

Two females, one completely abraded. Separable at once from *M. latifrons* and *M. nigripilis*, ♀, by the testaceous legs and much smaller eyes.

Hedybius (?) *cristatus*, n. sp.*

♂. Moderately elongate, shining, clothed with whitish pubescence. intermixed with long, erect, black hairs; black, the antennal joints 1-3 on their outer edge, and the apices of the anterior and intermediate tibiae, testaceous, the elytra violaceous; closely, minutely, the elytra much more distinctly punctate. Head short, about as wide as the prothorax, very deeply, sharply, triangularly excavate in the middle, and with a stout, matted, tuft of curled hairs in the centre in front, the eyes prominent, moderately large; antennae rather elongate, strongly pectinate. Prothorax transverse, convex, narrowly margined, rounded at the sides. Elytra parallel, slightly wider than the prothorax, moderately long. Legs hairy; anterior tarsal joint 2 with a long claw-like extension above, which nearly reaches the apex of 3.

Length $3\frac{1}{4}$ mm.

Hab. W. Almora Division of Kumaon (*H. G. C.*: iii.1917).

One male, somewhat doubtfully referred to the genus *Hedybius*, differing from *Malachiomimus latifrons* (♂) in having comparatively small eyes, strongly pectinate antennae, a triangularly excavate, cristate head, parallel elytra, etc. *H. cristatus* could not very well be included under *Attalus*, even in the wide sense; the two Indian *Attali* noted above must be nearly allied to it.

(To be continued.)

AN ABERRANT GENUS OF *GEOCORINÆ*.

BY DR. E. BERGROTH, C.M.Z.S.

My friend, Mr. E. A. Butler, has sent me several specimens of a small bug, the systematic place of which he was unable to determine. It was found by Mr. T. V. Campbell at the roots of grasses at Chikka-ballapura, not far from Bangalore, in South India, and he writes to say that "it works its way along the ground like a small mouse." A microscopical examination of its characters shows that this insect should be referred to the subfamily *Geocorinae*, fam. *Myodochidae*. It differs, however, from that family in the absence of ocelli and in the two-jointed tarsi, but the ocelli are missing in many other *Myodochidae* with undeveloped membrane, and as two-jointed tarsi are found also in many *Pentatomidae* and in some *Reduviidae*, we must be prepared for the fact that they in exceptional cases can be met with in other families with

* Enumerated under the name *Malachiomimus (?) cristatus*, antea, p. 71; it would be better placed under *Hedybius* for the present.

normally three-jointed tarsi. Anomalous as it is, the new genus here described is not, however, quite isolated. Under the name *Psammium mica* Breddin* has described (from S. W. Africa) a new genus and species, which he placed in the *Geocorinae*, and which is clearly allied to the genus found by Mr. Campbell. *Psammium* is said to resemble "a lump of cohering grains of sand," and it is still more aberrant than the Indian genus, which at first sight has the general appearance of a small weevil.

SYMPEPLUS, nov. gen.

(συμπεπλος = with fused tegmina.)

Corpus piriforme. Caput transversum, pronoto longius et basi hujus paullo angustius, ante oculos in spinam porrectam et apice in processum conicum productum, sulco clypeali destitutum sed utrinque linea impressa percurrente intralaterali (saepe crusta tecta et tunc parum visibili) instructum, oculis sessilibus, a supero visis leviter obliquis, fere reniformibus, angulos apicales pronoti tangentibus, orbita post medium sinuata, ocellis nullis, antennis inter processum apicalem et spinam lateralem inferne insertis, capite parum longioribus, articulo primo ceteris robustiore, apicem capitis levissime superante, inter omnes longissimo, secundo brevissimo, bucculis percurrentibus, linearibus, rostro coxas medias attingente, articulo primo medianum gulae paulum superante. Pronotum multo latius quam longius, in transversum sat fortiter, in longitudinem minus convexum, angulis leviter rotundatis, marginibus apicali et lateralibus subrectis, basali levissime rotundato vel fere recto, areis cicatricalibus in axi longitudinali corporis jacentibus, late distantibus, angustis, leviter sigmoideis, impressis sed crusta albida repletis, inter se impressione transversa conjunctis. Scutellum fortiter transversum, triangulare, apice carina brevi instructum. Elytra in transversum et in longitudinem valde et quam venter magis convexa, abdomen totum tegentia, tota coriacea, membrana destituta, per totam longitudinem concreta, commissuram carinatum formantia, clavo cum corio etiam coalito, saepe (non semper) loco suturae carini tenui vel vestigio ejus instructo. Anguli postici metasterni acutiusculi; orificia brevia, subtilia. Abdomen subtus in transversum sat fortiter convexum. Pedes modice distantes, breviusculi, simplices, tarsis bi-articulatis, articulo secundo longiore.

Seen in profile the upper curve of the body is not continuous, there being a very distinct impression between the elytra (and scutellum) and the pronotum, and a less pronounced impression between the pronotum and the head. In nearly all the specimens seen the elytra are considerably raised above the level of the pronotum, only the smallest male having the former scarcely higher than the latter. When the faint keel indicating the place where the claval suture should be is present, it reaches the middle of the elytral commissure.

This genus has all the more important characters in common with *Psammium* Bredd., but the latter has shortly stylated eyes, a strongly

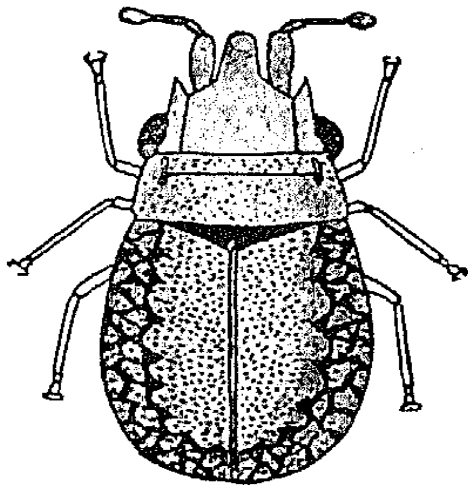
* Derkschr. Nat. Ges. Jena, xvii, p. 68 (1913).—In the "Zool. Record" and other bibliographic works this paper (*loc. cit.* pp. 47-88) will be found under the name F. Schumacher, as the latter (who in the preface speaks of his "Pietät" towards Breddin) has chosen to place himself alone on the title-page as the author of the paper. As a matter of fact it is a posthumous paper of Breddin's, in which only the few Cicadae and 6 out of the 23 new Heteroptera are described by Schumacher.

elevated uneven protuberance behind the clypeus, a high 4- or 5-lobed percurrent hump bearing a smooth median keel in the centre of the basally slightly sinuate pronotum, and each elytron furnished with numerous tubercles arranged in three oblique curved rows and a fourth row of lower tubercles on the costal margin. Moreover, the upper surface of *Psammium* is in part clothed with close-set, broad, silvery scales. I think there can be no doubt that these two genera are really apterous. I have in vain tried to disconnect the elytra of *Sympeplus*; they are completely coalesced down their whole length.

SYMPEPLUS CURCULIUNCULUS, n. sp.

Glaber, opacus; supra flavo-testaceus, capite et scutello fere semper nigris, illo lateribus tenuiter albido-incrustato, carinula apicali scutelli albida, limbo lato costali elytrorum fusco-reticulato; subtus niger, capite, limbo antico et margine laterali pectoris, parte laterali basis ventris hujusque margine laterali albo-incrustatis; rostrum nigrum; antennae et pedes obscure testacea, articulo primo illarum femoribusque infuscatis. Caput supra dense et minute subcon-

fluenter punctulatum, articulo tertio antennarum secundo vix duplo longiore, lineari, quarto tertio paullo brevior, fusiformi. Pronotum dense punctulatum. Scutellum subtiliter punctulatum. Elytra dense sed quam pronotum fortius punctata. Abdomen subtus dense punctulatum, segmento genitali maris rotundato, convexo, punctulato, segmentis duobus ultimis ventralibus conjunctis medio subaeque longo, segmento ultimo ventrali feminae (vaginam includente) segmentis duobus praecedentibus unitis medio distincte longiore.



Long. ♂ 1.7-1.9 mm., ♀ 2-2.2 mm.

Hab. S. INDIA, Chikkaballapura (*T. V. Campbell*).

The reticulate fuscous lateral markings of the elytra are sometimes reduced to two rows of fuscous spots.

Breddin says nothing of the tarsi in *Psammium*, but I think there can be no doubt that they are two-jointed.

The *Geocorinae* should be divided into two groups with the following characters.

GEOCORINI: Ocelli adsunt, saltem in formis macropteris. Elytra libera, plus minusve depressa, corio, clavo membranaeque composita, clava et corio rarissime in unum confusis, membranararissime deficiente. Tarsi tri-articulati.

PSAMMIINI: Ocelli desunt. Elytra tota coriacea, fortiter et communiter fornicato-convexa, per totam longitudinem coalita, corio et clavo in unum confusis, membrana deficiente. Tarsi bi-articulati.

Distant has described an Indian genus, *Meschia*, which he placed in the *Heterogastrinae*, but probably will prove to belong to the *Geocorinae*. It has the head and pronotum not unlike those of *Sympeplus*, and, judging from the figures, there is a tubercle behind the clypeus as in *Psammium*, though much less developed. He says nothing of the tarsi, and figures those of *M. pugnae* as three-jointed, whereas the figure of *M. quadrimaculata* represents them as two-jointed.* He included the genus in the *Heterogastrinae* on account of the membrane having a cell near the inner basal angle, but the *Heterogastrinae* have generally either two such cells or the longitudinal veins emitted from a transverse sub-basal vein. Distant has placed among the *Heterogastrinae* several genera which really belong to other subfamilies. For instance, *Esmun* Dist. and *Euhemerus* Dist. (both synonyms of *Blissus* Burm.) were referred by him to the *Heterogastrinae* on account of the above-mentioned cell; had he looked at Klug's figure of the type of *Blissus*, he would have seen that the venation of the membrane is quite the same. A cell near the inner basal angle of the membrane is not a character peculiar to the *Heterogastrinae*, but occurs in several genera and species of other subfamilies, as in some *Geocorinae*, *Blissinae*, etc., and is not of great systematic importance. Whether *Meschia* belongs to the *Heterogastrinae* or to the *Geocorinae* can be decided only by an examination of the spiracles, the position of which is quite different in these subfamilies.

Jämsä, Finland.

February 23rd, 1921.

Coleoptera of the Oxford District, Fifth Supplement, by J. J. Walker.—The Fifth Supplement to the preliminary list of the Coleoptera of this district, comprising a radius of 7 miles from the centre of the city at Carfax, has recently been published in the Report of the Ashmolean Natural History Society of Oxfordshire for 1920. This adds 130 species to those previously recorded by the same author, bringing the total number (allowance being made for sundry withdrawals) to 2070, very many of which are due to his unceasing activity in the field. Advantage is taken in the present Supplement to include several interesting species found during past years at Weston-on-the-Green, a locality just beyond the conventional radius, the Rev. A. Matthews having recorded various *Trichopterygidae*, etc., from this place. Of the *Stylopidae*, no fewer than eight species are enumerated, mainly due to the energy of Mr. A. H. Hamm.—G. C. CHAMPION, Horsell: April 19th, 1921.

Note on Cionus longicollis Bris. var. *montanus* Wingelm.—In the current number of the "Entomologist's Record" Mr. Donisthorpe gives an account of the distribution of our British *Cioni*, with a simple table of the species

* Mr. Champion informs me that they are three-jointed in both species.