

IV HISTERIDAE, HYDROPHILIDAE, EROTYLIDAE, LATHRIDIIDAE, TENEBRIONIDAE, AND HYLOPHILIDAE.

By K. G. BLAIR.

HISTERIDAE.

Carcinops 14-striatus Steph.

This species was abundant in the cavern at about 400 feet from the entrance, living under stones in soil heavily manured with bat-guano. The specimens differ slightly from the usual form, which is mainly European in distribution but occurs also in Hawaii and N. America, in having the posterior and middle tibiae a little broader, with the spines along the outer side smaller, etc. It is possibly a different species, though I should hesitate to describe it as new.

HYDROPHILIDAE.

Cercyon sp.

A single specimen of this genus, found in the same situation as *Carcinops*, possibly represents a new species. It is allied to *C. haemorrhoidalis* F. (= *flavipes* F.) of the European fauna and to *C. placidus* Shp. of Japan.

EROTYLIDAE.

Euxestus parki Woll.

This species, kindly determined by Mr. G. J. Arrow, is one of wide distribution and was not uncommon under stones in damp earth heavily manured with bat-guano at about 500 ft. from the entrance.

In its original locality, Madeira, it was found abundantly in gardens, under dry vegetable refuse, and also occasionally in the nests of ants.

LATHRIDIIDAE.

Holoparamaecus sp.

A single specimen belonging to this genus was caught flying at about 400 feet from the mouth of the cave. It probably represents a new species, allied to *H. caularum* Aub., but more convex, with thorax more strongly constricted at base, elytra more ovate, etc.

TENEBRIONIDAE.

Palorus exilis Mars.

This species, of which Waterhouse's *P. minor* is a synonym, is represented by a number of specimens found under stones at a distance of 550 feet from the mouth of the cave in very light dusty soil. The series seems to agree absolutely with Marseul's type from Japan. The species has also been recorded from Java and, as *P. minor*, from Damma I.

Diaclina rufotincta Fairm.

Numerous specimens found under stones in damp soil heavily manured with bat-guano at a distance of 400 feet from the mouth of the cave. The species was described from Indo-China.

HYLOPHILIDAE.

Hylophilus kempfi, sp. nov.

Elongate, grayish black with the apical joints of the tarsi, and the underside of the basal joints testaceous; clothed throughout with a short moderately dense decumbent pubescence, giving the insect a pruinose appearance. Head across the eyes slightly wider than the thorax, the vertex somewhat gibbous, the back of the head concave; eyes large, the genae behind them evident; antennae slender, hairy, 3rd joint rather shorter than 4th and this than 5th, 5th to 8th equal, cylindrical, 9th and 10th slightly shorter, 11th thickest near middle, thence tapering sharply to apex; last joint of maxillary palpi large and transverse, inner side only half as long as outer, and more strongly arcuate. Thorax about as long as broad, sides subparallel in basal half, strongly narrowed in front, base rounded in middle, the posterior angles blunt, but slightly prominent above base of elytra, surface distinctly though rather finely punctate, the interspaces opaque and strongly alutaceous. Scutellum feebly elongate, apex truncate or slightly emarginate. Elytra nearly twice as wide as base of thorax, convex, subparallel for 2/3 of their length, disc irregularly punctate, rather more sparsely and coarsely than the thorax, the interspaces alutaceous, but more nitid than on the thorax. Legs long and slender, tarsi, except of posterior pair, about as long as their tibiae, posterior femora slightly thickened beyond middle; anterior pair showing sexual dimorphism.

♂ More slender than ♀, anterior femora shorter and incrassate, straight beneath but upper side strongly arcuate; anterior tibiae short and thickened on inner side about middle; apex of elytra bluntly rounded; antennae nearly as long as body. Length 3 mm.

♀ Elytra with a shallow post-basal depression, and another, parallel with the suture, beyond the middle, apex divaricate, each ending in a blunt point; antennae 3/4 of length of body. Length 3½ mm.

Very close to *H. troglodytes* Champ. from Selangor, a species also cavernicolous in habit, but the new species is larger; has the vertex of the head more prominent, and the sexual characters different in both sexes.

This species was by no means rare in the Siju cave and was always caught flying to light. It was common at 400-500 feet from the mouth and a few specimens were found at greater depths, up to 2,000 feet.

Hylophilus speluncarum Pic¹ has been found in great numbers in a cave at Kulumuzi, near Tanga in E. Africa, and is also attracted by light.

¹ Pic, *Voyage de Ch. Alluaud et R. Jeannel en Afrique Orientale, Coleopt.*, p. 159 (1914) and Alluaud et Jeannel, *Arch. Zool. Expér. Gén.* (5) LIII, p. 374 (1914).

With the exception of the *Hylophilus*, it is noteworthy that none of the species in this section are essentially cavernicolous in habit, most of them indeed being commonly found feeding on dried or decaying organic matter in the open. The presence of the elaterid in this *coterie* is perhaps remarkable since its immediate relatives appear to have mainly wood-feeding larvae, though in some cases they are predaceous upon other larvae living in such situations. In this way it may be that the *Megapenthes* larvae prey upon the saprophagous larvae living in the guano-impregnated floor of the cave, or they may themselves be saprophagous, and feed on this material instead of in rotten wood.