctant to increase their number, although, had he had more material at his hand, there is little doubt he would have founded others. He would not, for instance, have associated *Phylloma bahiense* and *corticale*, F., or *Sternaulox zelandica* and *Edwardsi*, Mars., in the same genera if he had known more than a single species of each kind. To-day our knowledge of the family is but a little more advanced, as the Histeridæ belong to a class of insects which, being small and of secretive habits, do not come within the observation of general collectors, and they also require special methods of search, as some attach themselves to other insects, such as ants, termites, wood-boring Coleoptera, &c. It is a matter for regret that collectors, while overlooking the Histeridæ, miss many curious species of Colydiidæ and others which are commensal with them; this applies especially to collections made in the tropics.

One of the most curious discoveries of recent years is the finding of one of the Saprinini, *Chelyoxenus xerobatis*, Hubb., which has asymmetrical claws, in the galleries made by a tortoise, *Gopherus polyphemus*, in Florida, and another of nine or ten species of *Monoplius* in the tenements raised by the termite *Hodotermes Havilandi*, Sh., in S. Africa.

In my recent Catalogue varietal names (Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. vol. xvi. p. 340, 1905) appear as part of the synonymy, and I observe with satisfaction that the Recorder of the 'Zoological Record,' 1904, remarks that "the naming of varieties is at present carried to a great extent, and we have not space to record them all, but we endeavour to point out all that appear to be of real importance." Any name reasonably and purposely omitted in the annual register of the 'Record' is practically deleted, and a recognized method of deletion of superfluous names is annually becoming more and more desirable. The Recorder also says: "It may not be superfluous to add that the study of variation is by no means dependent for advancement on the naming of varieties."

List of Species.

Lioderma patulum.
Teretrius rectistrius.
Plæsius edentulus.
Apobletes excavatus.
 — *mitis.*
Platylister placitus.
Idister mendax.
Contipus fractistrius.
 — *proximus.*

Hister æneus.
 — *multidens, Sch.*
Notolister unistrius.
 — *catenatus.*
 — *ovatus.*
Asolenus, gen. nov.
Pachycrærus laticeps.
Pelorurus ruptistrius.

Lioderma patulum, sp. n.

Lato-ovatum, subdepressum, nigrum, nitidum; fronte plana absque striolis, mento longitudinaliter canaliculato antice utrinque minute tuberculato; pronoto lateribus parce punctato, stria marginali basi multum abbreviata et ad angulos subfoveolata; elytris margine inflexo lævi, striis subhumerali lata profunde excavata, 1 dorsali brevi, 2 integra basi incurvata; propygidio circum parce punctulato; pygidio leviter punctulato; prosterno modice lato; tibiis anticis 4-dentatis.

L. 9 mill. (absque mandibulis).

This species is very similar to *L. latum*, Mars., but it differs by being more oval, by the canaliculation of the mentum, on the anterior edge of which are two small tubercles, by the shorter mandibles, by the thoracic stria being shortened behind the middle (not at the base only), and by the stria terminating at the anterior angle, not close to the eyes, where it widens out into a small and shallow fovea. The punctuation of the propygidium is also finer. *L. patulum* particularly agrees with *P. latum* in the second dorsal stria being markedly incurved at the base, by the prosternum being broad, and in having the mentum of an exceptional structure. As regards the width of the prosternum, both species agree with those of *Hololepta*, but Marseul placed *latum* in *Lioderma*, and it is known that these genera are not at present well defined. The pygidium of *L. latum* is finely punctulate, not smooth, as stated by Marseul in his Monograph, p. 215.

Hab. Marcapata, Peru.

I have not seen the female.

Teretrius rectistrius, sp. n.

Cylindricus, undique punctatus, rufo-brunneus, nitidus; elytris fusco-marginatis; prosterno bistriato, striis rectis; tibiis anticis 5-dentatis.

L. $1\frac{3}{4}$ mill.

Cylindrical, uniformly and rather densely punctured above,

reddish brown, with the margins of the elytra, sterna, and base of the first segment of the abdomen infusate; the forehead is convex and the marginal stria of the thorax complete; the prosternum, the lobe is marginate and the striae of the keel are parallel to each other throughout their length; the mesosternum, the marginal stria is complete and well marked, and its surface rather sparsely punctured, and the metasternum is somewhat similarly punctured, except that the punctures are larger posteriorly; the anterior tibiae are 5-dentate.

Hab. Madagascar. Northern Androy, Imanombo (*Dr. J. Decorse*, 1901).

In the Paris Museum and my own collection.

Plæsius edentulus, sp. n.

Oblongus, niger, nitidus; fronte stria obsoleta, mandibulis haud dentatis; pronoto, stria marginali antice late, stria laterali basi, interruptis; elytris striis dorsalibus punctiformis.
L. $12\frac{1}{2}$ mill.

Oblong, parallel at the sides, black and shining; the head, mandibles not dentate, frontal stria short and scarcely visible; the thorax, marginal stria widely interrupted behind the head, the lateral stria is not deeply impressed (like those of the other species of the genus) and it is broken near the base; the elytra, striae, outer humeral very short and near the middle, inner humeral commences near the middle and becomes punctiform near the apex, 1 dorsal punctiform and apical and scarcely reaches the middle, 2-3 punctiform and half the length of the first, 4 is represented only by two or three punctures, and the marginal stria is well marked and ceases at the suture; the pygidia are coarsely and densely punctate; the prosternum is not striate and the anterior lobe is impunctate, with the marginal stria widely interrupted in front; the anterior femora are smooth.

In its general outline this species resembles *P. javanus*, Er., except that it is rather more parallel laterally; it is remarkable for its simple mandibles and interrupted lateral thoracic stria. The anterior femora of *javanus* are transversely rugose and the anterior prosternal lobe is punctured and the marginal stria complete.

Hab. New Britain (*A. Willey*, 1895-97).

Apobletes excavatus, sp. n.

Ovalis, deplanatus, niger, nitidus; fronte punctulata, anterieus excavata, stria transversa tenuiter impressa leviter recurva; pronoto

lateribus punctato, pone angulos paulo rugoso, stria marginali antice anguste interrupta; elytris striis dorsalibus 1-2 integris, 3 late interrupta; propygidio sparse minime profunde, pygidio grosse haud dense, punctatis; mesosterno bisinuato, stria marginali in medio interrupta; tibiis anticis 4-dentatis.
L. 4-4½ mill.

There is a close resemblance between this species and *A. tener*, Mars., but the forehead is markedly excavated, the frontal stria is not straight, the lateral thoracic band of points being large and more dense and behind the anterior angle some are confluent, close to the anterior angle is a small red mark; the elytra, the fourth stria is represented by only a single puncture; the propygidium is chiefly punctate along its basal edge and the punctures are large and very shallow; the pygidium, the punctures are larger but similarly dense to those of *tener*.

Hab. Nilgiri Hills, S. India (*T. R. Bell*).

Apobletes cavifrons, Lew., first described from specimens from Assam, has been found by Mr. Bell in Kanara.

Marseul says (Mon. pp. 857-858) that the mesosterna of *A. tener* and *Schaumi* are marginate; but they are not wholly marginate, the striæ are interrupted like those of *A. excavatus*, and the mesosternal stria in *excavatus* being deeper, the interruption is more conspicuous.

Apobletes mitis, sp. n.

Oblongo-ovatus, depressus, niger, nitidus; fronte punctulata, stria transversa nulla; pronoto stria marginali late interrupta; elytris striis 1 postice paulo abbreviata, 2-3 integris, 4-6 apicalibus; tibiis anticis 4-dentatis.
L. 5-5½ mill.

Oval, rather oblong, depressed, black and shining; head finely and minutely punctulate, feebly impressed anteriorly, and not striate; the thorax, marginal stria very fine and not continuing behind the head; the elytra, humeral striæ wanting, 1 dorsal shortened apically, 2-3 complete, 4-6 apical, the fourth being longest and nearly dimidiate, the fifth is shorter at both ends, the sutural is somewhat oblique and also shorter than the fifth; the propygidium and pygidium are clearly but not densely punctate, the latter has a feeble impression on each side of its base and the outer edge is slightly elevated; the prosternum is bistriate, the striæ diverge slightly anterior and do not quite reach the base; the mesosternum is bisinuous anteriorly, with a short bent stria on either side.

This species is larger than *A. taciturnus*, Mars., and it has three inner apical dorsal striæ, which are wanting in Marseul's species. The form of the mesosternum is like those of *A. taciturnus*, Mars., and *A. latiusculus*, Sch., although Marseul says (Mon. p. 244) that the mesosternum of *taciturnus* is without a marginal stria, meaning that the stria along the border is incomplete.

Hab. Madagascar. Région de l'Androy, Ambovombe (*Dr. J. Decorse*).

In the Paris Museum and my own collection.

Platylister placitus, sp. n.

Oblongo-ovalis, subdepressus, niger, nitidus; fronte concava, stria tenui in medio sinuata; pronoto stria laterali basi continuata; elytris striis 1-2 integris, 3 interrupta; pygidio parum dense punctato; mesosterno stria marginali interrupta.
L. 6-6½ mill.

Oblong-oval, somewhat depressed, black and shining; the head smooth and the forehead concave, with a fine transverse stria which is sinuous in the middle; the thorax, the marginal stria is very fine, the lateral is also somewhat fine but well marked, and it continues along the base to a point opposite the third dorsal stria, anteriorly it is interrupted behind the middle of the neck; the elytra, there are two fine sinuous epipleural striæ, the dorsal, 1-2 complete and well marked, 3 finer and interrupted in the middle, the humeral and other striæ are wanting; the propygidium is transversely punctured, but smooth along its edges; the pygidium is wholly punctured, there is a depression on either side at the base, and the outer rim is smooth but not much raised; the prosternum is smooth and somewhat truncate anteriorly and the lobe is clearly marginate; the mesosternum, the marginal stria is interrupted at the emargination; the anterior tibiæ are 4-dentate.

The lateral thoracic stria continuing along the greater portion of the base constitutes a good specific character.

Hab. Herbertshöh, German New Guinea.

One example in the Berlin Museum and one in my collection.

Idister mendax, sp. n.

Ovalis, subconvexus, niger, nitidus; fronte bistriata; elytris striis 1 integris, 2 antice abbreviata, 3 apicali subdimidiata, cum appendice brevi; tibiis denticulatis.
L. 6½ mill.

Oval, a little convex, black and shining; the head is smooth, with two bent striæ on the forehead, clypeus is slightly impressed; the thorax, the marginal stria is very fine and apparently commences behind the anterior angle and is continued behind the head, the lateral stria is clearly marked, it joins the marginal stria behind the eyes and is slightly hamate inwardly at the base; the elytra, striæ, 1 complete, 2 shortened before the base, 3 basal not quite reaching the middle and it has a short apical appendage; the propygidium has a few punctures arranged transversely; the pygidium, the outer border is elevated into a thickened smooth rim and the surface within is densely punctate; the prosternum is bistriate, the striæ joining anteriorly; the mesosternum is sinuous and marginate; the anterior tibiæ have 6 or 7 small teeth and the intermediate and hind tibiæ are spinose, especially near the tarsi.

This is the largest species of the genus at present known.

Hab. Mentawai I. (*Modigliani*, 1894).

In the Genoa Museum and my own collection.

Contipus fractistrius, sp. n.

Contipus proximo similis, sed differt minus convexus et pronotostria laterali interna post oculos interrupta.

L. 10 mill.

Oval, convex, black and shining; the frontal stria complete and nearly straight anteriorly; the thorax, marginal stria complete, outer lateral evanescent at the anterior angles, inner arched behind the eye, and after a small interruption is continued almost in a straight line behind the neck; the elytra, the dorsal striæ are didymous and are like those of *proximus*, except that the first stria is not incurved at the base; the propygidium and pygidium are very finely punctulate, the former is without foveæ, the latter has a raised margin which is longer than that of *proximus*; the mesosternum is slightly sinuous, with a well-marked marginal stria; the anterior tibiæ are 3-dentate.

This species is more oval in outline and less convex than *proximus*, and the form of the inner thoracic striæ will distinguish it from the other three similar species. *Contipus sinuosus*, Lew. (*Ann. Mus. Genova*, 1906), is the largest and most convex species with didymous striæ, and it has the fifth dorsal stria conspicuously sinuous apically.

Hab. Calabar.

One example in the British Museum from the Murray Collection.

Contipus proximus, sp. n.

C. didymostrio similimus, sed differt striis lateribus internis integris ad angulos haud evanescenti.

L. 8 mill.

Shortly oval, rather convex, black and shining; the head faintly punctulate, transverse stria complete and straight anteriorly; the thorax, marginal stria very fine and complete, outer lateral ceases after passing the anterior angle, inner lateral is complete, continuing unbroken behind the head; the elytra, outer humeral stria fine and dimidiate, inner complete, dorsal striæ didymous, 1-4 and sutural complete, first stria is incurved at its base, 5 a little shortened at the base, the sutural turns outwards anteriorly; the propygidium is bifoveolate and slightly punctulate along its base; the pygidium is smooth, with a basal raised margin along half of its length; the mesosternum is marginate and feebly sinuous; the anterior tibiæ are 3-dentate.

There are now four species of *Contipus* known with didymous dorsal striæ, viz. *C. didymostrius*, Mars., and *C. sinuosus*, *proximus*, and *fractistrius*, Lew.

Hab. Warri, Niger River (*Dr. Roth*).

Hister æneus, sp. n.

Ovatus, convexus, æneus, nitidus; fronte plana, stria integra antice leviter sinuata; pronoto striis duabus pone oculos coalescentibus, lateribus late punctatis; elytris striis 1-4 integris, 5 basi abbreviata, suturali magis longa, humerali interna integra, externa brevi; propygidio leviter bifoveolato, pygidioque dense punctatis; mesosterno obtuso et marginato; tibiis antice 3-dentatis.

L. $7\frac{1}{2}$ -8 mill.

Oval, convex, brassy, shining; the head, the frontal stria is feebly sinuous anteriorly; the thorax, surface very finely punctulate, with a rather broad lateral band of punctures, which are largest, and some are confluent, behind the anterior angle, the lateral striæ are complete and turn towards each other at the base, and the interstice behind the anterior angle is punctate; the elytra, the outer humeral stria is short but well marked and is about one third of the elytral length, the inner humeral stria is complete and similar to the first dorsal, dorsal 1-4 complete, but the fourth is finer before the middle, 5 is abbreviated before the base, the sutural is bent and does not reach the base; the pygidia are densely and coarsely punctate.

The above belongs to a section of the genus in which the

inner humeral stria is similar to the first dorsal, the other species being *afer*, Payk., *africanus* and *crenulatus*, Lew.; and there are some species of *Contipus* which also have similar striæ. From *Hister africanus* this species differs by the colour, its greater convexity, the punctate thorax, and the presence of an outer though shortened humeral stria. According to Paykull's figure of *afer*, the thorax and the pygidia are similarly and not coarsely punctured.

Hab. Bihe, Angola.

Hister multidentis, Sch. Ent. Nachr. xv. p. 94 (1889).

This species may be added to the faunistic list of Japan; it was found there by the late Mr. J. H. Leech.

NOTOLISTER, Lewis.

Owing to the discovery of more species of this genus, the following additional characters may be given:—The antennal fossettes are a little behind the anterior angles, the forehead has no transverse stria, the deep lateral thoracic sulcus is a very important character and always terminates abruptly at both ends, the apices of the elytra are constantly punctate, and the anterior tibiæ are 7-dentate.

Notolister unistrius, sp. n.

Ovalis, convexusculus, niger, nitidus; thorace lateribus profunde sulcato; elytris striis 1-3 integris, 4-5 nullis, suturali antice multo abbreviata; mesosterno stria transversali unica.

L. $7\frac{1}{2}$ mill.

Oval, rather convex, black and shining; the head, there is no frontal stria and the vertex is uneven, surface finely punctulate; the thorax, marginal stria complete, with a widened interstice behind the head, where the stria is feebly crenulate, lateral sulcus rugose and wider and deeper than that of *N. Edwardsi*, Mars., and resembles that of *sulcicollis*, Lew.; the elytra, epipleura 5-striate, outer humeral stria shortened well before the base, inner apical and almost obsolete, 1-3 dorsal complete and punctate-striate towards the apex, 4-5 are wanting, sutural punctate apical and reaching just beyond the middle, apex punctate, the punctures do not extend along the interstices of any of the striæ; the propygidium is wholly covered with large, round, evenly-set punctures; the pygidium, the punctures are less close and less coarse; the prosternum is like that of *catenatus*; the

mesosternum is sinuous, with a short bent stria at either angle and a single line of punctures (fig. 1) broken in the middle; the anterior tibiæ are 7-dentate.

Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

Notolister sulcicollis (fig. 2) has one simple stria only on the mesosternum.

Hab. Diego Suarez, N. Madagascar.

Notolister catenatus, sp. n.

Breviter ovatus, convexiusculus, niger, nitidus; fronte inæquali, haud striata; thorace profunde sulcato; elytris striis 1-3 integris, interstitiis parte punctatis, 4-5 nullis, suturali basi abbreviata; mesosterno bistriato; tibiis anticis 7-dentatis.

L. $5\frac{3}{4}$ mill.

Shortly oval, rather convex, black and shining; the head, vertex uneven, finely punctulate; the thorax, marginal stria complete, with a widened interstice behind the neck, sulcus as in the last species; the elytra, epipleura 5-striate, outer humeral stria shortened just before the base, the inner humeral is apical, rough on its edges and nearly reaches the middle, 1-3 dorsal are punctate-striate and are obliterated apically by the punctures, the apical punctures extend along the interstices of the three striæ nearly to the middle of the dorsum, the punctures also extend nearly to the middle of the elytra in the region of the fourth and fifth striæ, which apparently is represented by some of the points, the sutural stria is longer than that of *unistrius*, being shortened only just before the base; the pygidia are punctured like those of the last species; the prosternum, surface of the keel is sparingly and very finely punctulate, lateral striæ gradually converge and join anteriorly; the mesosternum is feebly sinuous in the middle, with a short stria on either angle and a deeply impressed line of punctures along its base and a second line close to it (fig. 3), very similar, but broken in the middle, which

probably denotes the suture between it and the metasternum. These last striæ are very similar to those of *ovatus*.

Hab. Tamatave, Madagascar.

Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

Notolister ovatus, sp. n.

Ovatus, convexiusculus, supra tenuissime punctulatus; fronte inæquali haud striata; pronoto parum profunde sulcato; elytris striis 1-3 integris, interstitiis punctatis, suturali basi abbreviata; mesosterno bistriato; tibiis anticis 7-dentatis.

L. $6\frac{1}{2}$ -7 mill.

Oval, rather convex, black and shining; the head, surface unequal and without a transverse stria; the thorax, marginal stria complete, widening out a little behind the head, sulcus less wide than that of the last species; the elytra with five epipleural striæ, outer humeral shortened before the base, inner humeral as in *catenatus*, 1-3 dorsal entire but merging apically in the punctures, the apical punctuation extends beyond the middle between the first and second striæ and scarcely to the middle between the second and third, the 4-5 striæ are either absent or represented by apical punctures, the sutural is punctate-striate and is shortened just before the base; the pygidia are punctate like those of the last species; the prosternum is similar to that of *catenatus*; the mesosternum is feebly sinuous and has two transverse lines of points (fig. 4), the second stria probably indicates the suture between the meso- and metasterna.

In outline this species is oval and resembles *N. Edwardsi*, Mars., but the dorsal sculpture of the two species is different, and *Edwardsi* has probably but one sternal stria, as Marseul merely says "mesosternum entirely margined," which would not apply to two rows of punctures.

Hab. Madagascar (Sikora).

ASOLENUS, gen. nov.

The genus is established to receive *Notolister sanguinosus*,
Ann & Mag. N. Hist. Ser. 7. Vol. xviii.

Fairm., as the type, and *N. 5-striatus*, *nodicornis*, *dux*, and *imitans*, Lew. Some of the generic characters correspond to those in *Notolister*, especially in the form of the sterna, but the antennal fossettes are in the anterior thoracic angles, not just behind them; the antennæ have a nodule on the scape; the body is more convex and sometimes gibbous; there is no transverse frontal stria and the thoracic lateral sulcus, so conspicuous in *Notolister*, is wanting; the mesosternum is sometimes sinuous and sometimes not; the anterior tibiæ are multidentate.

Pachycærus laticeps, sp. n.

Subcylindricus, niger, nitidus, pedibus piceis; capite lato, fronte punctata, stria integra, clypeo impresso; thorace stria marginali antice interrupta; elytris striis 1-3 integris, 5 dimidiata, 4 et suturali ante basi abbreviatis; prosterno bistriato, striis rectis; mesosterno marginato; tibiis anticis 5-dentatis.

L. 4-4½ mill.

Somewhat cylindrical, black and shining; the head is large and clearly but not densely punctate, frontal stria complete; the thorax is rather irregularly punctured, the punctures on the scutellar region being very fine and few, marginal stria is interrupted behind the middle of the head; the elytra, striæ, outer humeral apical and dimidiate, inner wanting, 1-3 dorsal complete, 4 and sutural are shortened before the base, 5 dimidiate or a little longer, the interstice between the second and third striæ widens out at the base; the propygidium and pygidium are clearly but not densely punctate; the prosternum, anterior lobe coarsely punctured, keel rather wide and bistriate, striæ are feebly carinate and parallel to each other in front of the coxæ; the mesosternum, its projection is somewhat robust and prominent and the marginal stria complete.

The form and colour of the species resemble those of *P. facetus*, Mars., but its head is much more robust and more coarsely punctured, the fourth dorsal stria is not complete, and the prosternal keel is much wider and the marginal striæ are parallel, not joined anteriorly, and the mesosternal projection is more robust and prominent.

Hab. Kilima Njaro, East Africa (*A. Grandidier*, 1897).

In the Paris Museum and my own collection.

Pelorurus ruptistrius, sp. n.

Breviter ovalis, nigro-cupreus, nitidus; elytris viridi-cæruleis, fronte tenuiter impressa vix dense punctulata; pronoto stria integra,

lateribus punctato; elytris striis 1-2 geminatis integris, 3 parte interrupta, 4-5 apicalibus, suturali integra; propygidio parum dense punctato; prosterno bistriato; mesosterno bisinuato, marginato; tibiis anticis denticulatis.

L. 4 mill.

This species closely resembles *P. formosus*, Sch., but differs by the head being more closely punctured, the thorax is more deeply and closely punctate laterally, and there are two arched clusters of points in the scutellar region, the third dorsal stria is not completely double, being broken in the middle of its inner line, and the propygidium is much more distinctly and closely punctured.

Hab. Abyssinia (*Raffray*).

XXIX.—*Rhynchotal* Notes.—XXXIX.

By W. L. DISTANT.

IN the preparation of these notes I have been much indebted for the loan of specimens or drawings of unique types to Dr. Aurivillius of Stockholm, Dr. Handlirsch of Vienna, Herr Kuhlitz of Berlin, and Mons. Schouteden of Brussels. The latter has shown me the types of the species of *Fulgorinæ* in his collection which have been lately described by Herr Schmidt, so that I have with advantage been able to compare much hitherto somewhat inaccessible material with the collection contained in the British Museum.

Fam. *Fulgoridæ* (continued from p. 30).

Subfam. *FULGORINÆ*.

Pyrops intricatus.

Pyrops intricatus, Walk. List Hom., Suppl. p. 43 (1858).

Pyrops basilacteus, Schmidt, Stett. ent. Zeit. lxvii. p. 184 (1906).

ZEPASA, gen. nov.

Head broadly, roundly, and prominently produced in front of eyes, centrally about or almost as long as pronotum; vertex with its base to a short distance before eyes straightly truncate, somewhat conically produced anteriorly, centrally longitudinally carinate; face a little broader than long, obscurely centrally carinate, the lateral margins strongly sinuate behind eyes; clypeus about as long as face, with a