

Society.

THE SOUTH LONDON ENTOMOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY:
February 12th, 1920.—Mr. K. G. BLAIR, F.E.S., President, in the Chair.

W. Withycombe, of Walthamstow, and Capt. Crocker, of Bexley, were elected members.

Exhibition of the genus Hybernia — its variation.—The Rev. F. M. B. Carr introduced the discussion and exhibition. Messrs. A. A. W. Buckstone, R. Adkin, A. E. Tonge, H. E. Leeds, B. S. Williams, S. Edwards, and Hy. J. Turner exhibited the various species and joined in the discussion. Mr. R. T. Bowman specially dealt with *H. defoliaria* as it occurs in Epping Forest. Mr. Newman, a box of aberrations bought at the Sydney Webb collection, including remarkable specimens of *Arctia caja*, *Hipoerita jacobaeae*, etc. It was reported that *Phigalia pedaria* was fully out near Huddersfield on January 17th, one specimen at Doncaster as early as December 4th, 1919.

February 26th, 1920.—The President in the Chair.

Mr. F. Lindeman, of São Paulo, Brazil, and Mr. S. Abbott, of Catford, were elected members.

Mr. Main, lantern-slides illustrating details of the life-histories of the beetles *Cetonia aurata*, *Dorcus parallelipedus*, *Lucanus cervus*, *Necrophorus humator*, *Nebria brevicollis*, *Pterostichus madidus*, and *Rhagium inquisitor*. Mr. Bunnett, lantern-slides of ova of *Chrysopa* spp., resting attitudes of insects, the egg-breaker of the larva of *Stenopsocus cruciatus*, etc. Mr. A. A. W. Buckstone exhibited a long bred and captured series of *Himera pennaria* from various localities, and read notes on the forms included. Mr. Garrett, an extremely pale xanthic example of *Coenonympha pamphilus*, taken at Wicken.—HY. J. TURNER, Hon. Editor of Proceedings.

NEW SPECIES OF STAPHYLINIDAE FROM CEYLON.—PART II.

BY MALCOLM CAMERON, M.B., R.N., F.E.S.

(Continued from p. 53.)

Falagria ceylonica, n. sp.

Shining, light reddish-brown, the elytra brownish-testaceous, simply punctured, the first two abdominal segments, antennae, and legs testaceous. Length 3.4 mm. So very similar to *F. dimidiata* Motsch. that it will be sufficient to enumerate the points of difference. It is larger and more robust than that species; the head and thorax are lighter and redder, with much more sparing puncturation: the elytra are coloured as in *F. dimidiata* but are more sparingly punctured, as is also the abdomen; the antennae are much shorter and stouter, the 4th to the 9th joints longer than broad but decreasing in length, the 10th as long as broad, the 11th one-half as long again as the preceding.

Hab. Bogawantalawa, alt. 4900–5200 feet (*G. Lewis*).

Falagria asperata, n. sp.

Shining, light reddish-brown, the elytra brownish-testaceous, asperately punctured, except behind; the first two abdominal segments, legs, and antennae testaceous, the middle joints of the latter infusate. Length 2.75 mm. Differs from the preceding species in the following respects: larger and more robust, the head broader and less finely punctured, the thorax more strongly contracted behind, with less fine puncturation, the elytra, except posteriorly, subasperately and more closely punctured, the antennae a little longer, but similarly constructed.

Hab. Bogawantalawa, alt. 4900–5200 feet (*G. Lewis*).

Tachyusa lewisiana, n. sp.

Pitchy, shining, the first two visible abdominal segments fusco-testaceous, the rest shining black; the two basal joints of the antennae and the legs testaceous, the rest of the former scarcely infusate. Length 3 mm. In build very similar to *T. balteata* Er., the head more contracted behind, the thorax a little narrower posteriorly, and the elytra rather more ample. Head finely and not very closely punctured and pubescent, the temples strongly converging posteriorly, the disc with median impressed line, the eyes large. Antennae with the 2nd and 3rd joints of equal length, the 4th to the 10th all longer than broad, gradually decreasing in length, so that the 10th is but a little longer than wide, the 11th about as long as the two preceding together. Thorax pitchy-brown, of the width of the head, a little longer than broad, the sides rounded in front, contracted in a nearly straight line to the obtuse posterior angles; finely and not very closely punctured, finely pubescent. Elytra a little longer and distinctly broader than the thorax, very slightly transverse, finely and not very closely punctured and pubescent. Abdomen moderately constricted at the base, the first two visible segments obscurely fusco-testaceous, the rest shining black; very finely and very sparingly punctured, pubescence rather long and scanty.

Hab. Kandy, alt. 1546–1727 feet (*C. Lewis*).

Atheta (Coprothassa) anepsia, n. sp.

Black, scarcely shining, the elytra bright brownish-yellow; first two joints of the antennae and the legs testaceous. Length 3 mm. So similar to *A. sordida* Marsh. that the following distinctive differences should serve to distinguish the present species: In build it is slightly narrower and on the average a little smaller; the antennae are less stout and the 2nd joint is longer; the posterior angles of the thorax are more rounded; the elytra are more transverse and without scutellar marking; the puncturation of the head, thorax, and elytra is finer; the 2nd joint of the antennae is only a little shorter than the 3rd, the 4th and 5th are a little longer than broad, the 6th to the 10th transverse,* gradually increasing in breadth but more transverse than in *A. sordida*, the 11th moderately long, as long as the two preceding together; the puncturation of abdomen very similar to that of *A. sordida*.

* Except in ♂, in which the 9th joint is square.

♂. 9th joint of the antennae square; 6th ventral segment produced and rounded.

Hab. Bogawantalawa, alt. 4900-5200 feet, Horton Plains, alt. 6000 feet, and Nuwera Eliya, alt. 6234-8000 feet (*G. Lewis*).

Pelioptera permitida, n. sp.

Elongate, linear, black very shining, elytra brownish-testaceous, infuscate at the postero-external angles, the head and thorax with slight bronze reflex; first two joints of the antennae and the legs testaceous. Length 2.5 mm. Differs from *P. micans* Kr. in the longer antennae, with less transverse penultimate joints, the longer and narrower thorax, and the faint bronze reflex of the fore-parts; in build somewhat resembles *Atheta angusticollis* Thoms. Head orbicular, the eyes moderate in size and not prominent, the vertex and front impunctate, the rest of the surface with moderately large, rather close but superficial puncturation. Antennae with the 3rd joint a little shorter than the 2nd, the 4th small, transverse, the 5th to the 10th transverse, gradually increasing in breadth, the 11th fully as long as the two preceding together. Thorax broader than the head, a little broader than long, the sides gently rounded in front, contracted gradually in a nearly straight line to the rounded posterior angles; the disc with a rather broad, smooth space extending the whole length in the middle, and longitudinally impressed on either side with four small distinct punctures placed quadrately, the general puncturation larger, rather close but very superficial, not extending much towards the sides, which are practically impunctate. Elytra broader, but scarcely longer than the thorax, slightly transverse, finely and obsoletely punctured, finely pubescent. Abdomen parallel, very finely and very sparsely punctured, very sparingly pubescent. Sexual differences unknown.

Hab. Dikoya, alt. 3800-4200 feet (*G. Lewis*).

Orphnebius * *cingulatus*, n. sp.

Black, shining, disc of the elytra obscurely rufescent, abdomen red, the 5th and 6th segments pitchy; anterior pair of legs and first four joints of the antennae reddish-testaceous, middle and posterior legs pitchy-testaceous. Length 2.3 mm. Head large, transverse, a little broader than the thorax, the posterior angles briefly rounded, the disc with a row of three moderately large but superficial punctures on either side, otherwise impunctate and glabrous; the eyes large, not prominent. Antennae with the 1st joint laterally compressed, the 2nd much shorter than the 3rd, the 4th as long as broad, the 5th to the 10th transverse, gradually increasing in breadth, the penultimate joints twice as broad as long, the 11th short, oval. Thorax one-third as broad again as long, the sides gently rounded, a little more contracted behind, the posterior angles obtuse; disc with a single moderately large puncture on either side and two or three others close together in front of and external to these, otherwise impunctate and glabrous. Elytra scarcely longer, but much broader than the thorax, the disc obscurely reddish; finely and very sparingly punctured and

* As modified by Sharp. Biol. Centr.-Amer., Coleopt. i, 2, p. 209.

pubescent at the sides, the disc nearly impunctate, with very fine obsolete round-sculpture. Abdomen scaphoid, the lateral margins strongly raised; 8th dorsal segment coarsely and rugosely punctured, except on the posterior third, which is longitudinally strigose, the other segments impunctate, smooth, shining, and glabrous.

♂. Supero-posterior angle of the 2nd ventral plate produced backwards parallel and external to the lateral margin of the abdomen to the level of the posterior margin of the 5th dorsal segment as a narrow triangular pointed plate; supero-posterior angles of the 3rd and 4th ventral segments a little prominent; 8th dorsal segment with a small blunt tooth on either side of the posterior margin, produced and much narrowed in the middle line, the apex rounded.

Hab. Kandy (*G. E. Bryant*). Type in my own collection.

Orphnebius bryanti, n. sp.

Black, shining, the elytra obscure testaceous, the lateral borders dark; antennae with the 2nd and 3rd joints pitchy; legs pitchy, the tarsi testaceous. Length 2.75-3.5 mm. Differs from the preceding (apart from the colour) in the absence of the row of three punctures on either side of the head, and the presence of a few punctures near the eyes; the thorax much more strongly contracted towards the base, the single large puncture on either side of the middle absent, a few fine punctures present towards the sides; the elytra more evenly but very sparingly punctured.

♂. Supero-posterior angle of the 2nd ventral plate only slightly prominent; 8th dorsal plate broadly rounded and but little produced, with a row of eight tubercles in front of and parallel to the posterior margin; 6th dorsal segment with a transverse row of six obsolete tubercles before the posterior margin.

Hab. Kandy (*G. E. Bryant*). Type in my own collection.

ORPHNEBIOTA, n. gen.

Maxillary palpi 4-jointed, the 1st joint small, the 2nd elongate, scarcely thickened towards apex, the 3rd as long as the preceding and but little thickened, the 4th subulate, one-half as long as the preceding. Labial palpi 4-jointed, the 1st joint rather short, the 2nd a little shorter and narrower than the 1st, the 3rd longer and narrower than the 2nd. Inner lobe of maxilla long and narrow, feebly pectinate internally in front, outer lobe long and narrow, densely ciliate. Temples not bordered below; neck narrow. Mesosternum truncate posteriorly, extending but little between the middle coxae, which are widely separated; metasternal process gradually narrowed, produced, the apex rounded, not meeting the mesosternum. Tarsal formula 4, 5, 5: the anterior pair with first three joints moderately stout, subequal, the fourth as long as the three preceding together; the middle pair with the first four joints elongate, gradually decreasing in length; the posterior pair elongate, with the 1st joint as long as the two following together, the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th gradually shorter.

Elytra not sinuate posteriorly. Abdomen scaphoid, the sides strongly elevated. Wings present.

The species on which this genus is founded has the facies of *Orphnebius ventricosus* Motsch. (Bull. Mosc. 1858, 2, tab. 1, fig. S), from Colombia; the structure of the posterior tarsi, however, agrees with that of *Myrmedonia*, that of the mesosternum with *Orphnebius* as detailed by Sharp in Biol. Centr.-Amer., Coleopt. i, 2, p. 209, 1883. Much more material appears essential before a classification of a satisfactory nature can be arrived at in regard to *Myrmedonia* and the allied groups.

Orphnebiota rufocastanea, n. sp.

Shining, reddish-chestnut, the elytra brownish-yellow, with the sides obscurely darker; first four joints of the antennae and legs testaceous, the apices of the middle and posterior femora a little infuscate. Length 3.75 mm. Head transverse, nearly as broad as the thorax, very finely and very sparingly punctured; the eyes large, the temples gradually and broadly rounded. Antennae elongate, the 2nd joint shorter than the 3rd, 4th to the 8th longer than broad, gradually decreasing in length, 9th and 10th about as long as broad, the 11th elongate, pointed, nearly as long as the two preceding together. Thorax as long as broad, rounded at the sides anteriorly, slightly narrowed and feebly sinuate in front of the obtuse posterior angles, impunctate, glabrous. Elytra as long as and considerably broader than the thorax, transverse, finely, not very closely and asperately punctured, finely pubescent, the ground-sculpture very fine and obsolete. Abdomen scaphoid, the lateral margins much elevated; 7th dorsal segment coarsely and rugosely striate for the anterior two-thirds, much more finely so posteriorly, and less shining, also the other segments impunctate, shining, and glabrous.

♂. 7th dorsal segment with a small flat tubercle immediately in front of the posterior margin in the middle; 8th dorsal segment with a deep triangular excision; supero-posterior angles of the ventral segments prominent.

Hab. Kandy (*G. E. Bryant*). Type in my own collection.

Myrmedonia opacicollis, n. sp.

Shining rufo-castaneous, the thorax opaque, impunctate, with the disc infuscate, the elytra obscurely infuscate; antennae and legs reddish-testaceous. Length 3 mm. A small robust form, with a dull, impunctate and densely coriaceous thorax (which has in certain lights a somewhat purplish "bloom") and very shining head, elytra, and abdomen, which are destitute of ground-sculpture. Head large, transverse, the eyes moderately large, the temples rounded and a little dilated; the upper surface with a few setiferous punctures, otherwise practically impunctate. Antennae moderately long and stout, the 1st joint rather stout, grooved above throughout its length, the 2nd and 3rd shorter, subequal, the 4th a little longer than broad, the 5th to the 10th transverse, gradually increasing in breadth, the 11th elongate, gradually pointed, longer than the two preceding together. Thorax wider than the head,

rather more than one-fourth broader than long, gently rounded at the sides, more narrowed behind than in front, the posterior angles depressed, obtuse, completely opaque (except the extreme anterior and lateral borders and anterior and posterior angles, which are shining); impunctate, coriaceous, the sides each with four setae. Elytra as long as and a little broader than the thorax, transverse, very finely and very sparingly punctured and pubescent. Abdomen parallel, the lateral margins moderately elevated; 7th segment studded with small granules, the rest, except for a few fine setae, glabrous and impunctate. First joint of posterior tarsi shorter than the last, slightly longer than the 2nd.

Hab. Bogawantalawa, alt. 4900-5200 feet (*G. Lewis*).

Apimela indica, n. sp.

Elongate-parallel, depressed, shining reddish-yellow, the head transversely orbicular and darker; first three joints of the antennae and legs yellow. Length 2.2 mm. Very similar to *A. macella* Er., the head rounder and more distinctly punctured, the thorax and elytra shorter, and the build rather larger and more robust. Head transversely orbicular, the eyes small and not prominent, vertex with a small impression, closely, finely, and obsolete punctured, finely pubescent. Antennae similar in structure to those of *A. macella* Er. Thorax a little broader than long, the sides gently rounded in front, contracted in a nearly straight line to the obtuse posterior angles, very finely, closely, and obsolete punctured, finely pubescent. Elytra scarcely longer but a little broader than the thorax, square, very finely, closely, and obsolete punctured, finely pubescent. Abdomen parallel, the first three visible segments very finely, obsolete, and moderately closely punctured, the 6th, 7th, and 8th very sparingly punctured; pubescence moderately coarse.

Hab. Bogawantalawa, alt. 4800-5200 feet (*G. Lewis*).

January, 1920.

DESCRIPTIONS OF TEN NEW VARIETIES OF
ABRAXAS GROSSULARIATA.

BY G. T. PORRITT, F.L.S.

I have been so repeatedly urged by Lepidopterists from various parts of the country when looking over my collections to name and describe the following forms of *Abraxas grossulariata*, that perhaps it is advisable to do so. Besides these, I have odd specimens of a number of other undescribed forms, bred from wild larvae here, some of them very remarkable; but as I regard them as merely casual aberrations, and scarcely likely to be recurrent, it would, I think, be unwise to adopt names for them.

1. Var. *lunulata*, n.

A striking black and white form, in which the usual yellow is practically obliterated. The fore wings are wholly black with the exception of the narrow