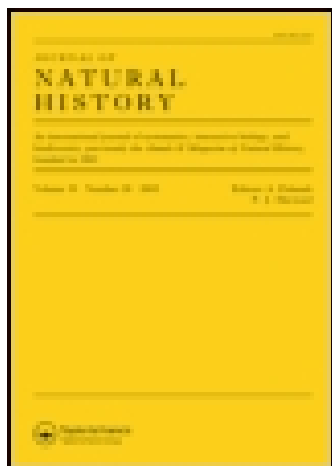


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THE ANNALS
AND
MAGAZINE OF NATURAL HISTORY.
[NINTH SERIES.]

"..... per litora spargite muscum,
Naiades, et circum vitreos considite fontes;
Pollice virgineo teneros hic carpite flores:
Floribus et pietum, divæ, replete canistrum.
At vos, o Nymphæ Craterides, ite sub undas;
Ite, recurvato variata corallia trunco
Vellite muscosis e rupibus, et mihi conchas
Ferte, Deæ pelagi, et pingui conchyliis succo."
N. Parthenii Giannettusi, Ecl. 1.

No. 13. JANUARY 1919.

I.—On the African Genera of Wingless Brachyderinæ with
Connate Claws (Coleoptera, Curculionidæ). By GUY A. K.
MARSHALL, D.Sc.

[Plate I.]

HAVING had occasion recently to identify a number of South African weevils of the genus *Strophosomus*, it became evident that several readily separable groups had been associated under this name; and, moreover, as might have been anticipated, a comparison of the Ethiopian species with the typical European forms reveals the presence of constant differences, which render it desirable that they should be separated generically. This has necessitated an examination of all the allied African genera, for which a synoptic key is here given. Unfortunately, two genera, each comprising a single species, are unknown to me and have therefore been omitted, viz.: *Ædophronus*, Schh., from Natal, and *Blosyridius*, Frm. (C. R. Ent. Belg. xxxv. 1891, p. 298), from Somaliland. The former, judging from Lacordaire's description of the tarsi, is related to *Mimaulus*, and the latter will come near *Proscaphaladeres*. Schönherr has also assigned to the genus *Cneorrhinus* three South African

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species with which I am unacquainted. They probably do not belong to that genus as now understood, and appear to be related to the species here described under *Leurops*, from which they differ in the complete absence of the median stria on the forehead—an unusual character in this group. The Madagascar forms have not been included, as they are now being revised by M. A. Hustache.

In discriminating the genera use has been made of characters drawn from the epistome, mandibles, and mentum, which have not been previously employed in this group, but which seem likely to be useful for separating the principal subdivisions.

Unless otherwise stated, the types of all the new species are in the British Museum.

Key to the Genera.

- 1 (24). Epistome well defined, bounded by a distinct carina or obtuse ridge; cutting-edge of mandibles with a median projection or tooth.
- 2 (17). Mentum entirely devoid of setæ *.
- 3 (6). Tarsi narrow, setose beneath.
- 4 (5). Front tibiæ produced externally into a long process; corbels of hind tibiæ enclosed; mandibles squamose *Minaulus*, Schh.
- 5 (4). Front tibiæ not produced externally; hind corbels open; mandibles not squamose *Mimaulodes*, gen. nov.
- 6 (3). Tarsi broad, spongy beneath; corbels of hind tibiæ open, bare.
- 7 (10). First ventral segment with the hind margin rounded; lower surface of rostrum more or less concave, the normal longitudinal impressions entirely or nearly obliterated.
- 8 (9). Elytra without any humeral prominence; head separated from rostrum by a fine stria which curves strongly forwards in the middle; rostrum strongly narrowed in front; funicle not squamose *Pomphus*, gen. nov.
- 9 (8). Elytra with a conspicuous humeral prominence; head separated from rostrum by a deep, gently sinuous furrow; rostrum subquadrate; funicle squamose *Bradyhamon*, gen. nov.
- 10 (7). First ventral segment with the hind margin straight or sinuate; lower surface of rostrum with two deep

* Some species of *Proscaphaladeres* have a row of flat scales along the front edge of the mentum, but no true setæ.

- longitudinal or oblique impressions, with a convex space between them.
- 11 (12). The three median ventral segments subequal in length; forehead trisulcate; scape short and stout, the externally visible portion much shorter than the funicle; rostrum separated from the head by a furrow that extends quite to the side *Blosyrus*, Schh.
- 12 (11). Second ventral segment longer than the third or fourth; forehead with at most a single furrow; scape slender, the exposed portion almost or quite as long as the funicle.
- 13 (14). Metasternum between the coxæ very much shorter than the middle coxæ; mandibles squamose, with a well-marked longitudinal dorsal carina running from the scar to the base *Procephaladeres*, Schh.
- 14 (13). Metasternum as long as or only slightly shorter than the middle coxæ; mandibles without a dorsal carina.
- 15 (16). Scrobes strongly dilated behind; scape not exceeding the middle of the eye; funicle and mandibles clothed with scales; eyes finely faceted *Proscopus*, gen. nov.
- 16 (15). Scrobes almost parallel-sided; scape reaching hind margin of eye; funicle and mandible entirely devoid of scales; eyes comparatively coarsely faceted [*Strophosomus*, Billb.]
- 17 (2). Mentum setose.
- 18 (21). Corbels of hind tibiæ very oblique, lying almost entirely on the inner face of the tibiæ, their upper fringe of setæ ascending the dorsal edge of the tibiæ in a straight line (as in *Tanymecus*); second ventral segment distinctly longer than the third or fourth, hind margin of the first more or less sinuate in the middle, the incision shallow.
- 19 (20). Rostrum separated from the forehead by a stria; eyes very prominent and produced backwards *Protostrophus*, gen. nov.
- 20 (19). Rostrum continuous with the forehead; eyes simple, only slightly convex *Leurops*, gen. nov.
- 21 (18). Corbels of hind tibiæ terminal, not ascending the tibiæ; the three median ventral segments subequal in length, hind margin of the first segment straight, the incision deep.
- 22 (23). Corbels of hind tibiæ enclosed; scape slender, clavate; forehead trisulcate;

- mentum with a transverse row of five or six setæ *Pseudoblosyrus*, gen. nov.
- 23 (22). Corbels of hind tibiæ open; scape very broadly dilated; forehead without any longitudinal furrow; mentum with only two setæ *Platycoptes*, Schh.
- 24 (1). Epistome indistinct and quite undefined; cutting-edge of mandibles straight or rounded and without any median tooth; basal part of metepisternum angularly produced internally; hind coxæ reaching the elytra.
- 25 (26). Corbels of hind tibiæ open; metepisternal suture distinct in its basal half only; mesepisterna meeting the elytra at the extreme base; rostrum continuous with the forehead ... *Synechops*, gen. nov.
- 26 (25). Corbels of hind tibiæ broadly enclosed; metepisternal suture distinct throughout; mesepisterna broadly separated from the elytra by the mesepimera.
- 27 (36). Rostrum separated from the forehead by a transverse furrow.
- 28 (35). Tarsi with two claws; mentum setose.
- 29 (32). Furrow separating the rostrum from the head straight or with a forward curve.
- 30 (31). Ventral intercoxal process truncate or gently rounded; front margin of prosternum without any prominences; furrow separating the rostrum from the head straight or slightly sinuous *Ectatopsides*, Bovie.
- 31 (30). Ventral process strongly angulated; margin of prosternum with a prominence on each side above the coxæ; furrow separating the rostrum from the head deeply curved forwards .. *Enassus*, Pasc.
- 32 (29). Furrow separating the rostrum from the head angulate, with the apex of the angle directed backwards.
- 33 (34). Punctures on elytra in regular rows; eyes not produced backwards *Cychrotonus*, Pasc.
- 34 (33). Punctures on elytra partly irregular; eyes produced backwards *Eucrines*, Jekel.
- 35 (28). Tarsi with only one claw; mentum devoid of setæ *Gyponychus*, Pasc.
- 36 (27). Rostrum not separated from the forehead by a transverse furrow or stria. *Embolodes*, Mshl.

Genus MIMAULUS, Schh.

To the characters cited by Schönherr (Mant. Sec. Curc. p. 18) and Lacordaire (Gen. Curc. vi. p. 33) the following

points may be added:—Mandibles multisetose, squamose, with a distinct median tooth; mentum bare and deeply sunk in its cavity. Antennæ with the funicle not squamose. Gular margin of the prosternum deeply sinuate; mesepimeron very small and not separating the mesepisternum from the elytron at the base; metasternum at its shortest much shorter than the mid-coxæ, metepisternal suture complete, metepisternum not dilated at its base, hind coxæ broadly separated from the elytra. Venter with the intercoxal process truncate and as broad as the hind coxa; hind margin of segment 1 gently arcuate, its length behind the coxa greater than that of segment 2, which is longer than 3 or 4.

As at present known, the genus is confined to South-east Africa, south of the Limpopo.

Genus MIMAULODES, nov.

Head deeply constricted behind the eyes and with a central furrow which does not reach the vertex; eyes quite lateral, nearly flat and oblique, as seen from above, so that the head is broadest at their projecting hind margins. *Rostrum* about as long as the head and separated from it by a straight transverse furrow, strongly narrowed in front; epistome well defined, nearly three times as broad as long, shallowly sinuate in front, and the hind margin forming a low curve; mandibles bearing five or six setæ, not squamose, with a strong median tooth, the scar flat and almost circular; mentum bare, immersed; scrobes oblique, almost straight and parallel-sided, the upper edge touching the lower margin of the eye; lower surface of rostrum without longitudinal impressions, but shallowly excavated for the reception of the antennæ. *Antennæ* very short, squamose; scape reaching the middle of the eye, strongly clavate; funicle with joint 1 much longer and broader than 2, 3–7 very short and gradually widening. *Prothorax* much broader than long, the base arcuate in the middle and slightly sinuate at each side, the sides rounded. *Scutellum* invisible. *Elytra* fused together and strongly inflexed at the sides, only slightly broader at the rounded shoulders than the prothorax, the longitudinal outline forming a very low curve continuous with that of the pronotum, the posterior declivity almost vertical. *Sternum* with the gular margin shallowly sinuate; mesepisternum meeting the elytron only at the extreme base, the mid-coxæ very narrowly separated; metasternum much shorter than the mid-coxæ, its episternum not dilated

inwardly at the base, the episternal stria complete, the hind coxæ widely separated from the elytra. *Venter* with the intercoxal process slightly angulated at the base and narrower than the coxa; segment 1 with the hind margin straight, its length behind the coxa equal to that of 2, which is longer than 3 or 4. *Legs* short; tibiæ armed with stout spines, but the external apical angle not produced, the corbels of the hind pair open, squamose and very oblique; tarsi narrow, setose beneath, not spongy.

♂ unknown.

Genotype, *Mimaulodes fimbriatus*, sp. n.

The general form is entirely that of *Mimaulodes*, and the insects are similarly covered with a thick earthy incrustation, so that several of the structural characters given above can only be observed when the specimen has been scraped.

Mimaulodes fimbriatus, sp. n.

Integument pale brown, densely clothed with grey scales mingled with a natural earthy indumentum, and nearly always more or less coated with mud.

Head with stout, dark, suberect setæ and a dense patch of paler ones above each eye; eyes nearly circular and with a complete ring of pale scales. *Rostrum* almost flat above, with a very shallow transverse impression near the apex, so that the apical area appears to be raised; the sides quite vertical, so that no sign of the scrobe can be seen from above, the dorsal edge obtusely angulated above the base of the scrobe. *Prothorax* twice and a half as broad as long, broadest near the base and much narrower in front; the integument, when scraped, appears uneven and finely rugulose, being set with short, subrecumbent, stout, dark setæ, and there is along the lateral margin an uneven fringe of very long, upwardly curved setæ. *Elytra* broadly ovate, the sides gently rounded, broadest about the middle, the apical outline broadly rounded; the base not fitting very closely to the prothorax, jointly sinuate in the middle and rounding away at the sides; the dorsal surface with very shallow and broad sulci, the narrower raised intervals each bearing a row of stout, suberect, dark setæ, while at the shoulders and along the dorsal margins is an outstanding fringe of much longer setæ, these being longest at the shoulders and gradually diminishing behind. *Legs* densely squamose and with stout raised setæ; anterior pairs of tibiæ with four spines along the apical edge, two or three on the apical third of the dorsal

edge, and one on the lower edge; hind tibiae also with four apical spines and two on the lower edge, the corbel with a dorsal border of two to four short, closely set spines and a longer terminal one.

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

TRANSVAAL: Benoni, 22. xi. 17 (*E. Buckles*).

Described from five specimens forwarded by the Division of Entomology, Pretoria, with a note that the species was damaging the leaves and bark of *Eucalyptus viminalis*.

Genus POMPHUS, nov.

Head short and broad, with a central stria that reaches the vertex and another on each side about midway between it and the eyes, behind which there is a deep constriction; eyes quite lateral, very prominent, subconical, not or but slightly sloping backwards, their greatest depth behind the middle. *Rostrum* strongly narrowed in front, longer than the head and separated from it by a stria which runs from the eye to the apex of the outer stria on the forehead, and there making a sharp angle runs forwards to the apex of the median stria; from the middle of the base diverge two oblique abbreviated furrows; epistome sharply defined, almost an equilateral triangle, the sides forming a very low carina; mandibles multisetose, with only a few scales and an obtuse median tooth, the scar almost circular; mentum bare, immersed; scrobes narrow, deep, bare, and almost straight in the basal two-thirds, the upper edge ending a little below the lower margin of the eye. *Antennae* with the scape rather slender, abruptly clavate and reaching beyond the middle of the eye; funicle not squamose, joint 1 as long as but thicker than 2, the remainder bead-like. *Prothorax* at least twice as broad as long, truncate at base and apex. *Scutellum* invisible. *Elytra* broadly ovate, the longitudinal outline moderately convex, not continuous with that of the pronotum, the basal margin jointly sinuate and elevated, the angles projecting, the punctation more or less irregular. *Sternum* with the gular margin sinuate, the front coxae nearer to it than to the hind margin, the front margin raised into a prominent ridge on each side from the eye nearly as far as the coxa; mesepisternum meeting the elytron at the base; metasternum between the coxae hardly half as long as the mid-coxae, the episternal furrow complete, the episternum not produced inwardly at the base, the hind coxae broadly separated from the elytra. *Venter* with the

intercoxal process rounded and narrower than the coxa ; segment 1 (behind the coxa) longer than 2, and 2 longer than 3, the hind margin of segment 1 arcuate. *Legs* short and rather stout ; femora moderately clavate and simple ; tibiæ unguiculate, the corbels of the hind pair oblique, bare, and open, but with the apical edge slightly bent inwards ; claws connate.

In the ♂ the fifth ventral segment is shorter and flat, in the ♀ it is a little longer and slightly convex.

Genotype, *Strophosomus kirschi*, Faust (Ent. Nachr. xi. 1885, p. 88).

Pomphus denticollis, sp. n. (Pl. I. fig. 3.)

Black, with grey or sandy scaling, the pronotum with a very broad median brown stripe, and the elytra with very variable dark brown markings, which are sometimes almost entirely obliterated.

Head almost flat on the forehead and set with stout erect setæ, the integument quite hidden by the scaling. *Rostrum* with the sides strongly convergent from the eyes to beyond the middle, thence nearly parallel ; upper surface with two deep sulci strongly diverging from the centre of the base as far as the middle of the disk, the lateral areas outside them being shallowly impressed ; the central carina is prominent where it meets the epistome, but diminishes behind and disappears about the middle ; the clothing as on the forehead. *Antennæ* with the apical half of the scape squamose ; funicle with joints 3, 4, and 6 subequal and slightly longer than broad, 5 a little shorter, 7 as long as 6 but distinctly broader. *Prothorax* twice and a half as broad as long, the base (when seen clear of the elytra) not broader than the apex ; the sides, as seen from above, distinctly denticulate, there being a specially marked projection close to the base, and the apical angles prominent ; apical margin strongly reflexed down the sides, the ridge thus formed ceasing abruptly on a line with the outer edge of the coxa ; upper surface strongly convex transversely, closely set with rather indefinite granules (the rugose sculpturing being hidden by the scaling), and with a central furrow that reaches neither the base nor the apex ; the longitudinal outline only slightly curved, the apex being only a little lower than the base. *Elytra* with the sides strongly rounded, broadest about the middle, scarcely striate, but with rather irregular rows of punctures, which are conspicuous through the scaling and often duplicated ; the intervals broad, finely aciculate

(beneath the scaling), and each bearing a single row of stout, flattened, erect setæ.

Length $4-4\frac{3}{4}$ mm., *breadth* $2\frac{1}{2}-2\frac{3}{4}$ mm.

PORTUGUESE E. AFRICA: Beira (*P. A. Sheppard*).

This species probably represents on the coast the very closely allied *P. kirschi*, Fst., which at present is known only from Nyasaland. The latter differs in having the sides of the prothorax simply rounded and not denticulate, the lateral areas of the rostrum are not impressed, the setæ on the elytra are distinctly longer and more slender, and the scales on the elytra are for the most part rather sharply pointed behind instead of being broadly rounded.

Described from 1 ♂ and 5 ♀.

Genus BRADYBAMON, nov.

Head with a short central furrow and slightly raised at the sides to form an obtuse eyebrow, which is higher behind than in front; eyes quite lateral, nearly circular, moderately prominent, and not produced backwards. *Rostrum* subquadrate, separated from the forehead by a deep sinuous furrow that distinctly reaches the sides, lower surface flattened or slightly concave; epistome forming a sharp acute angle behind, the bounding carinæ unusually high and finely laminate, the front margin rather shorter than the sides; mandibles multisetose, not squamose, with a median tooth, the scar flat and almost circular; mentum bare, somewhat sunk in its cavity; genæ deeply impressed, the posterior angle rather prominent. *Antennæ* with the scape abruptly clavate and reaching about the middle of the eye; funicle squamose, joint 1 equal to or longer than 2, the others short, 7 the broadest. *Scutellum* invisible. *Elytra* with the sides forming a straight slope from the base to the well-marked subhumeral prominence, the basal margin sinuate; in profile, the outline of the posterior declivity forms almost a semicircle, the apex being inflexed so that it lies in front of the middle of the declivity. *Sternum* with the gular margin gently sinuate, the centro-sternite forming an elongate tubercle; mesepisternum meeting or or very narrowly separated from the elytra; metasternum much shorter than the mid-coxæ, with a distinct antecoxal fold, the episternal furrow deep and complete, the episternum narrow and not angulate inwardly at the base, the hind coxæ separated from the elytra. *Venter* with the intercoxal process gently rounded and as broad as the coxa; the hind margin of segment 1 curved, so that segment 2 is much

shorter in the middle than at the sides, its length at the former point being about equal to that of 3 or 4. *Legs* rather short and stout; tibiae with a sharp mucro, the corbels of the hind pair open and bare; the claws connate.

All the specimens examined appear to be females.

Genotype, *Strophosomus granicollis*, Boh.

Thanks to the kindness of Prof. E. B. Poulton, F.R.S., I have been able to examine the cotypes of *S. granicollis*, Boh., in the Sommer collection, which he recently presented to the Oxford Museum.

From the description, it seems fairly certain that *Strophosomus verrucicollis*, Fst. (Ann. Soc. Ent. Belg. 1899, p. 390), from the Congo, also belongs to this genus.

The angulate elytra and tuberculate thorax would at once distinguish these insects from the other African "*Strophosomus*," and they have more the appearance of very small *Blosyrus*, which may however be distinguished by the very different structure of the epistome and lower surface of the rostrum, the more prominent eyes, and the straight hind margin of the first ventral segment.

Key to the Species.

- | | | |
|--------|--|-----------------------------|
| 1 (6). | Prothorax with small, close, confluent tubercles throughout. | |
| 2 (3). | The two median furrows on the rostrum subparallel; the two basal joints of the funicle equal; punctures on elytra more or less irregular | <i>granicollis</i> , Boh. |
| 3 (2). | The two median furrows on the rostrum strongly divergent in front; joint 1 of the funicle longer than 2. | |
| 4 (5). | Elytra marginate at the base, the rows of punctures more or less irregular or duplicated | <i>swalei</i> , sp. n. |
| 5 (4). | Elytra not marginate at the base, the rows of punctures quite regular | <i>regularis</i> , sp. n. |
| 6 (1). | Prothorax punctate on the disk and tuberculate laterally | <i>verrucicollis</i> , Fst. |

Bradybamon swalei, sp. n. (Pl. I. fig. 6.)

♀. Colour piceous, with dense earth-brown scaling; pronotum with a broad, median, darker brown stripe, which gradually widens from apex to base; elytra with an ill-defined dark stripe running obliquely from behind the shoulder to beyond the middle of stria 2 and edged behind with an indefinite pale stripe; the apical area with irregular dark brown and paler patches; these markings may become more or less obsolete.

Head with a short longitudinal impression on each side adjoining the supra-ocular ridge, the vertex transversely impressed; eyes very convex, deepest slightly behind the middle. *Rostrum* as long as its basal width, the dorsal area broadest at the base and gradually narrowed in front, with a shallow central impression containing a low scale-covered carina, on each side of it an oblique furrow running from near the centre of the base to the middle of the disk, and beyond this again an irregular shallow longitudinal impression; as seen from above the posterior angles of the genæ project strongly outwards, about three-fourths as far as the eyes. *Antennæ* with joint 1 of the funicle distinctly longer than 2, 3 as long as broad, 4-6 bead-like and transverse, 7 longer and broader. *Prothorax* much broader than long, truncate at the apex, the base gently arcuate and as broad as the apex, the basal angles rounded off, the sides moderately rounded, broadest about the middle, the apical constriction shallow; the upper surface scrobiculate, set with low confluent tubercles, and with an irregular central furrow. *Elytra* subquadrate, nearly as broad as long ($3\frac{1}{2} \times 4$ mm.), the sides almost parallel from the subhumeral prominence to beyond the middle, the basal margin raised, broadly rounded behind; with very shallow furrows containing rows of punctures that are more or less irregular and duplicated, except near the suture and extreme lateral margins; the intervals rather uneven and set with irregular rows of short, stout, erect setæ; the scales small, closely overlapping, pointed, and deeply fluted.

Length 5-6 mm., *breadth* 3-3½ mm.

PORTUGUESE E. AFRICA: Caia, Zambesi R. (*Dr. H. Swale*).

Described from three specimens.

In addition to the characters given in the key, *B. granicollis*, Boh., differs in being a distinctly narrower insect, the eyes are larger, the genæ are scarcely visible from above, and the setæ on the elytra are longer and more numerous.

Bradybamon regularis, sp. n.

♀. Colour black; with uniform earth-brown scaling.

Head not transversely impressed on the vertex, the forehead with lateral impressions; eyes relatively large, not very convex, deepest behind the middle. *Rostrum* subquadrate, about as long as broad, the sides parallel and vertical, so that the genæ are scarcely visible from above; the upper surface with two median sulci, which diverge

strongly from the base to the middle of the disk and enclose a low median scale-covered costa, and on each side of these an indistinct longitudinal impression. *Antennæ* with joint 1 of the funicle longer than 2, the remaining joints short and gradually widening outwardly. *Prothorax* much broader than long, the base and apex of equal width, the former arcuate, the latter truncate, the sides very strongly rounded, broadest much before the middle; the upper surface closely set with small low confluent tubercles, and with an indistinct central furrow. *Elytra* oblong-ovate, parallel-sided from the subhumeral prominence to beyond the middle, very broadly rounded behind, the basal margin not raised; with very shallow sulci, each containing a single row of deep close punctures; the intervals only slightly convex and bearing a single row of broadly truncate, scale-like, erect setæ.

Length $3\frac{3}{4}$ – $4\frac{1}{4}$ mm., *breadth* 2 – $2\frac{1}{4}$ mm.

ZAMBEZI R.

Described from two specimens.

Genus PROSCEPHALADERES, Schh.

To this genus are here referred all the African "*Strophosomus*" having subglobose elytra. Apart from their somewhat different facies, they may be distinguished from the other African species with which they have hitherto been associated by the following points:—The mentum is entirely devoid of true setæ, though in most of the species there is a row of scales along its anterior edge—a very unusual character; the corbels of the hind tibiæ are more nearly terminal in position; the first joint of the funicle is never longer than the second, being rarely equal to it and usually distinctly shorter; the apical margin of the rostrum is deeply sinuate; and the hind coxæ are distinctly separated from the elytra.

The true European *Strophosomus* differ in having non-squamose and non-carinate mandibles, non-squamose funicles, a distinctly longer metasternum, and more coarsely faceted eyes.

The described species which should be placed here are: *Strophosomus aspericollis*, Fhs., *S. lineatus*, Fhs., *S. variabilis*, Fhs. (Ofv. K. Vet.-Ak. Förh. 1871, pp. 13, 14), *S. binotatus*, Mshl., and *S. salisburyensis*, Mshl. (Proc. Zool. Soc. 1906, pp. 912, 913); and more than a dozen additional undescribed species are known to me.

Genus PROSCOPUS, nov.

Head about as long as its width between the eyes, with a central furrow that almost reaches the vertex; eyes lateral, prominent, semicircular. *Rostrum* about as long as the head, narrowed in front, separated from the forehead by a deep furrow that reaches the sides; epistome short, well defined, but the sides not carinate, the front margin shallowly sinuate; mandibles squamose (setæ abraded), without any longitudinal dorsal carina, but with an obtuse median tooth, the scar indistinct and subtriangular; mentum bare, much wider in front than behind and rather deeply sunk in its cavity, which is more oblong than usual, the basal angles being almost right angles; scrobes lateral, curved, and squamose, becoming markedly wider and shallower behind, the upper edge below the lower margin of the eye. *Antennæ* with the scape rather stout, cylindrical, and gradually widening from near the base; funicle stout, squamose, the two basal joints of equal length, the remainder bead-like and subequal. *Prothorax* transverse, truncate at base and apex. *Scutellum* minute. *Elytra* subtruncate at the base, not constricted or marginate, without any humeral prominence, the apices jointly rounded. *Sternum* with the gular margin truncate, the coxæ in the middle of the prosternum; mesosternum longer than usual, the episternum meeting the elytron at the base; metasternum between the coxæ as long as the mid-coxæ, with a very shallow antecoxal fold, the episternum not angularly produced internally at the base, the episternal suture almost obliterated, the hind coxæ narrowly separated from the elytra. *Venter* with the intercoxal process slightly angulate and broader than the hind coxæ; segment 2 longer than 3. *Legs* rather slender; corbels of the hind tibiæ open, bare, and terminal; claws connate.

♂ unknown.

Genotype, *Proscopus marginatus*, sp. n.

The elongate metasternum is quite unusual in the African members of this group, and the general facies of the only known species is more like that of a Tanymercine of the genus *Iphisomus*.

Proscopus marginatus, sp. n. (Pl. I. fig. 4.)

♀. Black, with rather thin grey scaling (through which the shiny integument is clearly visible) and a few whitish markings; head with a narrow ring of whitish scales round

the eyes, expanding into a broad patch beneath, the setæ on the forehead slightly raised; prothorax with a narrow central whitish stripe, a broad lateral one behind the eye, and an ill-defined one above the coxæ, the setæ recumbent; elytra with numerous recumbent, scale-like, brownish setæ and the following whitish markings: a sutural stripe from the base to the middle, another on interval 7 starting a little before the middle and ending some distance from the apex, a short basal stripe at the shoulder continuous with the upper lateral one on the thorax, and a marginal stripe, which only reaches stria 10 in the basal half, gradually extending to stria 9 behind the middle and widening still more at the apex; along the dorsal striæ there are irregular spots of whitish scales, and the lower surface is unevenly clothed with similar scales.

Head rugosely punctate, the forehead flat, with two very irregular longitudinal impressions on each side of the central furrow; a shallow impression immediately below the eye. *Rostrum* rugosely punctate, the disk shallowly impressed and with a very broad and deep central furrow in the basal half; an obtuse ridge on each side, beyond which the sides slope gradually to the scrobes; the genæ not impressed. *Prothorax* nearly twice as broad as long, the sides moderately rounded, broadest in the middle, evenly and very rugosely punctate throughout, without any furrow or carina, and the basal margin not raised. *Elytra* regularly elliptical, the dorsal outline strongly curved and raised high above the pronotum, the posterior declivity becoming vertical on a line with the apex of stria 5; striæ shallow and containing deep separated punctures on the disk, the punctures shallower and the striæ deeper at the apex and sides; the intervals almost flat and much broader than the striæ. *Legs* with fairly dense pale scales, the tibiæ with rather long suberect setæ, the hind pair granulate internally.

Length $6\frac{1}{2}$ mm., *breadth* $3\frac{1}{4}$ mm.

CAPE COLONY: Namaqualand.

Described from a single specimen.

Genus PROTOSTROPHUS, nov.

Head with a central furrow and constricted behind the eyes, which are produced backwards. *Rostrum* strongly narrowed in front, separated from the forehead by a short stria or sulcus that does not nearly reach the sides, which are almost vertical, so that the scrobes are not visible from above, the apex almost truncate; epistome well defined,

almost an equilateral triangle; mandibles densely squamose (occasionally bare—*P. sparsus*, Fhs., and *P. longulus*, Boh.), multisetose, with a distinct median tooth, the scar variable; mentum with numerous erect setæ on the anterior half, usually arranged in a tuft of three to six on each side, the basal half sunk in the cavity; scrobes passing well below the eyes, more or less squamose. *Antennæ* with the scape slender, clavate, reaching about the middle of the eye; funicle squamose, joint 1 much longer than 2 (except in *P. strigifrons*, Fhs., in which they are equal). *Prothorax* variable in form, but always transverse and narrower at the apex than at the base. *Scutellum* invisible. *Sternum* with the gular margin more or less sinuate, the coxæ about in the middle of the prosternum; mesepisternum usually, but not always, separated from the elytron by its epimeron; metasternum much shorter than the mid-coxæ, with a more or less distinct antecoxal fold, the episternal suture complete, the episternum not produced inwardly at the base and rapidly narrowing to a point behind, the hind coxæ touching the elytra. *Venter* with the intercoxal process narrower than the coxæ, slightly angulate or gently rounded; hind margin of segment 1 shallowly sinuate, segment 2 much longer than 3. *Legs* with the corbels of the posterior pairs of tibiæ squamose or bare, very oblique, with the upper fringe of setæ ascending the dorsal edge of the tibia in a straight line, and the extreme apical edge narrowly enclosed (except in *P. sparsus* and its allies); claws connate.

In the males the elytra are narrower than in the females; the first ventral segment is very slightly impressed, and the last is shorter and more broadly rounded; in some species the legs are markedly stouter than in the females.

Genotype, *Strophosomus crucifrons*, Boh.

Distinguished from true *Strophosomus* by the setose mentum, the squamose mandibles and antennæ, and the very oblique corbels of the hind tibiæ.

Apart from the species here assigned to the genera *Proscaphaladeres*, *Brachybamon*, *Pomphus*, and *Leurops*, all the African "*Strophosomus*" known to me fall within the present genus; and, judging by the descriptions, this is also likely to prove true of *S. ancorifrons*, Boh., *rotundicollis*, Boh., *pupillatus*, Boh., *dilaticollis*, Boh., *denticollis*, Quedf., *hamaticollis*, Pér., and *concinus*, Hartm. The position of *S. hystrix*, Fst. (Ann. Soc. Ent. Belg. 1899, p. 389), from the Congo, is doubtful.

Protostrophus immerens, sp. n.

♀. Black, with dense sandy-grey scaling; the prothorax with an ill-defined broad central brown stripe, an interrupted narrow line on each side of it, and a broad lateral stripe on the inflexed portion, the dorsal markings being sometimes absent; the elytra often with several rows of very indefinite darker spots, usually in the striae.

Head separated from the rostrum by a curved stria, which does not nearly reach the margins; the forehead smooth, the sculpturing entirely hidden by the scaling, and with a deep central furrow; the eyes prominent, strongly produced backwards, moderately convex, deepest about the middle, the hind edge of the orbit not projecting. *Rostrum* trapezoidal, much shorter than its basal width, rapidly narrowing in front, the sides straight; the upper surface flat, with only a very inconspicuous scale-covered central carina in the basal half, and the very shallow punctation hidden by the dense scaling; the genae not impressed. *Antennae* testaceous brown, with the first joint of the funicle distinctly longer and thicker than the second, which is about twice as long as the third. *Prothorax* not quite twice as broad as long (5:3), broadest at the middle, the sides moderately rounded, forming an obtuse granulated lateral edge, very deeply constricted laterally at the extreme base, and slightly emarginate on each side at the apex for the reception of the eyes; the basal margin narrowly raised, truncate and not broader than the apical, which is shallowly sinuate in the middle, the angles before the basal constriction rounded, and the apical ones almost right angles; the upper surface moderately convex transversely, but almost flat longitudinally, with fine confluent shallow punctation (hidden by scaling) and a shallow central stria, which is sometimes feebly indicated when the scaling is intact. *Elytra* oblong-ovate, almost parallel-sided from near the base to beyond the middle, jointly sinuate at the base and very broadly rounded behind; the striae very shallow, the punctures merely indicated through the scaling and each containing a minute recumbent seta; the intervals broad, slightly convex, finely rugose, and each with a row of recumbent pale setae; the scales slightly smaller than those on the prothorax, smooth, subcircular, very dense and closely contiguous. *Legs* with the front tibiae dilated at the apex and there armed with eight short stout spines, of which the innermost pair are very small and contiguous, and the outermost spine is more distant from the rest; the mid-tibiae with four

or five similar apical spines and two more slender ones on the inner surface in the apical half; corbels of the hind tibiæ with a single row of scales at the apex, the apical margin narrowly enclosed. *Sternum* with the mesepisterna separated from the base of the elytra.

Length $3\frac{3}{5}$ –4 mm., breadth 2 – $2\frac{1}{5}$ mm.

ZULULAND: Ndumu, i. 1914.

Like a small specimen of *P. amplicolis*, Fhs., to which it is very nearly related, but in that species the rostrum is more distinctly carinate, the hind margin of the orbit is produced beyond the eye, the sides of the prothorax are more explanate and much more strongly rounded, and its base is not marginate.

The adult beetles were found eating the leaves of the ground-nut (*Arachis hypogæa*). Received from the Division of Entomology, Pretoria.

Protostrophus spinicollis, sp. n. (Pl. I. fig. 5.)

♂ ♀. Colour black, the upper surface and the sternum clothed with dense pale green scales, those on the legs, venter, and the inflexed margins of the elytra being grey with a pale coppery reflexion, which colouring is also sometimes present on the head and pronotum.

Head separated from the rostrum by a deeply curved stria, which nearly reaches the eye on each side; the forehead flattened and on a lower level than the inner edges of the orbits, rugosely punctate (concealed by the scaling), and with a broad and deep central furrow; eyes very prominent and strongly produced backwards, moderately convex, and with the greatest depth far behind the middle, the posterior edge of the orbit not projecting. *Rostrum* unusually long and narrow, distinctly longer than its basal width, sharply narrowing from the base to the middle and thence parallel-sided to the apex; the upper surface almost flat, set with coarse shallow punctures, each containing a scale, and without any furrow or carina; the genæ simply rounded, not impressed. *Antennæ* with the first funicular joint broader and much longer than the second, which is nearly twice as long as the third. *Prothorax* broader than long, the sides gradually rounded from the apex to behind the middle and there armed with a sharp backwardly-directed tooth, behind which the sides are deeply sinuated, so that the base is scarcely wider than the apex; the basal margin rounded, with a shallow sinuation in the middle, the apical margin truncate; the upper surface strongly convex transversely

and moderately so on its long axis, finely wrinkled longitudinally (the sculpture hidden by the scaling, but the ridges showing through here and there like shiny granules), and with a broad central furrow, which is almost filled by a broad, flattened, shiny, impunctate carina. *Elytra* oval, broadest about the middle, jointly sinuate at the base, with the external angles projecting forwards into a short blunt point; when the scaling is intact the striae appear narrow and very shallow, the intervals being broad, flat, and set with minute indistinct punctures (hidden by the scaling); the scales are small, almost circular, and contiguous, but not overlapping; the setae are short, dark, scale-like, and recumbent. *Legs* with the corbels of the hind tibiae bare, and the apical margin narrowly enclosed; the front tibiae without distinct apical teeth. *Sternum* with the mesepisterna broadly meeting the elytra.

Length $3\frac{1}{4}$ –4 mm., *breadth* $1\frac{3}{5}$ –2 mm.

TRANSVAAL: Naboomspruit (*D. Anderson*).

An isolated species, distinguished by its long narrow rostrum, prominent eyes, and toothed prothorax.

Received from the Division of Entomology, Pretoria, with the information that the beetles were destroying young maize-plants.

Genus *LEUROPS*, nov.

Head broad, the forehead almost flat and with a central stria which does not quite reach the vertex; eyes quite lateral, short-oval, horizontal, and only slightly convex, the curvature being unusually low as compared with allied genera. *Rostrum* a little longer than the head, strongly narrowed from base to apex, and completely continuous with the forehead; genae not dilated; epistome small, depressed, the sides not carinate, the front margin shallowly sinuate; mandibles scaly and multisetose, with a strong median tooth, the scar almost circular and not very distinct; mentum with the basal half depressed and more or less deeply sunk in its cavity, the front half with numerous setae; scrobes very narrowly visible from above and broadly dilated behind. *Antennae* with the scape slender, abruptly clavate and reaching about the middle of the eye; funicle squamose, joint 1 much longer than 2, the remainder slightly longer than broad. *Prothorax* broadest at the base, the basal margin rounded. *Scutellum* minute. *Elytra* fitting very closely to the prothorax, their sides forming very nearly a continuous line; the dorsal longitudinal curvature very flat

and almost continuous with that of the prothorax, the lateral areas very sharply inflexed and without any humeral prominence; the surface very even and scarcely striate. *Sternum* with the gular margin sinuate, the coxæ in the middle of the prosternum, and the centro-sternite not tubercular; mesepisternum not transversely impressed at the base and separated from the elytron by the mesepimeron; metasternum between the coxæ much shorter than the mid-coxæ, and with no transverse fold in front of the hind coxæ, the metepisternum continuously narrowed behind almost to a point, its base not produced internally, and the dividing suture complete; hind coxæ extremely narrowly separated from the elytra. *Venter* with the intercoxal process distinctly narrower than the hind coxæ, and its margin gently rounded; hind margin of segment 1 very shallowly sinuate, segment 2 longer than 3 or 4. *Legs* short; the corbels of the hind tibiæ oblique, squamose, and narrowly enclosed at the extreme apex, the external fringe of setæ shortly ascending the dorsal edge of the tibia; tarsal claws connate.

There are no marked external sexual characters; the first ventral segment of the ♂ is shallowly impressed, and the last one shorter than in the ♀.

Genotype, *Leurops cana*, sp. n.

The absence of the transverse stria separating the rostrum from the forehead and the comparatively slight convexity of the eyes, combined with the oblique squamose corbels of the hind tibiæ, will readily distinguish the species of this genus from their allies.

Leurops cana, sp. n. (Pl. I. fig. 1.)

♂ ♀. Colour black, the legs black to piceous; the last tarsal joint, antennæ, mentum, and part of the mandibles dark testaceous. The scaling dense, ash-grey above and below, sometimes with an admixture of pale brownish scales above, forming a very faint, broad, central stripe on the pronotum and some broken lines on the elytra; the latter usually with traces of a whitish spot about the middle of interval 5 and another behind it on interval 3.

Head quite smooth, the fine close punctation almost entirely hidden by the scaling and the short, broad, backwardly recumbent setæ; eyes very short-oval ($3:2\frac{1}{2}$). *Rostrum* a little shorter than its basal width, almost flat above, with a shallow central impression in the anterior half containing an indistinct longitudinal carina; the upper

edge of the scape running far below the eye. *Prothorax* perfectly smooth, the punctation and clothing as on the head, and without any central stria or carina; the basal margin not carinate, the front margin straight dorsally and hardly sinuate behind the eyes, and the sides very slightly rounded. *Elytra* very broadly ovate, the transverse dorsal curve very flat; the actual apex rapidly narrowed to a rounded point, but not visible directly from above; the basal margin jointly sinuate, embracing the base of the prothorax, but not constricted or marginate; the surface quite even, with regular rows of small separated punctures, each containing a minute seta; the intervals broad and finely coriaceous (the sculpture hidden by the scaling), and bearing irregularly placed, small, recumbent, scale-like setæ, which are by no means easy to see; the suture completely hidden by the scaling.

Length 4–5 mm., *breadth* $2\frac{1}{2}$ –3 mm.

ORANGE FREE STATE: Bothaville (*Dr. H. Brauns*).

Described from seven specimens.

Leurops obesa, sp. n.

♂. Colour black, clothed with dense, uniform, ash-grey scaling; the antennæ, legs, and part of the mandibles piceous.

Very closely allied to the genotype, but differing as follows:—*Head* with the eyes more nearly circular ($3\frac{1}{4}$:3). *Rostrum* distinctly longer, a little longer than its basal width; the upper edge of the scrobe, if continued, would touch the lower margin of the eye, whereas in *L. cana* it would pass far below the eye; the scrobe itself distinctly shallower behind. *Prothorax* proportionately longer, with the front margin more deeply sinuate behind the eye.

Length 5 mm., *breadth* 3 mm.

INTERIOR OF S. AFRICA.

Described from a single male.

Leurops substriata, sp. n.

♂ ♀. Colour black, with dense scaling; the legs and antennæ piceous black. In a well-marked specimen the pattern is as follows:—Ground-colour pale grey; the upper-side of the head and rostrum light brown, except the apex of the latter and a bisinuate transverse line at its base, a central line on the forehead and a stripe above each eye,

which are grey; prothorax with a broad, dark brown, median stripe, a less distinct one on each side of it, and a narrower one on the inflexed sides; elytra with the suture narrowly light brown, and with dark brown macular stripes covering striae 1, 2, 5, and the base of 4. But some or all of these markings may be very nearly obliterated.

Also very close structurally to *L. cana*, but the eyes are decidedly more convex, and the central stria on the forehead is more concealed by the scaling; the rostrum is even shorter in proportion to its basal width, and the central carina is more raised at its base; the setæ on the head and rostrum are longer and distinctly raised, whereas in *L. cuna* they lie quite flat; the setæ on the pronotum and elytra are similarly longer and much more conspicuous; the prothorax has the basal margin narrowly carinate and less strongly rounded; the scutellum is smaller, being scarcely perceptible; the elytra bear very shallow striae (of which there is no trace in the other two species), and when abraded the punctures appear appreciably larger and more closely set.

Length 5-6 mm., breadth 3-3½ mm.

ORANGE FREE STATE: Paul Roux, 23. x. 1917 (*M. G. Ferreira*).

Described from one male and four females; received from the Division of Entomology, Pretoria, with a record that the insects were injuring maize-plants.

Genus PSEUDOBLOSYPUS, nov.

Head twice as broad as long, trisculate, the eyes very prominent. *Rostrum* subquadrate, separated from the head by a deep sinuous furrow that reaches the sides, the lower surface with two deep longitudinal furrows and a transverse basal impression; epistome well defined, the sides forming an obtuse ridge, rounded behind, the front margin deeply sinuate and shorter than one of the sides; mandibles multi-setose and without scaling, with a distinct median tooth and a sharp longitudinal carina running from the scar to the base; mentum with the anterior part convex and bearing a fringe of setæ, the posterior part flat and deeply sunk in its cavity; scrobes entirely lateral and quite invisible from above, very deep and gradually widening outwardly, the upper edge ending on a level with the lower margin of the eye. *Antennæ* with the scape gradually clavate and reaching the middle of the eye; funicle squamose, the two basal joints

of equal length. *Prothorax* transverse, the basal margin finely carinate. *Scutellum* concealed. *Elytra* subglobose, fitting closely to the prothorax, with a subhumeral prominence and irregular punctation. *Sternum* with the gular margin shallowly sinuate, the coxæ in the middle of the prosternum, the centro-sternite small and tubercular; mesepisterna narrowly separated from the elytra and with a transverse furrow at their extreme base (often hidden by the prosternum); metasternum between the coxæ distinctly shorter than the mid-coxæ and with a strong antecoxal fold, the episternum angularly produced inwards at the base, the episternal suture more or less obliterated at its apex; the hind coxæ narrowly separated from the elytra. *Venter* with the intercoxal process strongly angulated, and nearly as broad as the hind coxæ; segment 1 with a small sinuation in the middle of the hind margin, segments 2-4 subequal in length. *Legs* comparatively slender, the femora only slightly clavate; all the tibiæ with a row of five to seven stout spines along the inner edge of the apical half, the hind tibiæ with the corbels obliquely terminal, bare and distinctly enclosed; claws connate.

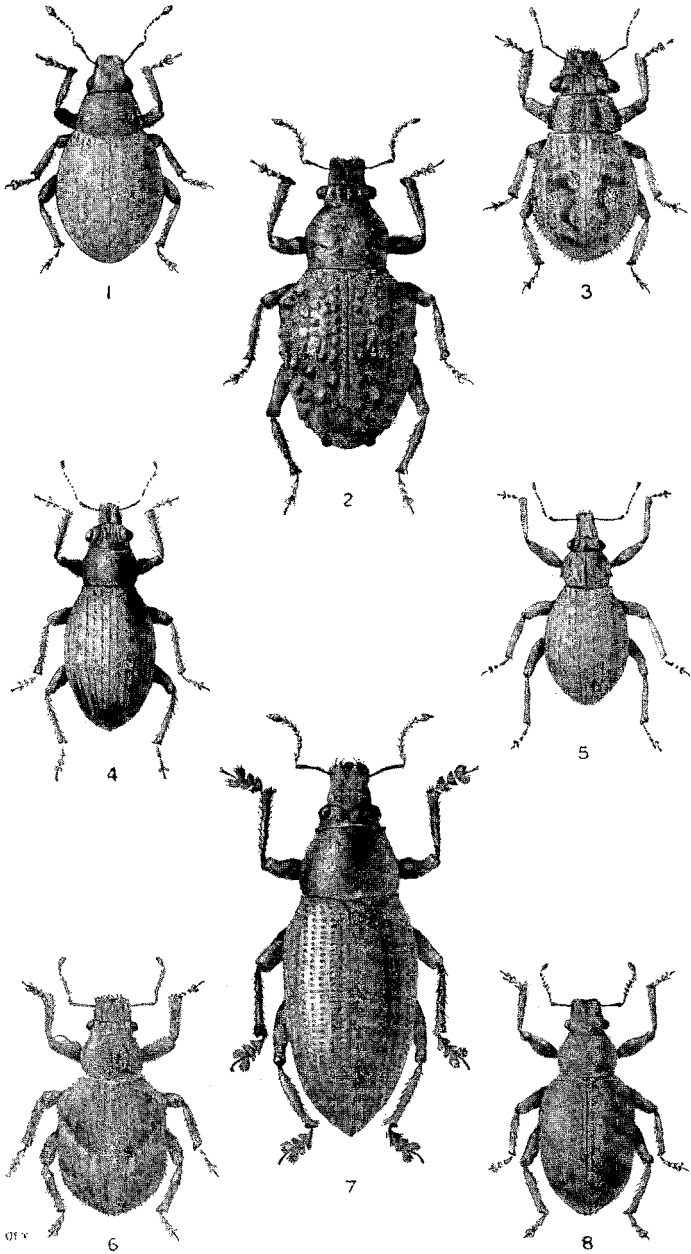
♂. The last ventral segment bears a large deep impression. Genotype, *Pseudoblosyrus sharpi*, sp. n.

Superficially just like a *Blosyrus*, but distinguished by the setose mentum, the enclosed corbels of the hind tibiæ, the angulated base of the metepisternum, and the irregularly foveate and tuberculate elytra.

Pseudoblosyrus sharpi, sp. n. (Pl. I. fig. 2).

♂ ♀. Black, not very shiny, with sparse grey scaling on the elytra and pale bluish scales on the head and pronotum.

Head with fine shallow punctation, the lateral sulci almost as deep as the central one; eyes hardly produced backwards, their greatest depth well behind the middle, the hind edge of the orbit not projecting. *Rostrum* longer than the head, about as long as broad, almost parallel-sided, somewhat flattened above, with a strong complete central costa, which bifurcates near the apex; adjoining the costa on each side a broad, deep, oblique impression, the punctation coarse, but very shallow. *Antennæ* with joints 4-6 of the funicle subequal, bead-like, a little longer than broad, and shorter than 3 and 7, which are nearly equal. *Prothorax* with the sides rather strongly rounded, broadest before the middle, the apical margin truncate, narrower than the base and quite



NEW AFRICAN CURCULIONIDÆ.

vertical laterally, the basal margin arcuate; the upper surface coarsely coriaceous, with a broad oblong median impression, the dorsal outline sloping from base to apex. *Elytra* subglobose, broadest before the middle, the dorsal outline strongly convex, deepest before the middle, the base sinuate and slightly raised laterally, the apices jointly rounded; set with shallow, irregular, more or less confluent and ill-defined foveæ, only the juxta-sutural row and those on the inflexed sides being regular; the intervals with numerous irregular, large, low, rounded tubercles, which are bare and closely and finely punctate; the small broad curved setæ are with difficulty distinguishable from the true scales.

Length 10–11 mm., breadth $5\frac{1}{2}$ –6 mm.

TRANSVAAL: Pretoria.

Types, ♂ in Dr. D. Sharp's collection, ♀ in the British Museum.

Described from 1 ♂ and 6 ♀ ♀, all of which were kindly submitted to me by Dr. Sharp, who had already recognized that in spite of its superficial resemblance to *Blosyrus* this species is really more closely allied to the Madagascar genus *Holonychus*.

Genus SYNECHOPS, nov.

Head with a central furrow which does not reach the vertex, not constricted behind the eyes, which are quite lateral and very convex. *Rostrum* strongly deflected, continuous with the forehead, oblong, the dorsal edges broadly rounded off, the lower surface parallel with the upper; epistome quite indefinite posteriorly, the apical edge deeply emarginate; mandibles multisetose, not squamose, without any median tooth or dorsal longitudinal carina, the scar subtriangular; mentum setose; scrobes narrow, deep, and squamose, the upper edge ending on a level with the lower margin of the eye, the apical portion partly visible from above. *Antennæ* with the scape rather abruptly clavate, reaching about the middle of the eye; funicle squamose, the two basal joints equal. *Prothorax* transverse, narrower in front than behind. *Scutellum* small, but distinct. *Elytra* fitting closely to the prothorax, the base not marginate, the apices jointly rounded, the shoulders rounded, the punctation irregular. *Sternum* with the gular margin truncate, the coxæ in the middle of the prosternum, the centro-sternite tubercular; mesepisterna meeting the elytra only at the

extreme base; metasternum shorter than the mid-coxæ, with a distinct antecoxal fold, the episternum produced inwards at the base, the episternal suture visible only in the basal half, the hind coxæ meeting the elytra. *Venter* with the intercoxal process angulated and narrower than the hind coxæ, the hind margin of segment 1 sinuate, and segment 2 longer than 3 and 4 together. *Legs* with the femora moderately clavate; tibiæ straight and cylindrical, not mucronate at the apex, the hind corbels open and bare; tarsi broad, the claws connate.

♂ unknown.

Genotype, *Synechops irregularis*, sp. n.

A rather isolated genus, readily distinguished by the following combination of characters: the complete absence of any dividing-line between the rostrum and forehead, the open corbels of the hind tibiæ, and the simple mandibles.

Synechops irregularis, sp. n. (Pl. I. fig. 8.)

♀. Black, with uniform, dense, sand-coloured scaling.

Head rather strongly convex transversely, shallowly impressed on each side behind the eyes, the long scale-like setæ quite recumbent; eyes nearly circular and hemispherical. *Rostrum* stout, parallel-sided, almost flat above, but with the dorsal edges gradually rounded away, with coarse confluent punctation (mostly hidden by scaling) and with a central furrow (continuous with that on the head) from the base to the middle. *Antennæ* with joints 3-7 of almost equal length, but 7 distinctly broader than the others, trapezoidal. *Prothorax* broader than long ($2\frac{5}{8} \times 2$), the sides moderately rounded, broadest a little before the middle, with a very shallow transverse impression at about one-fourth from the apex, the basal margin very gently arcuate and not raised, the apex truncate; the upper surface with coarse confluent punctation (mostly hidden by the scaling and stout recumbent setæ) and no central furrow or carina, but with some irregular impressions on each side behind the middle; the dorsal outline almost level, forming a continuous curve with that of the rostrum and head. *Elytra* oblong-ovate, rather broadly rounded behind (as seen directly from above), the basal margin gently sinuate; the dorsal outline rising from the scutellum, then almost flat, and sloping steeply behind, the apical part quite vertical; the punctation coarse and quite irregular, except for a row

along the suture and two or three on the inflexed sides ; the spaces between the punctures, where visible, shining and coriaceous ; the scales small, nearly circular, convex, and shiny ; the stout flattened setæ irregularly placed and nearly recumbent.

Length $8\frac{1}{2}$ mm., breadth $4\frac{1}{4}$ mm.

CAPE COLONY : Hex River.

Described from a single specimen.

Genus CYCHROTONUS, Pasc.*.

As a result of following Faust's interpretation of the genus *Chaunoderus*, Gerst., I sank *Cychrotonus* as a synonym of it (Proc. Zool. Soc. 1906, p. 958). It is now clear that under *Chaunoderus* Faust associated insects having two distinct types of antennal scrobes. In the genotype, *C. stupidus*, Gerst., with which I am not acquainted, the scrobes are described as being of a normal Otiorrhynchine type—superior, directed straight towards the eyes, and disappearing a little before the middle of the rostrum ; whereas in *Cychrotonus* they curve downwards in front of the eye and extend to the base of the rostrum. Of the described species of *Chaunoderus* known to me, the following must be referred to *Cychrotonus*:—*C. marginalis*, Fst., *C. subglaber*, Fst., *C. sternalis*, Hartm., and *C. apicalis*, Hartm.; whereas *C. brevicollis*, Fst., and *C. transversus*, Fst., may provisionally remain in Gerstaecker's genus.

Cychrotonus ellipticus, sp. n. (Pl. I. fig. 7.)

♂ ♀. Black or piceous, practically devoid of scaling above ; the lower surface of the head and rostrum, the sternum, and coxæ with scattered, flat, bluish scales ; the venter with numerous elongate, narrow, curved, whitish scales.

Head with rather coarse, longitudinally confluent punctation, the forehead flat, but not noticeably depressed below the vertex ; eyes rather less convex than usual, deepest in the middle and bounded internally by a deep furrow. *Rostrum* longer than broad, rather broader near the base than at the genæ, the sides sinuate in the middle ; coarsely

* Journ. Linn. Soc., Zool. xi. 1871, p. 162.

punctate, with a low broad central carina (sometimes rather ill-defined) and a narrower curved one on each side of it; set with brownish curved scale-like setæ, and sometimes with some narrow bluish scales on the apical half; scrobes with the upper margin sharply angulate close to the base. *Antennæ* with the scape distinctly curved, the funicle with joint 1 hardly longer than 2, 3-7 subequal, bead-like, and slightly broader than long. *Prothorax* broader than long (3:2), broadest at the base, strongly narrowed in front, the sides rounded, the apical angles very prominent (as seen from above), the dorsal apical margin truncate, the basal margin arcuate; the dorsal outline strongly convex transversely and slightly so longitudinally, the apex being much below the level of the base; the upper surface strongly and very closely punctate, with a faint longitudinal impression in the middle of the base, the sculpture on the inflexed sides becoming more or less plicate; the lateral portion of the apical margin carinately raised, forming an obtuse angle below the eye and a sharp projection in front of each coxa. *Scutellum* closely punctate. *Elytra* narrowly elliptical and broadest before the middle in ♂, rather broader in ♀, which has the humeral angulation scarcely perceptible, the basal margin jointly sinuate; the elytra strongly compressed behind, so that the suture is elevated on the declivity, the longitudinal outline almost flat in ♂, the apical portion dropping almost at a right angle and sinuate in profile; in the ♀ the outline slopes more from the middle to the top of the declivity; the shallow striæ with large quadrate punctures, the intervals about as broad as the striæ, finely punctate and somewhat rugulose transversely, with scattered, extremely minute, scale-like setæ, which are conspicuous only on the declivity. *Sternum*: mesosternum with a perfectly smooth shiny patch adjoining the outer sides of the mid-coxæ and standing out in contrast with the strongly sculptured surface; metasternum sparsely granulate. *Venter* very rugosely punctate and granulate, especially in the ♂, in which the first segment bears behind the coxa a deep excision, the portion between it and the elytra being smooth and shiny.

Length, ♂ $11\frac{1}{2}$ -13 mm., ♀ $10\frac{1}{2}$ mm.; breadth, ♂ $4\frac{1}{2}$ -5 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm., ♀ $4\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

BELGIAN CONGO: Kasenga, xi. 1912 (*Dr. Bequaert*).

This distinct species is specially characterised by its elongate shape, the two sharp prominences on the gular

margin of the prosternum, and the remarkable structure of the first ventral segment of the ♂.

Described from 2 ♂ ♂ and 1 ♀.

Cychrotonus decoratus, sp. n.

♂ ♀. Black or piceous, with inconspicuous and easily abraded dark scaling on the disk of the elytra, and with the following markings formed of pale metallic-green scales:—A stripe along the inner edge of each eye and the whole side of the head and rostrum; a narrow median stripe on the prothorax, a broader lateral one behind the eye, and another above the coxa; elytra with a stripe on interval 1 from behind the scutellum to about the middle, a short humeral stripe on 7 from the base to about one-third, a complete marginal stripe reaching stria 9, but broader at the apex and emitting at the middle a more or less dentate broad oblique band, which reaches the suture at the top of the declivity and is united by a sutural stripe to the apical patch; a very short isolated stripe at the apex of interval 5, and occasionally a still shorter one at the apex of 7; in the ♀ only there is a round spot at the middle of interval 3 and a trace of another on 5. The lower surface rather thinly clothed with pale greenish scales.

Head with strong, longitudinally confluent punctation, a deeply impressed line along the inner margin of the eye, and a large central fovea; eyes rather less prominent than usual, deepest in the middle. *Rostrum* a little longer than broad (7:6), parallel-sided, almost flat on the disk, coarsely and confluent punctate, with a low smooth median costa (rather broader and flatter in the ♀) which widens anteriorly, a low punctate costa forming the margin of the dorsal area, and beneath it a longitudinal impression in front of the eye. *Antennæ* with the two basal joints of the funicle equal, joints 3–7 subequal and about as long as broad, the first joint of the club narrow and subcylindrical in its basal half. *Prothorax* about as long as the apical width, the sides subparallel from the base to the middle, then gradually narrowed to the apex, the apical margin broadly sinuate (as seen from above) owing to a marked thickening behind the eye, the base very shallowly bisinuate, the longitudinal outline nearly flat; the upper surface with close shallow punctures of varying sizes, each filled with a flat scale, the median line often very shallowly impressed in the basal half. *Elytra* narrowly

ovate in the ♂, broader in the ♀, broadest before the middle, with barely a trace of a humeral prominence in the ♀, the basal margin jointly sinuate; the shallow striæ with large separated punctures; the intervals broad and with fine shallow punctation. *Sternum* rugose, but not granulate, except the mesosternum, which is finely aciculate. *Venter* with two oblique impressions on segment 1 behind the coxa in the ♂ only.

Length 8–10 mm., breadth $3\frac{3}{4}$ – $4\frac{3}{4}$ mm.

BELGIAN CONGO: Lukombe, x. 1908 (*A. Koller*).

Described from 3 ♂♂ and 3 ♀♀.

Easily distinguished from all the other known species of the genus by its striking coloration.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE I.

Fig. 1. Leurops cana, sp. n., p. 19.

Fig. 2. Pseudoblosyrus sharpi, sp. n., p. 22.

Fig. 3. Pomphus denticollis, sp. n., p. 8.

Fig. 4. Proscopus marginatus, sp. n., p. 13.

Fig. 5. Protostrophus spinicollis, sp. n., p. 17.

Fig. 6. Bradybamon swalei, sp. n., p. 10.

Fig. 7. Cychrotonus ellipticus, sp. n., ♂, p. 25.

Fig. 8. Synechops irregularis, sp. n., p. 24.

II.—*On Lacerta praticola*, *Eversm.* By L. A. LANTZ and O. CYRÉN.

BOETTGER remarks, in his account of the reptiles collected in the Talysh by G. Radde and H. Leder*, that the two specimens of *Lacerta praticola* examined by him differ from Western Caucasian specimens in having five pairs of chin-shields instead of six, two instead of three forming a median suture. The author thinks it would be possible to establish a local variety, should this character be found to be constant.

This is indeed the case, as appears from our examination of a larger material collected in the same country. We found only isolated specimens—from the Talysh † as well as from the Western Caucasus ‡—with five chin-shields on

* Radde, 'Fauna u. Flora d. südwestl. Caspigebietes,' Leipzig, 1886, p. 37.

† One specimen out of 21.

‡ One specimen out of 43.