

NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE

BULLETINS.

UNDER the title "Bulletins" the Board of Governors of the New Zealand Institute hopes to issue, from time to time, important papers which for any reason it is deemed desirable not to include in the yearly volume of the Transactions. The bulletins will be uniform in size and general style with the Transactions of the New Zealand Institute, but will appear at irregular intervals, and each bulletin will be complete in itself and be separately paged. The bulletins will not be issued free to members of the Institute, but may be obtained by them at a reduction on the published price.

NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE.

BULLETIN No. 1, PART VIII.

ISSUED 1ST MARCH, 1923.

DESCRIPTIONS

OF

NEW SPECIES OF COLEOPTERA.

By MAJOR T. BROUN, Kt.L.H., F.E.S.

PART VIII.

HAVING been personally closely acquainted with the late Major T. Broun and his work for a number of years past, Mrs. Broun and her daughters the Misses Broun have placed in my hands his last manuscripts for systematic arrangement and numbering, so that the descriptions of the new species which form the subject of this paper could be placed in the Printer's hands for publication.

The present paper does not record any new genera, but 68 species are described as new to science. This now brings the total of the known New Zealand beetles to 4,323 species—a rather remarkable number when we consider the isolated geographical position of the Islands.

One species (*Recyntus reitteri*) included in this paper had been described by Dr. Sharp as far back as 1882, but had been overlooked, and in consequence inadvertently omitted from previous lists.

This paper concludes practically the life's work of a very able scientist, whose love of nature, and enthusiasm in his work on the New Zealand Coleoptera, has gained for him a position in the first line of the world's entomologists. His unique collection of New Zealand beetles.

containing as it does the types of about 3,500 species described by himself, as well as numerous specimens of species described by various other authors, will for ever stand as a monument to his zeal and untiring devotion to scientific research, and should be greatly appreciated by all students of New Zealand Coleoptera.

The descriptions contained in this paper are entirely the work of the late Major T. Broun, with the exception of *Quedius ohiaensis*, which, unfortunately, was only partly described, and necessitated the writer completing it. If any errors should occur in the systematic arrangement of the species I must accept full responsibility.

The following gentlemen contributed material for the preparation of this paper: The late Mr. T. Hall, 21 species; Mr. A. C. O'Connor, 13; Mr. G. V. Hudson, F.E.S., 4; Mr. A. Philpott and Mr. J. Ford, 2 each; Professor Hilgendorf, Mr. L. T. Griffin, F.Z.S., the late Mr. Helms, and Mr. H. Hamilton, 1 each; and the writer, 22.

In conclusion, I wish to express my grateful appreciation of my late friend's kindness in supplying me with much valuable aid and information, at all times very generously and considerately extended to me whenever required.

ALBERT E. BROOKS.

*Okauia, Matamata, Waikato,*  
1st August, 1921.

## LIST OF NEW SPECIES.

- CNEMACANTHIDAE.  
4255. *Mecodema validum* Broun.  
4256. " *occiputale* Broun.  
4257. " *cassense* Broun.  
4258. " *antennale* Broun.  
4259. " *longicolle* Broun.  
4260. " *philpotti* Broun.  
4261. " *ventriculum* Broun.  
4262. " *subaeneum* Broun.
- FERONIDAE.  
4263. *Pterostichus truncatulus* Broun.
- POGONIDAE.  
4264. *Tarastethus eplicatus* Broun.  
4265. " *fuscipes* Broun.  
4266. " *insularis* Broun.
- TACHYPORIDAE.  
4267. *Conurus morosus* Broun.  
4268. " *antennalis* Broun.  
4269. " *seminudus* Broun.
- STAPHYLINIDAE.  
4270. *Quedius badius* Broun.  
4271. " *bryocharis* Broun.  
4272. " *maorinus* Broun.  
4273. " *ohiaensis* Broun.  
4274. " *slipsensis* Broun.
- PEDERIDAE.  
4275. *Hyperomma flavipes* Broun.
- PSELAPHINI.  
4276. *Pselaphus cavidorsis* Broun.
- BRACHYGLUTINI.  
4277. *Byraxis acceptus* Broun.
- SILPHIDAE.  
4278. *Isocolon oruruensis* Broun.
- SYNCHITIDAE.  
4279. *Ulonotus affinis* Broun.  
4280. " *aemulus* Broun.  
4281. *Gathocles fuscus* Broun.  
4282. " *interruptus* Broun.  
4283. *Syncaelus solidus* Broun.  
4284. *Recyntus reitteri* Broun.
- AESALIDAE.  
4285. *Mitophyllus insignis* Broun.
- CLERIDAE.  
4286. *Phymatophaea hudsoni* Broun.  
4287. " *nigricornis* Broun.  
4288. " *brevicollis* Broun.  
4289. " *formosa* Broun.
- ANTHICIDAE.  
4290. *Cotes halliana* Broun.  
4291. " *bullata* Broun.
- OTIORHYNCHIDAE.  
4292. *Catoptes apicalis* Broun.
- RHYPAROSOMIDAE.  
4293. *Lithocia stictica* Broun.  
4294. *Clypeorhynchus bifoveatus* Broun.
- HYLOBIIDAE.  
4295. *Bryocatus plicatus* Broun.  
4296. " *crassipes* Broun.  
4297. " *angustus* Broun.  
4298. " *fordi* Broun.  
4299. " *diversus* Broun.  
4300. " *thoracicus* Broun.  
4301. " *ovipennis* Broun.
- HAPLONYCHIDAE.  
4302. *Geochus rufipictus* Broun.
- CYLINDRORHINIDAE.  
4303. *Homodus posticalis* Broun.  
4304. " *longicornis* Broun.  
4305. " *cuprealis* Broun.
- ERIRHINIDAE.  
4306. *Erirehinus obscurus* Broun.  
4307. " *subconicollis* Broun.  
4308. " *poecilus* Broun.  
4309. *Etheophanus optandus* Broun.  
4310. " *nitidellus* Broun.  
4311. " *obscurus* Broun.
- APIONIDAE.  
4312. *Apion terricola* Broun.
- CRYPTORHYNCHIDAE.  
4313. *Acalles brookesi* Broun.  
4314. *Scelodolichus decorus* Broun.  
4315. " *pyriformis* Broun.  
4316. *Hatasu tuberosa* Broun.
- LAMIIDAE.  
4317. *Xylotoles apicalis* Broun.  
4318. " *pygmaeus* Broun.  
4319. *Somatidia fulvipes* Broun.  
4320. " *crassicollis* Broun.
- HALTICINAE.  
4321. *Trachytetra frontalis* Broun.  
4322. " *robusta* Broun.  
4323. *Phyllotreta paspalae* Broun.

## Group CNEMACANTHIDAE.

Mecodema Blanchard. Man. N.Z. Coleopt., p. 7.

4255. *Mecodema validum* sp. nov.

Elongate, slightly convex, head and thorax nitid, elytra subopaque; black, palpi, antennae, and legs piceo-rufous.

Head finely punctate behind the moderately prominent eyes, longitudinally rugose near these and on the forehead, the vertex feebly transversely and irregularly rugose. Thorax apparently elongate, very little broader than long, widest near the front, curvedly narrowed towards the base, which has straight sides and obtusely rectangular angles; marginal channels almost equally narrow, the sides indistinctly crenulate; apex slightly and widely emarginate, base subtruncate, a little rounded towards its angles; discal stria distinct, not attaining either base or apex, deepened and somewhat expanded at its extremities, the surface nearly smooth, with only faintly marked striae across it, those near the sides rather more distinct, the usual frontal and basal longitudinal striae almost obsolete, basal fossae moderately large. Elytra oblong-oval, nearly thrice the length of thorax, rather broader than it is near the middle, with numerous very fine irregular linear impressions; the four finely punctured inner striae hardly reach the extremity, the fourth is the shortest, these striae, the third and fourth particularly, are broader and deeper near the base so that the interstices become quite costiform there; the sixth interstice is narrower and more convex throughout and has three or four punctures on or near it, and the broader interval between it and the fifth has double series of punctures, the outer the coarser; the smooth lateral costa does not reach either base or apex, and between it and the sixth interstice the duplicate series of punctures are rather deeper, none, however, very coarse.

Underside shining black, the prosternum with a few shallow rugae across the middle, its flanks irregularly punctate in front, its process concave along the middle, mesosternum rugose-punctate, metasternum less distinctly so, abdomen finely irregularly strigose, its last segment quadri-punctate at the apex.

This most nearly resembles *M. acuductum* (2602), but is larger, with much more complex elytral sculpture, and, moreover, the thoracic margins are not distinctly crenulate.

Length, 30 mm.; breadth, 9 mm.

Ohakune, 30th December, 1916. One specimen only; found by Mr. A. E. Brookes, of Mount Albert.

4256. *Mecodema occiputale* sp. nov.

Elongate, slightly convex, moderately nitid; black, antennae, palpi, and tarsi rufo-piceous.

Head narrower than thorax, nearly smooth, with a pair of shallow median punctures between the very prominent eyes, alongside each of the latter there are two or three moderate longitudinal rugae and a single deep setigerous puncture; the back part appears depressed and is rather sharply limited by a slightly curved stria extending from the hinder portion of one eye to the other; the frontal rugae are inconstant, but the common punctures on the labrum are well marked. Thorax a sixth

broader than long at the middle, a good deal rounded but evidently contracted and straight-sided at the base, lateral channels narrow, the margins hardly at all crenulate, base and apex a little incurved; its surface almost smooth, discal stria distinct but not reaching the apex, the usual curvate frontal transverse impression is scarcely visible except near the angles; basal fossae deep, rather narrow, extending to the base, with well-defined margins. Elytra oblong-oval, slightly broader than thorax, nearly thrice its length; regularly punctate-striate, their three outer striae deeper and more distinctly, but not very coarsely, punctured than the inner five, and their interstices rather narrower and more convex, the sculpture more irregular behind, the space outside the eighth stria is smooth but does not reach the shoulder, marginal punctation similar to that of the nearest stria.

Underside almost quite smooth; the last ventral segment at the apex bipunctate at each side of the middle.

The very definite frontal limitation of the occiput is its chief characteristic.

Length, 23 mm.; breadth, 7 mm.

Tokaanu. Two sent (one damaged) by Mr. A. C. O'Connor on the 6th April, 1918.

4257. *Mecodema cassense* sp. nov.

Shining, slightly convex; black, the antennae, palpi, labrum, legs, and trochanters rufescent.

Head nearly smooth, with moderate inter-ocular rugae, the longitudinal ones on the forehead, and the setigerous punctures on the labrum well marked. Thorax a sixth broader than long, widest near the front, gradually curvedly narrowed backwards, more and subsinuously narrowed near the obtuse basal angles; lateral margins entire, the channels narrow but slightly expanded in front, base and apex a little incurved; disc almost smooth, without visible apical or basal striae, the central groove moderate, abbreviated at both extremities; basal fossae deep, sub-rotundate, rather small and situated close to the angles. Elytra oblong-oval, slightly broader than thorax,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  times its length; the four inner striae on each are slender and almost impunctate, rather deeper at the base, with plane interstices; the outer are deep, the seventh and eighth though not very coarsely, are closely and more distinctly punctured than the sixth, with narrower and more convex interstices, apical sculpture irregular; the usually smooth lateral space has four or five punctiform impressions.

Underside glossy black, nearly quite smooth, terminal ventral segment at the extremity with two distinct punctures, and two others, close together, nearer each side. Outer angles of front and middle tibiae distinctly prominent.

*Fem.*—Less glossy. Terminal ventral segment truncate behind, with four almost equidistant punctures there. Length,  $21\frac{1}{2} \times 6$  mm.

Nearly allied to *M. cognatum* (2603), but with more outstanding eyes, smoother thorax, much finer elytral sculpture, more asperate intermediate tibiae, and differently marked terminal ventral segment.

♂. Length, 23 mm.; breadth, 7 mm.

Cass, Canterbury side of West Coast railway, amongst tussock-grass. One of each sex, both damaged, sent by Professor Hilgendorf on the 23rd July, 1917, and 4th January, 1918.

rufescent margins and apices, double the length of thorax and a third broader at the middle; the inner pair of striae, on each elytron, moderately definite and distinctly punctured, the other series of punctures are finer, those near the sides obsolete; posterior carinae rather fine.

Underside nitid. Middle of mesosternum coarsely bipunctate at each side of the slender central carina. Sides of ventral segments with large impressions, the terminal bipunctate and setose at each side of the middle at the apex.

Previously set aside as a varietal form of Sharp's *T. laeviventris* (1800), but when more carefully examined found to be dissimilar. The sculpture differs, and the thoracic setae are absent.

Length, 5 mm.; breadth,  $2\frac{1}{3}$  mm.

Belgrove, near Nelson. Discovered by the late Mr. T. Hall on the 24th October, 1914.

#### 4266. *Tarastethus insularis* sp. nov.

Nitid, nigrescent, legs and elytral margins dark reddish, antennae and tarsi fulvescent, palpi paler.

Head evidently narrower than thorax, smooth, with the common interocular sulci. Thorax slightly broader than long, widest and rounded near the middle, distinctly margined, evidently narrowed behind, but straight near the rectangular posterior angles, base and apex truncate; dorsal stria not reaching the apex or base, the latter moderately closely punctate, the usual foveae short but not sharply defined. Scutellum invisible. Elytra oviform, well margined, more convex than the thorax, almost twice its length, slightly broader than it is at the base, not double its width at the middle; they are moderately substriate-punctate, less distinctly so towards the sides, the series beyond the third considerably finer near the base, the subapical plicae rufescent and distinct. Terminal ventral segment bisetose at the extremity.

After comparison with several other species I fail to find any that are exactly similar.

Length,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  mm.; breadth, quite  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mm.

Chetwood Island. Described from a female found by Mr. A. C. O'Connor during July, 1917.

#### Group TACHYPORIDAE.

#### *Conurus* Stephens. Man. N.Z. Coleopt., p. 96.

#### 4267. *Conurus morosus* sp. nov.

Elongate, subopaque, without perceptible sculpture; clothed with decumbent dark ashy pubescence, the hind-body with many nigrescent outstanding setae; nigro-fuscous, basal two joints of the antennae fulvescent.

Head as broad as front of thorax, obliquely narrowed anteriorly. Thorax rather broader than long, very gradually narrowed towards the truncate apex, the base subtruncate, with obtuse angles. Elytra a third longer than thorax, not quite as wide as it is at the base, straight-sided, apices obtusely rounded towards the suture, with fine shallow indistinct punctures. Hind-body with pale apical margins.

Antennae longer than head and thorax, second joint a little shorter than contiguous ones, fourth slightly longer than third, joints 5-10 gradually expanded and shortened, subtriangular, the terminal subconical. Maxillary palpi fuscous.

Easily recognizable by its elongate elytra and dark subopaque surface.

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

Rotoiti; 28th December, 1915. A single individual found by the late Mr. T. Hall.

#### 4268. *Conurus antennalis* sp. nov.

Subopaque, rufo-castaneous, the mandibles, palpi, antennae, and legs of a lighter hue; covered with slender, depressed, pale ashy pubescence, the hind-body with numerous dark elongate setae.

Thorax a third broader than long, gently curvedly narrowed anteriorly, somewhat bisinuate in front so that the angles appear subrectangular, the base subtruncate, its obtusely rectangular angles slightly broader than shoulders, without distinct sculpture. Elytra a third longer than thorax, very slightly narrowed backwards, their apices slightly oblique towards the sutures. Eyes inwardly truncate above, prolonged obliquely downwards.

Antennae rather longer than head and thorax, second joint about a third shorter than the adjoining ones, joints 3-5 about equally elongate, sixth slightly longer than broad, 7-10 rather shorter and broader, the terminal subconical, larger than preceding ones.

Nearly related to *C. austerus* (178), but readily distinguishable by the antennal structure.

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

Hunua; 1st January, 1916. Mr. A. E. Brookes, of Mount Albert, is the discoverer.

#### 4269. *Conurus seminudus* sp. nov.

Shining, rufo-piceous; antennae and tarsi pale fuscous, but the former with the basal four joints, as well as the palpi, more testaceous; hind-body with fine ashy pubescence and dark slender setae, the rest of the surface glabrous.

Head with a few minute, hardly discernible, distant punctures. Eyes subrotundate. Thorax a little broader than long, gradually curvedly narrowed towards the front, slightly sinuated near the subrectangular angles, its base subtruncate, with similar angles; smooth on the middle, finely and indistinctly punctured near the sides. Elytra of about the same width and length as the thorax, slightly narrowed backwards, subtruncate behind; their sculpture closer and rather more perceptible than that of the thorax.

Antennae about as long as the head and thorax, basal four joints almost equally elongate, the next rather shorter and stouter, joints 7-10 shorter and rather broader, eleventh suboblong.

The small size and uniformly dark shining surface are distinctive.

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

Belgrove; 24th October, 1914. Another of the late Mr. T. Hall's discoveries.

## Group STAPHYLINIDAE.

*Quedius* Leach. Lacord., Hist. des Ins. Coleopt., Tom. 2, p. 84.

4270. *Quedius badius* sp. nov.

Nitid, elongate, only slightly convex; light rufocastaneous, head a little darker, hinder portion of elytra irregularly infuscate; these latter and the hind-body with subdepressed yellowish-grey pubescence.

Head subovate, as broad and long as thorax, truncate in front, the labrum short and apparently entire; with a rotundate punctiform central impression in line with the front of the eyes, bipunctate alongside these, less distinctly so behind. Eyes somewhat convex, scarcely half the length of the sides of the head. Thorax of equal length and breadth, its sides very finely margined and nearly straight, the apex widely emarginate so that its angles, though obtuse, appear prominent, the base moderately curved, its angles obsolete; there are two apical punctures, two or three along each side of the middle, and about four across the base. Scutellum triangular, large, its centre closely punctate. Elytra not longer than broad, slightly and gradually narrowed anteriorly, the apices oblique towards the suture; their punctation not very close, moderately coarse but shallow. Hind-body elongate, its sculpture like that of the wing-cases, but bearing slightly longer and more slender pubescence; terminal styles long.

Antennae of about the same length as head and thorax, basal three joints almost equally elongate, 4-6 gradually decrease, 7-10 obconical, hardly any longer than broad, the terminal slightly larger, obliquely cut away at the extremity.

Anterior tarsi short, their basal four joints broadly expanded. Underside rufo-castaneous, sixth ventral segment rounded behind.

Notwithstanding its shorter wing-cases, more convex eyes, and prominent anterior thoracic angles, this species is placed in proximity to *Q. fuscatus* (1839).

♂. Length, 10 mm.; breadth, 2 mm.

Gordon's Pyramid, Mount Arthur; 4,500 ft.; 13th January, 1918. Mr. A. C. O'Connor obtained two exactly alike; one he retained.

4271. *Quedius bryocharis* sp. nov.

Elongate, head and thorax shining aeneo-niger, elytra, legs, and antennae castaneous, these last with paler and more rufescent basal joints; hind-body slightly variegated castaneo-fuscous and, like the elytra, clothed with long subdepressed, obscure yellowish pubescence.

Head oviform, not broad, as long as but narrower than thorax; bipunctate alongside each eye, and with a single puncture a little further back but not in line with the others, the back part also bipunctate; under a strong lens the surface appears densely, finely, transversely strigose. Eyes oblong-oval, half the length of the sides. Labrum medially but not deeply emarginate, with outstanding black and yellowish setae in front. Thorax slightly broader than long, broadly rounded and finely margined at the base, with obsolete angles, its sides gently curvedly narrowed towards the truncate apex; with a pair of small apical punctures at each side of the middle, a discal pair before the middle, and about six across the base. Scutellum triangular, large. Elytra not longer than broad, rather wider than thorax behind, apices oblique towards the suture; their sculpture moderately close but not definitely punctiform. Hind-body sculptured like the elytra.

Antennae as long as the head and thorax, basal joint longer than second or third, joints 6-10 subquadrate. Anterior tarsi with the basal four joints moderately expanded.

Underside pubescent, sternum blackish; abdomen castaneous, its sixth segment longest, rounded behind, terminal styles elongate. Femora, trochanters, and coxae more or less testaceous.

Somewhat similar to *Q. hirtipennis* (3692) but with much less dilated anterior tarsi, differently sculptured thorax, much less brightly clothed wing-cases, &c.

Length, 6 mm.; breadth, 1½ mm.

Ben Lomond; 13th March, 1914. Found on a moss-covered tree, at an elevation of 4,500 ft., by the late Mr. T. Hall. Unique.

4272. *Quedius maorinus* sp. nov.

Elongate, slightly convex; head and thorax glossy bronzed-black, elytra and hind-body pitchy-black, the latter slightly iridescent; legs piceous, the knees and tarsi more rufescent; basal joint and tips of the second and third of the antennae reddish, the others dull blackish, mandibles rufous.

Head oviform, as long as thorax, rather broader than it is in front, quadripunctate alongside each eye, bipunctate behind; labrum with long dark setae, not perceptibly emarginate, and with moderately large pale membranous frontal border. Eyes oval, only slightly convex, half the length of the head. Thorax almost as long as broad, widest near the finely margined slightly rounded base, gradually narrowed and depressed towards the truncate apex, posterior angles rounded; there are about six small basal and a pair of discal punctures before the middle. Elytra subquadrate, a little broader than long, slightly narrowed towards the base, apices slightly oblique towards the suture; closely and finely punctate, clothed with fine dark depressed pubescence, the suture is slightly elevated and seems to have a shallow stria at each side. Hind-body finely sculptured and pubescent. Scutellum large, triangular, punctate.

Antennae attaining the base of thorax, third joint rather longer than others, joints 4-10 successively shortened, longer than broad.

*Male*.—Penultimate ventral segment emarginate, the paler terminal notched at the extremity. Basal joints of anterior tarsi moderately dilated.

Like *Q. ambiguus* (2704), which is distinguishable by the pair of distinct interocular punctures, longer eyes, more flavescent vestiture, rather small scutellum, and brighter abdomen.

Length, 6½ mm.; breadth, 1½ mm.

Pakarau and Kaiangaroa; 12th May, 1918. Found by Mr. A. E. Brookes, of Mount Albert.

4273. *Quedius ohiaensis* sp. nov.

Elongate, nitid; black, mandibles rufescent, antennae, legs, and palpi piceous, claws testaceous.

Head oblong-oval, about a third shorter and narrower than thorax, with a pair of rather fine punctures between the eyes, a pair alongside these, and about four behind them. Labrum black, short, with a deep narrow groove along the middle. Eyes rather flat, extending half-way

from the antennae to the back of the head. Thorax of about equal length and breadth, of the same shape as that of *Q. maorinus*; along each side of the middle there are three or four punctures, two outside these, the front margin bipunctate, three or four on each side, and as many at each side of the base, all but the discal ones are very small. Scutellum large. Elytra subquadrate, slightly broader than long, each oblique towards the suture; they are finely punctate, with depressed, slender, dark ashy pubescence. Hind-body elongate, with black terminal appendages, its sculpture indistinct, the clothing like that of the wing-cases. Hind-body longer than from head to apices of elytra, last segment slightly tapering, subtruncate at extremity. Terminal appendages long. Antennae reaching back to the middle of thorax, clothed with fine dark pubescence, similar in colouring to the elytra; basal joint long, third not as long as first, second half as long as third, fourth not quite as broad as fifth. Joints 6-10 broad and of equal length, terminal longer than the preceding and tapering. Anterior tarsi castaneous, the four basal joints slightly expanded.

Length, 13 mm.; breadth, 2.5 mm.

Taken at Lake Ohia, North Auckland, with *Q. optatus*, by A. E. Brookes on the 18th February, 1918.

4274. *Quedius slipsensis* sp. nov.

Elongate, subdepressed; head and thorax nitid, aeneo-niger, with a few slender, erect, dark setae; elytra, hind-body, legs, palpi, and basal three joints of antennae castaneous, remaining joints of these last more infuscate; elytra and hind-body clothed with subdepressed yellowish pubescence.

Head oviform, as long as thorax but evidently narrower, distinctly bipunctate alongside each eye, and obliquely so between each of the latter and the base; clypeus medially emarginate and fringed with flavescent hairs in front. Eyes hardly at all convex, half the length of the head. Antennae equalling the head and thorax in length, with blackish pubescence, basal joint evidently longer than second or third, fourth and fifth rather longer than 6-10, which are subquadrate, the terminal elongate-conical. Thorax very little longer than broad, gently narrowed towards the obtuse depressed anterior angles, the base and its angles somewhat rounded; disc moderately bipunctate before the middle, quadripunctate at the base. Scutellum large, triangular, closely punctured. Elytra quite as long as broad, slightly narrowed towards the base, not broader than thorax there, apices oblique towards the suture, their punctuation rather fine and shallow. Hind-body nearly half of the whole length, finely punctate, last segment strongly rounded behind, terminal appendages elongate. Anterior tarsi only moderately expanded.

Nearly allied to *Q. fuscatus* (1839), but readily separable by the entirely nigrescent head and thorax, differently formed antennae, less distinct elytral sculpture, &c.

Length, 6½ mm.; breadth, 1½ mm.

Mount Slips, Nelson. Unique. Captured by the late Mr. T. Hall on the 24th December, 1915.

Group PEDERIDAE.

*Hyperomma* Fauvel.

4275. *Hyperomma flavipes* sp. nov.

Elongate, narrow, subparallel, slightly convex, nitid, with a few slender, decumbent, infuscate hairs; castaneo-rufous, legs, antennae, and palpi flavescent.

Head, excluding mandibles, oblong, with obtuse hind angles and several unequal punctures, those on the vertex minute. Mandibles nearly as long as the head, curved, each with a small inner tooth at the base. Eyes subrotundate, quite lateral, rather small. Thorax twice as long as broad, with obtuse angles; triseriate-punctate along each side of the middle, the inner series most regular, each consisting of about ten punctures. Elytra scarcely any longer than broad, with curvedly narrowed shoulders and truncate apices; irregularly subseriate punctate. Hind-body half of the whole length, closely punctate, more finely than the elytra, its terminal two segments more finely and distantly.

Antennae shorter than the head and thorax.

Of about the same size as the South Island species, *H. subcaecus* (3985), but at once separable therefrom by its quite distinct eyes, longer mandibles and legs.

Length (mandibles excluded), 5 mm.; breadth, ½ mm.

Oruru, North Auckland. A single individual found by Mr. A. E. Brookes on the 6th October, 1918.

Group PSELAPHINI.

*Pselaphus* Herbst. Gen. Ins. (Wytsm.), Pselaphidae, p. 304.

4276. *Pselaphus cavidorsis* sp. nov.

Nitid, nearly nude, castaneo-rufous, antennae, palpi, and tarsi more flavescent.

Head slightly longer than thorax but not quite as broad, bifoveate between the small coarsely faceted eyes, medially depressed, convex behind, with elevated antennal tubercles, indistinctly punctate. Thorax oviform, rather longer than broad, evidently dilated near the middle, smooth. Elytra subtriangular, longer than thorax, equalling it in width at the base, twice as broad behind; their basal portion concave, depressed and finely, but quite obviously, pubescent at the extremity, with fine sutural striae behind. Hind-body fully as broad as the apical portion of the elytra, its basal segment as long as they are, with broad lateral margins, remaining segments deflexed and short.

Antennae less than half the length of the body, finely pubescent towards the extremity; basal joint about as long as the following three taken together, second nearly as stout but shorter than the first, both of these closely and minutely sculptured; joints 3-7 rather longer than broad, 8 rather shorter, 10 a little shorter and broader, the terminal large, oviform and acuminate.

Maxillary palpi rather longer than the antennae, basal joint short and slender, second more clavate at the extremity than the base, third short and thick; fourth half of the whole length, slender near the base, very

Considerably broader than *T. rugulosa*, with stouter legs and antennae, relatively shorter thorax, and more ample cordiform elytra.

Length,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mm.; breadth,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mm.

Pokako, Main Trunk Railway; 22nd February, 1916. A single specimen picked out of leaf-mould, collected by Mr. James Ford, and handed over to me by Mr. A. E. Brookes, of Mount Albert.

*Phyllotreta* Chevrolat. Man. N.Z. Coleopt., p. 635.

4323. *Phyllotreta paspalae* sp. nov.

Compact, convex, subelongate-oval, nitid, glabrous; nigro-aeneous, posterior femora fuscous, darker than the others, tibiae fusco-testaceous, basal half of antennae fulvescent.

Head finely and closely punctate. Eyes large, oblong-oval, slightly prominent. Thorax a third broader than long, base somewhat rounded, with rectangular angles, its sides distinctly margined, slightly curvedly narrowed and deflexed anteriorly, the apex widely but slightly sinuate towards the rectangular angles; its whole surface distinctly and moderately closely punctate. Scutellum short, rounded behind. Elytra at the base as broad as thorax, thrice its length; distinctly striate-punctate, and with some irregular sutural punctures near the base. Pygidium exposed, grooved along the middle.

Antennae half the length of the body, rather slender, distant at the base, implanted on the plane surface near the front and inner side of the eyes, second joint only slightly shorter than the elongate first or third, the remaining joints elongate and subequal.

Posterior femora strongly dilated, the tibiae subangulate on the outside below the middle, underneath that point excavate for the reception of the basal tarsal joint, which is longer than the next, third bilobed, fourth slender, shorter than first, claws not obviously appendiculate; front tibiae simple, with smaller spurs.

Underside distinctly punctate, its pubescence grey.

Prosternal process broad, grooved along the middle, prolonged almost to the middle coxae, which are as far apart as the anterior. Metasternum moderate, its distinct curved frontal margin extending between the middle coxae. Basal ventral segment nearly as long as the following four together.

This cannot be placed in any New Zealand genus, neither can it remain in *Phyllotreta* on account of the more widely separated anterior coxae and externally clavate posterior tibiae.

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

Lake Ohia, North Auckland. Described from four specimens found by Mr. A. E. Brookes, of Mount Albert, who caught them on *Paspalum* plants.