

Colonial Museum and Geological Survey Department.

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MANUAL

OF THE

NEW ZEALAND COLEOPTERA.

BY

CAPTAIN THOMAS BROWN.

PARTS III. AND IV.

PUBLISHED BY COMMAND.

NEW ZEALAND.

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PREFACE.

THIS is a further instalment of the work descriptive of the COLEOPTEROUS INSECTS indigenous to New Zealand, by Captain Thomas Broun, of which a first volume was issued by this department in 1880, and a second in 1881. A portion of the descriptions in the present volume—viz., Nos. 1322 to 1557—have already been printed in the *Journal of Science*, but the author desired the incorporation of these in the present work in order to render it complete for the purpose of reference. The alphabetical Index has been rearranged so as to refer to the whole work as if it were one volume, and thus supersedes the Index given with Part II.

JAMES HECTOR,

DIRECTOR.

*Colonial Museum, Wellington,
April, 1886.*

NEW ZEALAND COLEOPTERA.

PART III.

Group—CNEMACANTHIDÆ.

Mecodema (p. 7).

1322. *M. rugicolle*, *n.s.* Body moderately glossy, brownish-black; legs and antennæ rufo-piceous; elongate, sub-parallel.

Head nearly smooth on the middle, longitudinally rugose; in front, irregularly wrinkled laterally, its posterior portion covered with transversal linear impressions and punctures; labrum broadly rounded, bearing a row of coarse punctures and ferruginous bristles. *Prothorax* sub-depressed, its length and breadth about equal, widely rounded laterally, abruptly narrowed behind, its sides almost crenate; the surface has a distinct median groove not attaining the apex, many transversal furrows deepest near the sides, some abbreviated longitudinal striæ in front, and a row of obvious punctures, with elongated ferruginous bristles proceeding from them, along the rims; the basal foveæ are well defined, and placed close to the edges of the contracted part. *Elytra* cylindrical, slightly convex, each with three rows of distant punctures on the disc, the sides and apices more coarsely and irregularly punctured; their surface exhibits a few aciculate impressions, but no distinct striæ. *Underside* piceous; flanks of the *prosternum* punctate, those of the *mesosternum* similarly but more densely impressed; *abdomen* with distant shallow punctures near the sides; the *head* transversely rugulose.

Differs from all the other species of the genus having crenulated thoracic margins by the sculpture of the head and thorax, &c.

Length, 11 lines; breadth, $3\frac{1}{4}$.

Described from a mutilated specimen found by Mr. P. Stewart-Sandager near Taranaki.

Metaglymma (p. 10).

1323. *M. punctifer*, *n.s.* Elongate, slightly convex, medially narrowed, glossy-black, scarcely bronzed; tarsi and antennæ pitchy-black, tips of the palpi pale in colour.

Head moderate, longitudinally bi-impressed in front, a little constricted behind, and punctured in line with the back part of the eyes; these latter prominent. *Prothorax* longer than broad, margined, its sides but little curved, considerably contracted behind, with some-

Group—**CHRYSOMELIDÆ.****Scaphodius.***Chapuis.*

1444. **S. compactus**, Sharp; *Ent. Mon. Mag.*, Aug. 1881, p. 50.

Group—**EROTYLIDÆ.****Cryptodacne** (p. 640).

1445. **C. vagepunctata**, *n.s.* Shining, infuscate-red, legs testaceous, antennæ rufescent; sub-oblong, convex, slightly narrowed and depressed medially, sparingly pilose.

Head punctured in front, the middle of the vertex and the occiput quite smooth. *Antennæ* normal, bearing fine yellow hairs, their terminal joint obliquely cut away at the extremity. *Prothorax* nearly quadrate, incurved behind each eye, sides margined and almost straight, narrowed a little towards the base; its punctation fine and rather distant, the broad dorsal space perfectly smooth, with a few fine yellow hairs. *Scutellum* transverse, smooth. *Elytra* gradually narrowed posteriorly, not at all contracted near the middle, impressed with rows of fine distant punctures having yellow hairs proceeding from them. *Legs* stout; *tibiæ* very slightly arched.

Smaller, the thorax more finely and distantly, the elytra more distinctly sculptured than *C. synthetica* and *C. lenis*, and the whole insect much more obviously hairy than either.

Length, $1\frac{3}{4}$ lines; breadth, nearly $\frac{3}{4}$.

Described from one example obtained at Woodhill, near Helensville (Auckland).

Group—**COCCINELLIDÆ.****Scymnus** (p. 645).

1446. **S. sedatus**, *n.s.* Sub-oviform, moderately convex, nude, shining; variegate, ground-colour smoky-brown, with irregularly-formed testaceous marks; legs, antennæ, and palpi yellow.

Head moderately finely punctated, dilute in front. *Prothorax* transversal, sides and base finely margined, obtusely rounded and narrowed towards the front, the base broadly but slightly lobed at the middle, sinuated towards the sides, hind angles not acute; its punctation rather finer than that of the head, with a fine linear impression just in front of the base, its sides and anterior angles more or less testaceous. *Scutellum* triangular. *Elytra* convex, sub-oblong-oval, with distinct lateral rims becoming obsolete behind, broader than thorax, moderately closely punctured and somewhat rugose; the testaceous marks irregular, one on each elytron behind the middle and near the suture sub-lunate, not touching its fellow, the others indefinite, sometimes suffusing most of their surface. *Legs* stout, pubescent. *Antennæ* shorter than head and thorax, their basal articulation stout; second shorter and more slender, yet quite stout; third longest, slender, sub-cylindric; fourth and fifth about equal,

longer than broad, and, conjointly, longer than third; joints 6-8 decrease in length; club large, sub-oblong, terminal joint largest. Tarsal *claws* thickened at base. Maxillary *palpi* with the terminal joint securiform. Not agreeing very well with *Scymnus*.

Length, $1\frac{3}{8}$ lines; breadth, nearly $\frac{3}{4}$.

Mr. Meinertzhagen sent me a couple of specimens from Waimarama, Napier.

1447. **S. villosus**, *n.s.* Variegate; the middle of the thorax, a large triangular basal space, and other portions of the elytra castaneofuscous, the rest of the body testaceous, legs and antennæ yellowish, rather densely clothed with long greyish hairs.

Head moderately punctured. *Prothorax* finely and not closely punctated. *Scutellum* broadly triangular. *Elytra* rather closely but not very coarsely punctured. *Underside* moderately punctured, bearing short greyish hairs, fuscous; the whole of the pronotum, the middle of the meso- and meta-sterna, and the last segment of the abdomen testaceous.

The elytra usually appear to be variegated-brown, with a large angulated spot extending from the shoulder to near the middle testaceous; the villosity is semi-erect, with a tendency to curl.

Length, 1 line; breadth, $\frac{5}{8}$.

Found in most parts of the North Island.

Holopsis.

Nov. gen.

Body broadly oval, sub-hemispherical, convex, nude above.

Antennæ apparently nine-jointed, as long as thorax, basal joint robust, second elongate and almost oviform, third cylindrical, shorter and more slender than the preceding one, the following three short and about equal; *club* tri-articulate. *Prosternum* much depressed at the sides: *mesosternum* short, almost linear, truncate; *meta-sternum* very large, plane, its edges truncate. Basal segment of *abdomen* large, widely separating the posterior coxæ, next three short, all with straight sutures. *Legs* stout; *tibiæ* arcuated externally and narrowed at the extremity; tarsal *claws* thickened or dentate at the base.

The genus belongs to the Cranophorites, and should be placed between *Oryssomus* and *Cranophorus*, having, like them, the head completely concealed by the anterior prolongation of the prothorax; the latter is not so broad as the elytra, and quite destitute of front angles, so that the margins form an uninterrupted curve from one posterior angle to the other.

1448. **H. nigellus**, *n.s.* Convex, very broadly oval, nude, shining blackish, the thoracic margins and humeral angles generally pale-testaceous, legs fusco-testaceous.

Head not immersed, invisible from above. *Pronotum* broader than long, finely marginated, its base sinuously rounded, the sides and front forming a regular curve, its surface minutely and remotely

punctured. *Scutellum* broadly triangular. *Elytra* with fine side rims, slightly wider than the thorax, their sculpture fine and shallow. *Legs* robust, bearing fine pallid hairs. *Underside* brownish; *metasternum* large, scored with exceedingly fine irregular lines; *abdomen* truncate between the coxæ, minutely reticulated, segments 2-4 short, each with a row of pale hairs, fifth more pubescent. *Antennæ* yellow, slender. *Club* three-jointed. *Claws* dentate at base.

Length, $\frac{3}{4}$ line; breadth, $\frac{1}{2}$.

Habitat, North Island. Not uncommon.

1449. **H. pallidus**, *n.s.* Shining, testaceous, the middle of the thorax darker, legs and antennæ pale-yellow, seemingly destitute of pubescence, convex, broadly oval. *Underside* yellowish. Resembles *H. nigellus*.

Length, $\frac{5}{8}$ line; breadth, $\frac{1}{2}$.

One example, Northcote, Waitemata Harbour.

1450. **H. lawsoni**, *n.s.* Glossy, nude, somewhat rufescent; thoracic disc brown, its margins testaceous; convex, broadly oval.

Prothorax minutely and distantly punctured. *Elytra* almost similarly sculptured.

The insect is rather smaller and narrower than the two preceding species, and the elytra are more distinctly punctated.

Length, quite $\frac{1}{2}$ line; breadth, $\frac{3}{8}$.

I found this species at Whangarei Heads, and Mr. Thomas Lawson recently gave me a specimen labelled by the late Mr. G. R. Crotch, M.A., *Coccinella lawsoni*. I have retained the specific appellation, but the insect has little in common with *Coccinella*.

NOTE.—Page 650, genus *Cranophorus*, last line: read “tarsi with simple claws,” not “single.”