

THE FLORA AND FAUNA OF NUYT'S ARCHIPELAGO AND  
THE INVESTIGATOR GROUP.  
NO. 4—COLEOPTERA.

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*Contribution from the South Australian Museum.*

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PLATE XIII.

The small but interesting collection of Coleoptera here dealt with was obtained on the islands by Prof. F. Wood Jones, and presented to the South Australian Museum. As he was specially interested in the mammals, and had but a short time on each island, the time available to collect insects was always small, and those obtained are mostly sand-frequenting species, taken on or near beaches, and usually of wide distribution in Australia; even the new species, at present known only from the islands, will probably be eventually found on the mainland. Some of the *Tenebrionidae* were sent to Mr. H. J. Carter, for his opinion, and his descriptions of two new species are incorporated.

CARABIDAE.

*Ectroma benefica*, Newm. Numerous specimens of a pale variety of this species were obtained in rats' nests on Franklin Island.

*Scopodes sigillatus*, Germ. Six unusually small specimens were taken on Franklin Island.

*Lecanomerus flavocinctus*, Blackb. Flinders Island.

STAPHYLINIDAE.

*Hyperomma lacertinum*, Fvl. This curious wingless species was previously known only from King George Sound. Prof. Wood Jones took one specimen on Franklin Island and Sir J. C. Verco another on St. Francis Island.

SCYDMAENIDAE.

*Scydmaenus franklinensis*, n. sp.

♂. Bright castaneous, palpi and tarsi paler. Head and prothorax (except in middle) with fairly long and somewhat golden, or pale reddish hairs, similar but sparser hairs on elytra, but fairly numerous about base; under-surface with short pubescence.

Head rather small; with sparse and small, but (when not concealed by clothing) sharply defined punctures. Eyes small

and prominent. Antennae rather long and thin; club four-jointed, its first joint scarcely longer than the preceding one but distinctly wider, apical joint almost as long as two preceding combined. Prothorax moderately long, front parts gently convex, flattened about base, each side of base with a transverse semidouble fovea; with minute scattered punctures. Elytra subovate, widest just before the middle, where they are about twice the width of prothorax, a fairly large impression on each side of base; with sparse, indistinct punctures. Subapical segment of abdomen incurved in middle of apex, the incurvature bounded on each side by a slight projection. Front femora stout, the middle and hind ones pedunculate, front trochanters dentate. Length, 1.25-1.5 mm.

♀. Differs in having antennae shorter, elytra shorter and wider, abdomen simple, front trochanters unarmed, and front tibiae thinner and less curved at the tip.

*Hab.*—South Australia: Franklin Island (Prof. F. Wood Jones). Type, I. 15360.

Almost the exact size of *S. parramattensis*, but more uniformly coloured, clothing different and club thinner; about the length of *S. brevipilis*, but narrower, club thinner and elytral clothing different. Of the species previously known from South Australia, *S. depressus* is much smaller, with wider elytra, shorter antennae, etc.; *S. griffithi* and *S. fuscipalpis* are much smaller, narrower, and darker, etc., and *S. impavidus* has wider and glabrous elytra, etc. From some directions the hairs appear to form a loose fascicle on each side at the base of the head. When viewed at a right angle the armature of the male abdomen is inconspicuous, but when viewed from in front the projections appear as small subconical tubercles.

#### DERMESTIDAE.

*Dermestes cadaverinus*, Fab. Franklin Island.

*D. vulpinus*, Fab. Franklin Island.

#### SCARABAEIDAE.

*Pimelopus dubius*, Blackb. Franklin Island.

*P. porcellus*, Er. Flinders Island.

#### TENEBRIONIDAE.

*Saragus posidonius* Carter, n. sp

Oval, convex, nitid black, oral organs, antennae and tarsi castaneous.

Head finely punctate, antennae with joint 3 half as long again as 4, 8-11 as wide as long; epistoma a little incurved in

front. Prothorax moderately convex, subtruncate at apex between the widely rounded anterior angles, foliate margins wide, sides arcuately diverging from apex to base, posterior angles produced and falcate; disc minutely punctate, the foliation concave with a strongly recurved border. Elytra almost as wide as long ( $9 \times 8$  mm.), convex, horizontal margin moderately wide at base, narrowing at apex; irregularly, coarsely substriate-punctate, both rows, and punctures in rows closely placed, the punctures smaller and sometimes discontinuous near suture, larger and more regular towards sides, each 4 rows bounded by a costate interval, with a less raised and more irregular costa half-way between each of these—the suture also costate—a lateral row of larger punctures, the explanate margins slightly wrinkled. Prosternum and episterna finely pustulose, abdomen striolate. Legs moderately long, tibiae with margins entire, terminal spines short, fore tarsi with basal joints wide. *Dimensions*,  $12 \times 8$  mm.

*Hab.*—Neptune Island.

Two examples show a species nearest to *S. carinatus*, Breme, but of smaller size and stronger sculpture. In convexity and style of sculpture it is suggestive of *S. brunripes*, Boisd., but the punctures are coarser, the costae more pronounced, and the foliation of pronotum and elytra wider than in that species. The name suggests its habitat. Type, I. 15356.

### **Saragus oleatus Carter, n. sp.**

Pl. xiii., fig. 1.

Widely oval, convex, brilliantly nitid black, oral organs, antennae and tarsi castaneous.

Head minutely, sparsely punctate, epistoma truncate, antennae with joint 3 proportionately shorter than in *posidonius*. Prothorax very convex and mirror like, apex narrowly arcuate, the anterior angles more squarely rounded, the posterior more acute, the foliate margins narrower and more deeply hollowed, the sides less strongly arched, the recurved border considerably thicker than in the preceding species; disc submicroscopically punctate. Elytra nearly as wide as long ( $8 \times 7\frac{1}{4}$  mm.), very convex, lateral margin narrower than in the preceding; coarsely and unevenly striate-punctate, the 4 sutural rows of large punctures on each tending to confluence, rows 5 and 6, also 7 and 8, delimited by three costate intervals; beyond these the seriate punctures uneven in size, the intervals irregularly convex, the suture carinate throughout; a lateral row of large punctures. Prosternum finely pustulose at sides, abdomen striolate. Legs shorter than in *S. posidonius*. *Dimensions*,  $11 \times 7\frac{1}{4}$  mm.

*Hab.*—Pearson Island. Type, I. 15357.



I have examined three examples of this species, which is more closely allied to *S. brunnipes*, Boi., than the preceding, but with a similar style of sculpture. It is remarkable for the apparently highly *varnished* surface, its polished and convex pronotum, coarsely punctate elytra with its irregular series and costate intervals. Wider and more convex than *S. brunnipes*; it is narrower and less convex than *S. sphaeroides* and *S. frenchi*.

*Saragus brunnipes*, Boi. Four specimens from South Neptune Island represent a rather coarsely punctate variety of this species. The species was also taken on Black Rocks.

*Pterohelaeus simplicicollis*, Blackb. One specimen from Franklin Island, and another from St. Francis Island, identified by Mr. Carter as probably belonging to this species.

*P. nitidissimus*, Pasc. A single specimen from Flinders Island noted by Mr. Carter as having seriate punctures on elytra a little larger than on the typical form.

*P. ovalis*, Blackb. St. Francis Island.

*Helaeus modicus*, Blackb. A very interesting series of 33 specimens was taken on Franklin Island, ranging in length from 18 to 25 mm. Of these 14 have the curved portion on the left of the apex of the thorax on top of the right portion, and 16 have the right on top of the left; the difference is not sexual; on three the curved parts do not touch, being separated about half a millimetre. The species was also taken on Goat Island (pl. xiii., fig. 2).

*H. castor*, Pasc. Franklin Island.

*Brises duboulayi*, Bates. Franklin Island.

*Micrectyche nana*, Pasc. A specimen from Franklin Island, identified by Mr. Carter as probably belonging to this species.

*Caedimorpha heteromera*, King. Black Rocks, St. Francis, Flinders, and Franklin Islands.

*Hyocis bakewelli*, Pasc., var. *pallida*, Macl. St. Francis Island.

*Trachyscelis ciliaris*, Champ. Franklin, Eyre, and Flinders Islands.

*Cestrinus aspersus*, Blackb. Franklin Island.

#### ANTHICIDAE.

##### *Anthicus strigosus*, n. sp.

Pl. xiii., fig. 3.

Head and prothorax dark reddish-brown, elytra almost black, legs, antennae and palpi more or less reddish, tarsi paler. Elytra moderately clothed with pale, subdepressed pubescence.

Head moderately large, parallel-sided for a short distance behind eyes, and then hind angles rather strongly rounded; with crowded and small punctures, many of which are longitudinally confluent; with a narrow and continuous shining median line. Eyes small, medio-lateral and very prominent. Antennae rather long. Prothorax very little longer than wide, sides strongly rounded, but suddenly narrowed near base; densely and finely longitudinally strigose. Elytra elongate-elliptic, shoulders completely rounded off; with not very dense and rather small, but sharply defined punctures, becoming very small posteriorly. Legs moderately long. Length, 2-2.25 mm.

*Hab.*—South Australia: Port Lincoln (Rev. T. Blackburn), Eyre Island (Prof. F. Wood Jones). Type, I. 15278.

The prothorax is deeply striated and the head has a shining median line as in *A. intricatus*, but it is larger than that species and very differently coloured; the elytra at first appear to be uniformly coloured, but in certain lights the base and a postmedian space appear to be very feebly diluted with red. The apical half of the femora is darker than the basal half, on the specimen from the island being distinctly infuscated. The species is probably apterous.

A specimen from the Swan River (taken by Mr. J. Clark from a tussock of grass) probably represents a variety of the species; it differs from the type in having the head and prothorax paler (of a rather dark blood-red colour) and the elytra uniformly pale castaneous; the median line on the head is narrower (it almost vanishes in its middle), the elytral punctures are larger, and the elytral pubescence is longer and more upright.

#### CURCULIONIDAE.

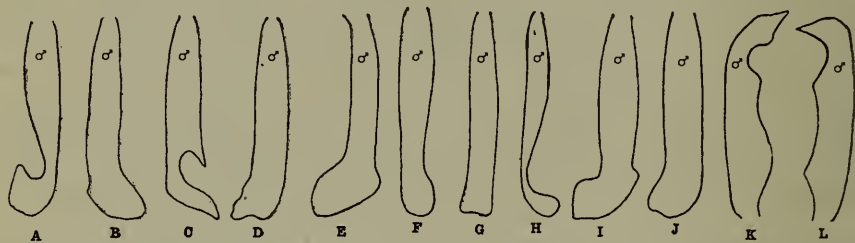
*Timareta crinita*, Pasc. Numerous specimens, agreeing well with others from Western Australia, were obtained on Flinders and St. Francis Islands. On many of them the prothorax has denser scales, forming a fairly conspicuous vitta near each side; on the elytra the scales are condensed into numerous spots, elsewhere they thinly cover the surface and they are often absent from about the punctures, in consequence the elytra to the naked eye have a distinctly spotted appearance, although the scales are nearly always of a snowy whiteness (except that on the suture they are slightly darker), the place just beyond the incurved portion of the hind tibiae of the male is more densely clothed with long hair than elsewhere, and the middle of the incurved part appears very thin from some directions.

**Timareta hamata**, n. sp.

Pl. xiii., fig. 4.

♂. Black, antennae and tarsi reddish. Densely clothed with small round greyish scales, closely adpressed to derm, and with numerous irregular whitish spots; with numerous pale, suberect setae on prothorax, and forming a regular line on each elytral interstice, sides and legs with longer hairs.

Head with dense normally concealed punctures. Antennae long and thin, scape the length of front tibiae. Prothorax slightly longer than wide, sides strongly rounded, apex narrower than base, with dense normally concealed punctures. Elytra with shoulders strongly rounded, sides widest at about basal fifth, thence almost evenly narrowed to apex; with regular rows of large punctures, appearing much smaller through scales; interstices with dense and minute normally



A B, Hind tibiae of *Timareta hamata*, Lea, from two points of view and unclotted; C D, *T. incisipes*, Lea; E F, *T. pilosa*, Blackb.; G H, *T. crinita*, Pasc.; I J, *T. figurata*, Pasc.; K L, front tibiae of *T. incisipes*, Lea.

concealed punctures. Under-surface with dense punctures of two sizes, the larger ones scarcely concealed; abdomen with basal segment widely concave in middle. Front tibiae arched near apex, the apex triangularly dilated on inner side; hind tibiae narrowed near apex, but apex itself much thickened and hooked, with a conspicuous fascicle of long hairs on tip of the hook. Length, 6-7 mm.

♀. Differs in being wider and more convex, antennae shorter, seriate punctures of elytra smaller, basal segment of abdomen gently convex, front tibiae shorter and scarcely arched near apex, hind tibiae shorter and thicker, apex itself wider but not hooked or fasciculate.

*Hab.*—South Australia: Flinders Island (Prof. F. Wood Jones). Type, I. 15256.

At first glance apparently like small specimens of *T. pilosa*, but at once distinguished by the hind tibiae of the males (compare figs. A B with E F). *T. pustulosa* has somewhat similar ones, but the front tibiae are less swollen towards



base and the elytra are very different. Parts of the under-surface and of the femora and tibiae are more or less obscurely reddish on some specimens, but on most of them those parts (except as to their clothing) are black or blackish. The white spots are most numerous on the sides and apical slope of the elytra, where they are often accentuated by the adjacent scales being more or less sooty; on the prothorax the white scales usually form a distinct stripe towards each side, and parts of a median line, on the head and rostrum the scales are usually entirely white; on some specimens some small patches of scales are shining.

**Timareta incisipes**, n. sp.

Pl. xiii., fig. 5.

♂. Black or blackish, antennae and tarsi reddish. With dense, small, round scales closely adpressed to derm; with numerous subdepressed setae on prothorax, and forming a regular row on each elytral interstice.

Head, prothorax, elytra, and under-surface as described in preceding species. Front tibiae trisinate on lower surface, the sinus near apex appearing as a conspicuous notch; hind tibiae with a deep notch near apex, the notch with long hairs about it. Length, 5-6 mm.

♀. Differs in being rather more robust, antennae and legs shorter, tibiae not notched and abdomen convex.

*Hab.*—South Australia: St. Francis, Eyre, and Franklin Islands (Prof. F. Wood Jones). Type, I. 15257.

The body parts of this, the preceding species, and of *T. crinita* and *T. pilosa* are much alike, and the females are difficult to satisfactorily distinguish; but the males may be quickly identified by the hind tibiae alone; on the present species the front tibiae as well as the hind ones, are notched. On several specimens the under-surface, tibiae, and even occasionally the elytra, are obscurely reddish. The scales are scarcely alike on any two of the 18 specimens before me; they are usually of a pale slaty-brown, with more or less large patches, or numerous sooty spots, interspersed with white or bluish-white spots; on the prothorax the white scales form irregular lateral vittae; on an occasional specimen the scales are mostly sooty-brown, with numerous bluish-white spots; on one they are whitish obscurely mottled with pale brown; on two specimens many of the scales have a soft golden lustre; many specimens have an ochreous spot on the forehead. The setae on the shoulders are longer than on other parts of the elytra, but they are not of the great length of some of the sand-frequenting species. The tibiae of both

sexes are each tipped with a conspicuous comb-like fringe of setae, as they are on most species of the genus.

*Otiorhynchus cribricollis*, Gyll. Black Rocks.

*Mandalotus tenuicornis*, Lea. Black Rocks.

*M. ventralis*, Blackb. Flinders Island.

*Perperus languidus*, Er. Flinders Island.

*Zephyryne*, sp. One specimen of a species evidently near *Z. geometrica* was obtained on Franklin Island; but as the colours of species of the genus vary considerably, it is not desirable to name an unique.

*Desiantha maculata*, Blackb. St. Francis Island.

*Eloeagna squamibunda*, Pasc. St. Francis and Franklin Islands.

*Halorhynchus caecus*, Woll. Two specimens of this curious little blind species were taken on Flinders Island; it was named originally from Western Australia, but has been taken on Kangaroo Island and on beaches near Adelaide.

#### Pentarthrocis, n gen.

Head rather small. Eyes very small, composed of a few coarse facets. Rostrum moderately long, slightly incurved between base and insertion of antennae, in front of antennae slightly wider and parallel-sided. Antennae rather short; funicle the length of scape, first joint slightly longer than second and third combined, third shortest of all; club indistinctly jointed. Prothorax rather elongate, sides gently rounded, base wider than apex. Scutellum invisible. Elytra elongate, with rows of large punctures in regular striae. Metasternum elongate. Abdomen with third and fourth segments very short, the others large. Legs rather stout; front tibiae with small subapical spur, and large terminal hook; tarsi with third joint moderately dilated, the clawjoint rather long and thin.

Of the Australian genera with the funicle five-jointed the present genus is distinguished from *Cossonideus* by the small eyes; *Halorhynchus* is blind; *Pentamimus* and *Pentarthrum* have much shorter rostrum with much larger eyes; *Conlonia* has thinner rostrum, more parallel-sided body, and seriate arrangement of the elytral punctures (themselves much smaller) scarcely in evidence; and *Microcossonus* has much larger eyes, scutellum conspicuous, etc. In catalogues it should be placed near *Pentarthrum*. The only known species has somewhat fusiform outlines, and straggling hairs on the sides; its rostrum has a slight resemblance to that of some species of *Cossonus*.



**Pentarthrocis ammophilus**, n. sp.

Pl. xiii., fig. 6.

Dark piceous-brown, elytra sometimes dark castaneous. Some long straggling hairs on sides of prothorax and of elytra, and some shorter ones on under-surface and legs.

Head smooth, convex, and with sparse and minute punctures. Rostrum about twice as long as its apical width; with rather sparse and small but distinct punctures, becoming more numerous about apex. Prothorax with sides evenly rounded and gently increasing in width from apex to about basal fourth, and then decreasing to base; with sharply defined, fairly large and numerous but not crowded punctures on upper-surface, denser and larger on sides. Elytra at base wider than base of prothorax, shoulders strongly rounded, sides gently rounded and widest at about middle; with rows of large, regular punctures, in rather deep striae; interstices evenly convex, and each with a row of minute punctures. Sterna and two basal segments of abdomen with coarse punctures, smaller and more crowded on apical segment, and absent from the third and fourth. Length (excluding rostrum), 2.75-3.25 mm.

*Hab.*—South Australia: St. Francis Island (Prof. F. Wood Jones); Western Australia: Geraldton (A. M. Lea). Type, I. 15304.

Some specimens are almost uniformly coloured throughout, but on others the elytra, club, and sometimes parts of the legs are slightly paler. On the male there is a wide shallow depression on the two basal segments of abdomen, on the female those segments are flat in the middle. All the specimens were obtained at the roots of beach-growing plants.

## COCCINELLIDAE.

*Scymnus flavifrons*, Blackb. One specimen taken from a rat's nest on Franklin Island.

*Rhizobius ruficollis*, Blackb. Black Rocks.

## DESCRIPTION OF PLATE XIII.

- Fig. 1. *Saragus oleatus*, Carter.  
 ,, 2. *Helaeus modicus*, Blackb.  
 ,, 3. *Anthicus strigosus*, Lea.  
 ,, 4. *Timareta hamata*, Lea.  
 ,, 5. *T. incisipes*, Lea.  
 ,, 6. *Pentarthrocis ammophilus*, Lea.