

XLVIII.—Note on two Species of Lucanoid Coleoptera, allied to *Cladognathus bison*. By CHARLES O. WATERHOUSE.

THE British Museum has recently acquired an interesting series of Coleoptera from the Salomon Islands, collected by Mr. C. M. Woodford. Among them is a fine series of a *Cladognathus* allied to *C. bison*. In the Museum collection there is a good series of another species from Cape York, Torres Straits (Thursday I., Murray I., and Cornwallis I.), and New Guinea. These three species closely resemble each other in general form and colour; but *C. bison* is easily distinguished from the two others by its having reddish-yellow spots on all the femora and often on the sternum. The two other species are extremely alike, with nearly uniformly coloured legs; those from the Salomon Islands, however, have the femora more castaneous than the species from Torres Straits.

I am in doubt which of these two species is to be referred to *C. cinctus*, Montr., from Woodlark I.; but the proximity of Woodlark I. to the Salomons, and the fact that Montrouzier states that the large males of *C. cinctus* have five or six teeth on the inner side of the mandibles, incline me to believe that the Salomon-Islands species is the true *C. cinctus*. The species from Torres Straits I propose to call *C. limbatus*.

*Cladognathus limbatus*, n. sp.

General form and colour of *C. bison*; nearly black, with the elytra and sometimes the thorax dark pitchy brown. The larger males with the sides of the thorax yellowish (with a black spot in the middle of the yellow); the smallest males and the females with a reddish-yellow crescent-shaped mark at the sides. The elytra with a broad margin of yellow, as in *C. bison*, but narrowed at the extreme apex as it approaches the suture. Legs black. The large males have two teeth beyond the middle of the mandibles, with the apex furcate; the smaller males have the mandibles serrate. Thorax with the posterior angles sinuate.

♂. Length (with the mandibles) 10–24 lines.

♀.       "                               "               11½–16 "

This species differs from *C. bison* in having the legs uniform black. The mandibles of the large males have much fewer teeth, and the yellow band of the elytra narrows as it reaches the suture. The large triangular tooth at the base of the mandibles appears also to be much more simple.

The species from the Salomon Islands, which I believe to be the true *C. cinctus*, differs from *C. limbatus* in the males



having the yellow marginal band of the elytra not narrowed at the apex. The large males have four or five teeth beyond the middle of the mandibles (besides the apical furcation); the large triangular tooth at the base of the mandibles is relatively longer, straight on its inner margin (not curved in at its apex), and denticulate. The females are very difficult to distinguish from those of *C. limbatus*; the lines of punctures on the elytra are, however, more distinct. The metasternum is dull in both species; in *C. limbatus* there are numerous shallow horseshoe punctures, which become crowded together at the side next to the epipleura. In *C. cinctus* these punctures are more sharply defined and round, and not confluent, except perhaps a single line next to the epipleura.

In the late Major Parry's Catalogue of Lucanidæ (Trans. Ent. Soc. Lond. 1864, p. 22) there is the following note respecting *C. cinctus*:—

"This species is also, according to Mr. Wallace, found in the islands of New Guinea, Ki, and Arou, and must be considered as very questionably distinct from *C. bison*, differing in having the four posterior femora black beneath, and the anterior with a small rufous spot, whereas in *C. bison* the rufous patch exists on all the femora."

Two examples from Major Parry's collection are now in the British Museum; one of these (from Cape York) is *C. limbatus*, the other (without locality) is a variety of *C. bison*. The statement that *C. cinctus* differs from *C. bison* in having a red spot only on the front femora appears to have arisen from a misunderstanding of Montrouzier's description. He mentions no red spot, but "une tache fauve, doré sur le devant des cuisses antérieures," which clearly refers to a spot of golden pubescence, usual on the *front* of the femora, and not to a red spot on the back of the femur.

XLIX.—*Descriptions of two new Species of Coptengis (Coleoptera, Erotylidæ).* By CHARLES O. WATERHOUSE.

THE British Museum has received two species of the genus *Coptengis* which appear to be undescribed, and for which I propose the names *C. Curtisii* and *C. Melvilli*.

*Coptengis Curtisii.*

Purpureo-cuprascens, nitidissimus, immaculatus; pedibus viridicæneis.

Long. 19–22 millim.

This species is closely allied to *C. Sheppardi*, but is distinguished at once by its totally different colouring (being of