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distinctly punctured; pitchy yellow, the extreme base black, the apical two thirds blackish fuscous, with a sublateral pitchy-yellow stripe (emitted from basal yellow portion), not extended to the apex. The apical spines of the tibiæ and the claws nearly black.

Hab. Antananarivo (*Mr. Kingdon*).

Leptocerinæ.

Leptocera lineatopunctata, n. sp.

Nigra; thorace crebre fortiter punctato, lineis quatuor albo-pilosis; elytris obscure cyaneis vel purpureis, fortiter lineato-punctatis, apice truncato, sutura alba.

Long. $4\frac{1}{2}$ –5 lin.

Head closely and very strongly punctured, with white pile on the sides of the face and cheeks. Thorax subcylindrical, very slightly narrowed in front and at the base, densely and strongly punctured; with four narrow white silky streaks above. Elytra not very much narrowed posteriorly, obscure purple or deep steel-blue, with lines of very strong punctures; the punctures are rather smaller towards the apex; the apex of each elytron is truncate, the outer angle being slightly dentiform. The mesothoracic epimera and the metathoracic parapleuræ are pitchy. The femora are rather strongly clavate.

Hab. Antananarivo (*Mr. Kingdon*).

This species is allied to *L. humeralis*.

XXXIX.—*New Neotropical Curculionidæ*.—Part I.

By FRANCIS P. PASCOE, F.L.S. &c.

As a large number of undescribed Tropical-American Curculionidæ are to be found in collections, I purpose to describe some of the more remarkable, though not necessarily those most distinguished for size or beauty. My own collection contains a goodly number derived from various sources, especially from Parana, a province south of Rio de Janeiro, and very little known entomologically, forming part of the collection of the late lamented Mr. W. W. Saunders, and obtained, I believe, by Mr. Chesterton. There are also many species from Mr. Bates (Para and the Amazon valley), Mr. Buckley (Ecuador), Mr. E. Bartlett (Eastern Peru), Mr. E. Janson (Chontales), and others, including a large number from M. James Thomson's collection, chiefly from French collectors

in Guiana, Columbia, Panama, Mexico, &c. These latter bear in many cases the MS. names of MM. Buquet, Laferté, Chevrolat, Jekel, and the Comte Dejean.

Of late years the only descriptions of these New-World tropical insects are those of Dr. Kirsch, and MM. Chevrolat and Jekel; but they are not very numerous.

The species described in this part, and the subfamily to which they belong, are:—

BRACHYDERINÆ.

Platyomus ostracion.

Curiades, n. g. for *Platyomus* Boisduali, Boh.

Cyphus effusus.

— *sigillatus*.

Trichaptus, n. g. for *Rhigus* myrmosarius, Perty.

Ericydeus, n. g. for *Cyphus* Hancockii, Kirby.

Compsus vestalis.

— *mirandus*.

Compsus virgineus.

— *vespertinus*.

— *euchloris*.

Eustales coruscus.

— *cometes*.

— *stellaris*.

— *sejunctus*.

— *interruptus*.

— *impositus*.

Brachyomus metallescens.

Clæoteges, n. g.

— *virosus*.

Platyomus ostracion.

P. oblongus, densissime supra umbrino-, lateraliter albedo-squamulosus; prothorace cylindrico, elongato; scutello oblongo, postice ampliato; elytris bifariam seriatim punctatis, lineis tribus elevatis tuberculatis instructis; apicibus mucronatis. Long. 9 lin.

Hab. Brazil.

Oblong, closely covered above with umber-brown scales, the sides and beneath whitish; rostrum much broader at the apex, a short median line extending to a fovea on the front; antennæ stout, setulose, the club small, brown; prothorax cylindrical, much longer than broad, deeply and irregularly pitted; scutellum narrow and linear anteriorly, expanded behind; elytra broadest at the shoulder, abruptly declivous behind, the sides moderately rounded, strongly punctured in double rows, the raised lines between, but not extending, except the first, to the declivous portion, tuberculate, the first or inner line with the tubercles more strongly developed, the last tubercle spiniform and horizontal; legs setulose, brownish, mottled.

Allied to *P. niveus*, but narrower, less strongly tuberculate, and differently coloured.

CURIADES.

Rostrum breviusculum, apice leviter emarginatum, supra ad frontem late et profunde excavatum. *Scapus* antennarum brevis, apicem versus incrassatus, ad marginem posticum oculi vix attingens. *Prothorax* parvus, transversus. *Elytra* ampliata, pilis longis-

simis erectis obteeta. *Abdomen* sutura prima angulata. *Corpus* pilosum.

This genus is proposed for *Platyomus Boisduvali*, Boh., a very remarkable hairy form, which, as a *Platyomus*, has long been an opprobrium to our classification. The characters which separate it from that genus, however, are, when viewed in relation to the heterogeneity of its species, somewhat feeble; the principal relate to the rostrum, which is only slightly emarginate at the tip, and is deeply and broadly excavated as far as the eyes, the boundaries of the hollow on each side being raised into a prominent ridge or crest. One thing is quite certain, that this species has only a very distant affinity with any *Platyomus*.

Cyphus effusus.

C. ovatus, dense cretaceo-squamulosus, supra viridescenti-undulatus; prothorace transverso; elytris irregularibus, apicibus rotundatis, haud productis. Long. $6\frac{1}{2}$ lin.

Hab. Macas.

Ovate, covered with cretaceous scales, tinted above with pale green arranged in waved crossed bands; head, antennæ, and legs spotted with black setulose scales; rostrum deeply excavated between the antennæ, an impressed line continued to the head; prothorax very short, the sides, except at the apex, nearly parallel, a broad excavation along the base; scutellum triangular; elytra uneven, owing to the irregularity of the raised interstitial lines, the intervals with a double row of impressed punctures, the apices rounded and not produced. Body beneath with a pale greenish tinge.

This and the following species differ from the rest of the genus in having a very short prothorax, with the sides, except just at the apex, parallel.

Cyphus sigillatus.

C. ovatus, dense cretaceo-squamulosus, pone medium elytrorum fascia maculata et maculis duabus posticis notatus; prothorace transverso; elytris supra paulo depressis, apicibus rotundatis haud productis. Long. $6\frac{1}{2}$ lin.

Hab. Para.

Ovate, covered with cretaceous scales, having a very slight tint of green or grey; head, antennæ, and legs spotted with black setulose scales; rostrum broadly excavated between the antennæ, an impressed line continued to the head; prothorax very short, nearly parallel at the sides, but a little contracted anteriorly, a broad excavation along the base; scutellum triangular; elytra rather short, depressed above, the interstices scarcely raised, the punctures small, in not very regular lines,

the apices rounded and not produced, behind the middle a band of black spots, those near the suture partially coalescing, an irregular spot posteriorly, and a smaller one near the shoulder.

Allied to *C. effusus*, but different in coloration and sculpture of the elytra. The difference between *Cyphus* and *Platyomus* is not well marked. Germar included the species known to him under the former name; and both genera contain species which, from their outward appearance, would not be supposed to have any generic affinity. *Compsus* was first separated as a genus from *Platyomus* by Lacordaire; among other minor characters, it is best distinguished by the mucronate anterior tibiæ. To *Cyphus* I refer those forms which have the rostrum not enlarged at the tip as in *Platyomus*, lateral scrobes, and a more slender scape. A remarkable form bearing a strong resemblance to a *Mutilla* (Hymenoptera) was proposed to be generically separated by Germar under the name of *Trichaptus*; but the genus was never published. It was first described as a *Rhigus* by Perty (*R. myrmosarius*). It is, I think, a far better genus than many others whose claims have never been questioned. The following are its principal characters:—

TRICHAPTUS.

Caput transversum. *Rostrum* breviusculum, capite multo angustius; scrobe ab insertione antennæ, transversa, oculum tangente. *Prothorax* gibbosus, basi quam medio angustior. *Elytra* elevata, valde convexa. *Cætera* ut in *Cypho*.

The essential character of this genus is in the direction of the scrobe, which, beginning near the mouth, takes a sudden bend and passes transversely beneath the eye, which, indeed, forms part of its upper boundary. The only species was subsequently named by Boheman *Cyphus Linnei*, after "the first of naturalists, past, present, and future." But, then, this was in 1833.

There is another species which, as Lacordaire has pointed out, should be also separated from *Cyphus*. It is the *Cyphus Hancockii* of Kirby, one of the handsomest of the Curculionidæ. It differs in having the anterior tibiæ mucronate as in *Compsus*, and in the grooved lower and hind margin of the posterior and intermediate tibiæ, which is also densely ciliated. The principal characters of this genus, for which I propose the name of *Ericydeus*, are as follows:—

ERICYDEUS.

Caput haud latius rostro. *Antennæ* articulo primo funiculi perbrevis. *Tibiæ* anticæ mucronatæ, intermediæ et posticæ extus

apicem versus inciso-sulcatæ, ciliatæ. *Coxæ* posticæ magis approximatæ. Cætera ut in *Cypho*.

Compsus vestalis.

C. oblongus, squamulis albis, aliis læte viridibus intermixtis, densissime vestitus; capite, antennis pedibusque squamulis aureo-opalescentibus tectis; rostro in medio lineato-impresso; scapo valido. Long. $6\frac{1}{2}$ lin.

Hab. Macas.

Oblong, closely covered with white mixed with bright green scales, the whole apparently pale green; head, antennæ, and legs opalescent, covered with golden scales having a slight rose tint; scape of the antennæ rather short, stout; head and rostrum with a slightly impressed median line; prothorax slightly broader than long, the sides not rounded, sparsely punctured, a shallow longitudinal impression, the base bisinuate; scutellum small, roundish; elytra a little broader behind the middle, the apices divaricate, striate-punctate, the interstices raised, the punctures double-rowed.

In coloration agreeing to a certain extent with *C. auricephalus* (Say), but, *inter alia*, without the slender scape of the latter.

Compsus mirandus.

C. elongato-ovatus, squamulis læte aureo-viridibus, maculis denu-
datis nigris elytrorum exceptis, dense tectus; rostro modice robusto; elytris postice angustatis, singulatim apice productis. Long. 7 lin.

Hab. Columbia.

Narrowly ovate, covered above and beneath with rich golden-green scales, the vertex with two, the elytra with several round black naked spots; antennæ slender, the funicle rather long, the club darker; prothorax longer than broad, the base bisinuate; scutellum expanded behind; elytra not much produced at the shoulders, narrower posteriorly, each ending in a prolonged apex; knees and tibiæ with a slight bluish tint.

A handsome species, with no near ally, so far as I know, except the preceding.

Compsus virgineus.

C. oblongus, densissime cretaceo-squamosus; antennis, genibus tarsisque pallide cæruleis; scutello transverso; elytris bifariam seriatim punctatis. Long. $7\frac{1}{2}$ lin.

Hab. Trinidad (Peru).

Oblong, densely covered above and beneath with pure

chalky-white scales; the antennæ, knees, and tarsi with a pale bluish tint; rostrum with a fine impressed longitudinal line; antennæ slender, the club blackish; prothorax slightly transverse, a few scattered irregular punctures; scutellum subquadrate, transverse; elytra convex, a double row of small punctures between each raised interstice, the apices slightly produced, divaricate.

Among the white members of the genus this species may be distinguished by its subquadrate transverse scutellum, convex elytra, and purer colours.

Compsus vespertinus.

C. sat late oblongus, haud depressus, squamulis albidis dense tectus; rostro capiteque supra et medio prothoracis pedibusque, basi femorum excepta, læte aureo-cupreis; antennis tenuibus; scutello oblongo. Long. 8 lin.

Hab. Sarayacu, Chamicuros.

Rather broadly oblong, not depressed above, covered with nearly pure white scales; rostrum and head above, middle of the prothorax and legs, except the bases of the femora, more or less of a bright copper with a golden tint; antennæ slender, darker towards the club; rostrum with a deep impression in the middle, and another on each side; prothorax above equal in length and breadth, irregularly and sparsely punctured, bisinuate at the base; scutellum oblong; elytra convex, a double row of moderate-sized punctures between each raised interstice, the apices produced, scarcely divaricate.

In one of my specimens the copper-colour does not extend to the prothorax. *C. lacteus* (Fab.), depressed above, with blue legs &c., may be considered an ally.

Compsus euchloris.

C. elongato-ovatus, densissime læte viridi-squamosus; rostro supra convexo, integro; scutello minuto; elytris seriatim punctatis, postice bituberosis, apicibus paulo productis. Long. 8 lin.

Hab. Sarayacu.

Oblong ovate, closely covered with fine, mostly opaque, pure green scales, but with numerous golden scales intermixed; antennæ and tarsi cobalt-blue; rostrum convex above, without any impressed line; antennæ slender; prothorax rather longer than broad, irregularly pitted above; scutellum very small; elytra a little flattish above, each with a well-marked gibbosity posteriorly, the apices slightly produced, linearly punctate, the punctures small and shallow.

In form resembling *C. mirandus*, but, *inter alia*, without the black naked spots on the elytra.

Eustales coruscus.

E. elongato-ovatus, squamulis aureo-viridibus fere omnino dense tectus; pedibus rostroque in medio cæruleis; elytris postice sat abrupte declivibus, apicibus acutis haud productis. Long. $5\frac{1}{2}$ lin.

Hab. Macas.

Narrowly ovate; body almost entirely covered with rich golden-green scales; antennæ, median line on the head, continued partially on the prothorax, and legs, except the base of the femora, cobalt-blue, club of the antennæ with a greyish pubescence; rostrum not carinate; prothorax about equal in length and breadth, rounded at the sides, the anterior half with a deep longitudinal impression and a shallow V-shaped depression posteriorly, the base straight; scutellum small; rounded, blackish, pubescent; elytra rather strongly punctured, not striated, slightly depressed above and rather abruptly declivous posteriorly, and without gibbosities, the apices pointed but not produced.

Allied to *E. opulentus*, Boh., which, *inter alia*, has the rostrum and legs gold-coloured, and the base of the prothorax bisinuate. It differs from the following in the colour of its legs, the absence of gibbosities on the elytra, &c.

Eustales cometes.

E. elongato-ovatus, squamulis aureo-viridibus omnino dense tectus; scutello nigro, triangulari; elytris postice sat subito declivibus, singulatim gibbosis. Long. 5 lin.

Hab. Macas.

Narrowly ovate, entirely covered, except the scutellum, with bright golden-green scales, including the antennæ, but the club black; rostrum not carinate; prothorax rather longer than broad, slightly bisinuate at the base, the disk with three punctiform depressions; scutellum triangular, black; elytra broadest at the shoulders, depressed above, strongly punctured, declivous, each with a well-marked gibbosity posteriorly; the apices slightly divaricate.

This and the preceding are very brilliantly coloured species; under the lens purely golden scales are seen amongst the green ones.

Eustales stellaris.

E. elongato-ovatus, nitide niger, maculis aureo-viridibus adpersus; rostro sat elongato, in medio linea paulo elevata; elytris modice convexis, regularibus. Long. $5\frac{3}{4}$ lin.

Hab. Panama.

Narrowly ovate, glossy black, spotted with small pure green

scales, collected mostly on the spaces between the punctures; legs and antennæ dark violet; rostrum rather long, with a slightly elevated longitudinal line; prothorax manifestly longer than broad, considerably narrower in front, the sides rounded, roughly punctured above; scutellum small, triangular; elytra regularly but not strongly convex, with fine lines of punctures, the apices very slightly divergent; body beneath glossy black, the sides and base of the femora covered with bright green scales.

A very distinct species, resembling a slender *Otiorhynchus*.

Eustales sejunctus.

E. oblongus, læte viridi-squamosus, supra lineis abbreviatis nigris denudatis notatus; rostro carina triangulari instructo; scutello rotundato. Long. 6 lin.

Hab. Brazil.

Oblong, partially covered with green scales, leaving on the upper surface oblong black glossy lines without scales; the head with three, the prothorax with five such lines, one on each side running through the eye and continuous with one on the prothorax; on the elytra the lines are uninterrupted and irregular; rostrum with a flattish carina, broader below and gradually running to a fine point between the eyes; prothorax subcylindrical, flattish above, with two large median impressions; scutellum roundish; elytra broadest behind the middle, depressed above, linearly punctate, the punctures much coarser at the base, posteriorly the fifth and seventh interstices raised, apices divaricate.

This and the following species are remarkable for the naked interrupted spaces on the upper surface. The club of the antennæ, as in many others of their allies, is black.

Eustales interruptus.

E. angustus, læte viridi-squamosus, supra partim nigro-denudatus; rostro in medio triangulariter impresso; elytris apicem versus paulo ampliatis. Long. 4 lin.

Hab. Macas.

Narrowly oblong, partially covered with green scales, a few cobalt-blue, leaving on the upper surface oblong black patches without scales; rostrum with a triangular median impression, and on each side a short deep line; prothorax subcylindrical, longer than broad, two strongly marked depressions on the disk, and on the sides several coarse punctures; scutellum oblong; elytra rounded at the shoulders, depressed above, towards the apex slightly expanded, very

coarsely punctured, two rounded elevations posteriorly, apices divaricate.

A narrower species than the last; the naked black patches less definite, and absent on the head.

Eustales impositus.

E. elongato-ovatus, albo-squamosus, maculis irregularibus nitide nigro-fuscis denudatis variegatus; rostro carinato; elytris valde convexis. Long. 5 lin.

Hab. Chontales.

Elongate-ovate, varied above with more or less confluent patches of white scales on a glossy brownish-black naked derm; rostrum strongly carinate; prothorax slightly transverse, well rounded at the sides, subbisinuate at the base; scutellum triangular; elytra regularly convex, rounded at the sides, apices divergent, irregularly punctured, except towards the suture, punctures small, mostly filled in by the scales; body beneath with a naked brown longitudinal stripe; legs closely covered with small whitish scales.

An isolated species.

Brachyomus metallescens.

B. elongato-ovatus, squamulis cupreo-metallicis variis tectus; prothorace elongato, cylindrico; elytris postice bituberculatis. Long. 7 lin.

Hab. Sarayacu.

Elongate-ovate, covered with minute copper-coloured scales and a few scattered golden-green ones above and on the legs, golden-green scales more numerous beneath; rostrum slightly excavated in the middle, a short impressed line on each side; antennæ slender, dull purplish; prothorax much longer than broad, cylindrical, irregularly and somewhat transversely pitted above; scutellum small, rounded; elytra coarsely punctured, abruptly declivous behind, declivity marked by two large slightly compressed conical tubercles; legs rather slender.

This species differs from the *Brachyomi* generally in its cylindrical prothorax. I do not think that this is here sufficient to warrant generic separation. The genus is remarkable for being "exhumerate."

CLEOTEGES.

Rostrum modice elongatum, apice latius, supra angulare; *scrobæ* profundæ, arcuatæ, pone oculos desinentes. *Antennæ* articulis duobus primis funiculi subæqualibus. *Prothorax* margine postico

dilatato. *Elytra* prothorace multo latiora. *Femora* infra dentata. *Abdomen* segmento primo recto.

In all these characters this genus differs from *Compsus*, *Eustales*, and their allies. The anterior tibiæ are produced at the apex, but not into a naked mucro, as in *Compsus*; and in this respect it agrees with *Platyomus*.

Clæoteges virosus.

C. ovatus, squamis fuscis approximatis, aliis in maculis adpersis parvis viridibus, tectus; scutello majusculo, transverso. Long. $5\frac{1}{2}$ lin.

Hab. Chontales.

Ovate, covered with approximate brownish scales, much darker on the back, and on which are a few small scattered pure green spots; the sides, legs, and under surface more or less obscurely blotched with pale brown and green; rostrum flattish above, the sides between the eye and the beginning of the scrobe bent down at an angle; antennæ with a rather short funicle, greenish, the club dark; prothorax narrow anteriorly, rounded at the sides, the basal portion suddenly expanded at the sides against the elytra, the disk coarsely granulate; scutellum rather large, transverse; elytra flattish above, raised on each side of the scutellum, transversely punctured, the interstices, except the third, scarcely raised, the third terminating abruptly at the deflexed portion in a short compressed gibbosity, below which is another, but smaller, on the fifth interstice, the apices mucronate at the suture.

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The Geological Antiquity of Insects.—Twelve Papers on Fossil Entomology. By HERBERT GOSS, F.L.S. 8vo. London: Van Voorst, 1880.

THE subject of Fossil Entomology is certainly one which has not attracted many investigators. In this country scarcely any one hitherto seems to have devoted any continuous attention to fossil insects; and even on the continent the students of insect-remains are so few that the more important of them might almost be counted on the fingers of one hand. This is due, no doubt, to a considerable extent, to the fact that the occurrence of fossil insects is exceedingly sporadic: beds containing such objects occur only here and there; and when they turn up in quantity, the specimens obtained