NOTES ON *GALERUCINÆ*, AND DESCRIPTIONS OF TWO NEW SPECIES OF *HISPIDÆ*.

BY J. S. BALY, F.L.S.

Genus AULACOPHORA.

Aulacophora dilatata, Jacoby:—New genera and species of Phytophagous *Coleoptera* in the Genoa Civic Museum, 1886, p. 51.

This insect is a pale variety of *A. luteicornis*, Fabr.

Aulacophora semiopaca, Jacoby, *l. c.*, p. 51.

One of the numerous varieties of *A. bicolor*, Weber.

Since the publication of my paper on *Aulacophora* in the Linnean Proceedings, I have seen a series of this species, in which there is a distinct transverse depression below the basilar space; it is probably the most variable insect in the genus.

Genus MALAXIA.

Fairmaire, Ann. Soc. Ent. France, 5^{e} ser., viii, p. 139.

The above genus, formed by M. Fairmaire on a species from Central China, has since been re-characterized by Mr. Jacoby in Notes Leyd. Mus., vi, 1884, p. 62, under the name of *Glytolus*. M. Fairmaire, in his diagnosis, has given the claws as bifid, with the inner tooth short. Mr. Jacoby (more correctly) has described them as appendiculate.

1. *Malaxia flavovirens*, Fair., *l. c.*, p. 139, China. I possess several specimens of this species from various parts of China; in some the thorax and legs are stained to a greater or less extent with fuscous or black; one of these specimens M. Fairmaire has kindly compared with his type.

2. *Malaxia viridis* := *Glytolus viridis*, Jacoby, *l. c.*, p. 62. Sumatra.

Genus SERMYLOIDES.

Jacoby, Notes Leyd. Mus., vi, 1884, p. 64, = *Præochralea*, Duvivier, Stett. Ent. Zeit., xlv, 1885, p. 245.

The present genus, as seen above, has been twice characterized, in the first place by Mr. Jacoby, secondly by M. Duvivier; both authors having taken the same insect for their type, there can, however, be no doubt but that this species had been previously described by Fabricius, under the name of *pallicornis*: the synonymy stands thus:—

Sermyloides pallicornis, Fabr., Sys. El., i, p. 483 *(Galeruca)*.

A. Elytris fulvis, margine exteriori apiceque nigris.

B. Elytris fasciâ latâ basali nigrâ, cæteris ut in A. *Sermyloides basalis*, Jac., *l. c.*, p. 65.

C. Elytris totis fulvis. *Præochralea antennalis*, Duv., *l. c.*, p. 245.

Hab.: A and B, Sumatra; C, Philippine Islands.

Mr. Jacoby has described all the tibiæ as armed with a short spine; M. Duvivier gives the anterior pair as unarmed. I have failed to discern any tooth on the anterior pair.

Genus NADRANA.

Dr. Chapuis has given an erroneous diagnosis of this genus; he states that the anterior acetabula are open, the apices of the anterior tibiæ unarmed, and that the basal joint of the metatarsus is only equal in length to the following two united. In all my specimens, including the type, the anterior acetabula are entirely closed, the anterior tibiæ are armed with a distinct spine, and the basal joint of the metatarsus is longer than the following three united.

Beyond the shallow excavation on the disc of the thorax in *Nadrana*, which I look upon as a specific, not generic, character, and a slight difference in the relative lengths of the second and third joints of the antennæ, I do not see any reason for separating *Candezea* (Chap., Ann. Mus. Civ. Gen., xv, p. 24) from the present genus.

Genus OCHRALEA.

Dr. Chapuis, in the Genera des Coléoptères, gives the anterior acetabula in *Ochralea* as closed; I have examined many specimens of *Ochralea flava* (Chapuis' type) as well as of other allied species of the genus, and have found in every instance the acetabula open; Mr. Jacoby, whom I requested to examine the specimens in his collection, has found them in one solitary instance closed, but in all the rest open. It thus appears that open acetabula are the rule, and closed ones the exception in the present genus, and that *Ochralea* must be removed from the section in which it at present stands, and be placed near *Luperodes*, with which genus it becomes a question as to whether or not it ought to be amalgamated. As our knowledge of the *Galerucina* extends, it will, I think, be found that the open or closed states of the anterior acetabula have not the same primary importance in the arrangement of the family as that assigned to them by Dr. Chapuis; as seen above, the acetabula in individuals of the same species vary from open to closed, whilst in some genera, *Syoplia*, *Metroidea*, and others, the anterior acetabulum is often closed on one side, and open

on the other in the same individual; this being the case, it must sometimes occur that, relying on these characters alone, genera are established and closely allied species separated, on insufficient grounds. I draw attention to this to point out that, where practicable, a series of specimens should be examined and any deviation from the typical form be noted. Where the anterior coxæ are very prominent and the hinder margin of the acetabulum is very narrow (as frequently occurs), there is often greater difficulty in ascertaining the actual state of the cavity, without either removing the coxæ, or detaching the thorax from the rest of the body.

Hispodonta plagiata.

Ovata, depressa, sordide flava, nitida, antennis piceis; thorace quam longo dimidio latiori, lateribus rotundatis; disco basi et ad latera distincte punctato; elytris seriato-punctatis, utrisque vix pone medium plagâ magnâ, male definitâ, piceâ instructis. *Long.*, 5 *lin.*

Hab.: India; a single specimen in my collection.

Front excavated and coarsely punctured; vertex smooth, impunctate. Thorax one-half broader than long; sides rounded, the hinder angle with an obtuse tooth; disc smooth and nearly impunctate in front, its base, together with the sides, rather coarsely punctured. Elytra much broader than the thorax, rather strongly seriate-punctate.

Closely resembling the pale varieties of *H. janthina*, Bland., separated from that species by the much broader thorax, its sides at the same time being more regularly rounded than in that insect.

Oxycephala Wallacei.

Elongata, postice vix ampliata, modice convexa, nigra, nitida, elytris flavo-fulvis, apice late nigro-cyaneis. *Long.*, 7 *lin.*

Hab.: Solomon Islands.

Face strongly produced between the eyes, armed just below the antennæ with an obtuse tooth; antennæ rather less than half the body in length, filiform, slightly compressed towards the apex. Thorax longer than broad; sides straight and parallel from the base to beyond the middle, then abruptly contracted to the apex; upper surface sub-cylindrical at the apex, flattened posteriorly, strongly punctured, middle disc deeply foveolate on either side; extending from the apex nearly to the base, but narrowed posteriorly, is a smooth, impunctate space; sides within the lateral margin deeply excavated and coarsely punctured. Elytra regularly punctate-striate; each elytron with four elevated costæ, the third from the suture obsolete on the anterior half of the disc.

The elongate thorax will at once separate the present species from *O. speciosa*, Boisd.

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