

XXXVII. *Descriptions of some Exotic Insects, belonging to the Family Aphodiidæ.* By J. O. WESTWOOD, F.L.S.

[Read 7th August, 1843, and 7th April, 1845.]

EUPARIA CASTANEA. (Pl. XVII. fig. 3.)

THIS insect has hitherto been known only by the short description given in the *Encyclopédie Méthodique* (vol. x. p. 357), by Messrs. Serville and St. Fargeau, who merely state that "ce nouveau genre, très voisin de celui d'*Aphodie*, s'en distingue par les caractères suivans : côtés de la tête dilatés, et formant un triangle, angles postérieures du corselet fortement échancrés, angles huméraux des élytres pointus, et très prolongés en devant;" giving the following short specific description :

"*Euparia* fuscè castanea; punctata; capitis angulis lateralibus dilatato-subspinosus; thoracis basi sinuatâ, utrinque marginatâ; elytris striato-punctatis, humeris porrecto-subspinosus.

"Long. 3 lin.

"Patrie inconnue."

Dejean introduced this insect into his "Catalogue des Coléoptères" as a native of North America; a specimen of the same insect, sent by M. Gory to Mr. Hope for examination, was also labelled North America.

This specimen was  $2\frac{1}{2}$  lines long (English measure), of a dark castaneous colour, with the elytra somewhat darker, the pronotum very glossy, and the sides of the body clothed with short pale luteous setæ. The head is nearly as broad as the prothorax, with a deep incision on each side, leaving the lateral angles free and prominent. The mandibles (fig. 3*a*), maxillæ (fig. 3*b*), and lower parts of the mouth (fig. 3*c*), as may be expected, scarcely differ from those of *Aphodius* (Mod. Class. Ins. i. 201, cut 20, fig. 15—18); the mentum is however more quadrate, and broader in front (fig. 3*c*), and I did not perceive the basal joint of the labial palpi, which was probably retracted. The prothorax is broad, and has the fore angles porrected, whilst the hind ones are emarginate. Each elytron has eight fine simple longitudinal striæ, each of which is margined with a row of small punctures on either side. The fore tibiæ are tridentate, and the hind ones simple and slender.

Pl. XVII. fig. 3. *Euparia castanea*; 3*a*, mandible; 3*b*, maxillæ; 3*c*, instrumenta labialia.



*Euparia nigricans*, Westw. N. Sp. (Pl. XVII. fig. 4.)

*E. piceo-nigra*, capitis parte antica tarsisque rufescentibus, pronoti angulis anticis porrectis, posticis latioribus rotundatis, angulisque humeralibus elytrorum acute porrectis.

Long. corp. lin.  $2\frac{1}{2}$ .

Habitat — ?

In Mus. Dupont, Parisiis.

This insect, in the form of the head and the produced anterior angles of the elytra, resembles the preceding species, but the form of the prothorax is very different, being considerably narrower before than behind, with the fore angles porrected and rounded, the hind angles rounded off, and the disk covered with large deep punctures, and the margins setose. Each elytron is marked with eight rows of deeply impressed striæ. The scutellum is elongate, triangular. The anterior tibiæ are tridentate, and the hind ones slender, but dilated at the tips.

I regret that I am not able to give the locality of this species, M. Dupont having sent me the insect with no other indication than was afforded by a bit of green paper attached to it. As Entomologists can never be universally brought to agree upon the employment of particular coloured labels for particular geographical districts, and moreover as such a plan, even if adopted, would still require the indication of more precise localities, now that the geographical range of insects has become so much more important an element in entomological science than it has until lately been deemed, I cannot but strongly object to the employment of any other mode of indication of localities than that of their absolute name upon tickets attached to the specimens.

Pl. XVII. fig. 4. *Euparia nigricans*; 4a, meso- and meta-sterna.

#### RYPARUS, Guérin, ined.

This genus has hitherto remained undescribed, being, I believe, only indicated by name in Dejean's "Catalogue des Coléoptères." An unique specimen, received by Mr. Hope from M. Guérin himself, has been kindly lent me for examination, and I now beg leave to offer the following description and accompanying figure of this interesting insect to the Entomological Society.

*Caput* magnum, supra fere planum, angulis lateralibus ante oculos parum prominentibus. *Antennæ* 9-articulatæ. *Maxillæ* ut in *Aphodio* formatæ. *Mentum* transverso-quadratum, antice valde setosum. *Labium* e lobis duobus membranaceis



ciliatis constans. *Palpilabiales* breves, laterales, et, ut videntur, triarticulati. *Prothorax* fere quadratus, capite parum latior, lateribus versus angulos anticos sinuatis, disco longitudinaliter costato. *Prosternum* ante pedes anticos porrectum. *Pedes* antici breves, femoribus crassis, tibiis extus edentatis tarsisque brevibus. *Elytra* prothorace paullo latiora, ante medium parum dilatata, disco costata, costis ante apicem terminatis. *Scutellum* minimum fere inconspicuum. *Pedes* 4 postici graciles, breves, tibiis haud denticulatis. *Abdomen* segmento anali subtus rotundato, granuloso.

*Ryparus Desjardinsii*, Guérin. (Pl. XVII. fig. 5.)

Niger, opacus, punctatus, luteo-squamosus; pronoto costis 6 longitudinalibus, intermedio utrinque ante medium interrupto, elytrorum sutura costisque 4 (in singulo) elevatis glabris, costis utrinque punctatis; antennis luteis.

Long. corp. lin.  $2\frac{1}{3}$ .

Habitat in Insula Mauriti. D. Desjardins.

In Mus. D. Hope.

This species has been named by M. Guérin Méneville in honour of the late M. J. Desjardins, an excellent entomologist, long resident in the island of Mauritius, where his loss will be felt as long and deeply as it is by those entomologists who, like myself, had been in frequent correspondence with him.

Pl. XVII. fig. 5. *Ryparus Desjardinsii* magnified.

5 a, the head seen from above; 5 b, maxilla; 5 c, instrumenta labialia  
5 d, antenna; 5 e, underside of the prothorax; 5 f, anterior tarsus;  
5 g, hind leg; 5 h, underside of the abdomen.

In a small collection of *Coleoptera* recently received from Capt. Boys, corresponding M. E. S., collected at Mhow, in Malwa, in Central India, there were several specimens of a small Lamellicorn beetle, which, although resembling a small species of *Aphodius* in general figure, presented so curious an aspect from their deeply sculptured prothorax, setose tips of the elytra, and broad flat feet, destitute of spines or spurs, that I was induced to examine the structure of the mouth, and therein detected a formation of which I believe no other Coprophagous Lamellicorn offers an analogy. The nature of the food of this great division of the genus *Scarabæus* of Linnæus, consisting of wet vegetable or excrementitious matter, needs only membranous maxillæ and mandibles, whilst their



feet are strongly digitated for boring through it or the earth; whereas in the little insects before us we find the maxillæ armed with strong horny setæ or spines, and the feet, although broad, entirely destitute of spines or spurs, presenting in this respect, as well as in the bundles of setæ at the extremity of the abdomen, a singular analogy to some of the species of *Paussus*. It is therefore quite certain that these insects must differ very materially from the *Aphodiidæ* in their habits, and, from the formation of the maxillæ, they might perhaps be considered as more nearly related to the *Trogidæ*, in several of which we have the maxillæ furnished with strong horny spines, as in this new genus, but the mandibles of the *Trogidæ* are corneous and large, whereas in this new genus the mandibles, as well as the labrum and labial palpi, are obsolete; at least I have been unable to discover any rudiment of them in three specimens which I have dissected. From the setose extremity of the elytra the genus may be named

#### CHÆTOPISTHES.

*Corpus* oblongum, glabrum, dorso valde sulcato. *Caput* antice deflexum, fronte semicirculari marginato, margine parum reflexo, acumine subangulato, clypeo infra parum convexo, cavitate ovali os includente. *Labrum* obsoletum? *Mandibulæ* membranaceæ?, obsoletæ? *Maxillæ* corneæ, extus valde setosæ, lobo apicali corneo, in unguem acutissimum curvato, subtus setis rectis corneis armato. *Mentum* ovale, basi truncatum. *Labium* et palpi labiales obsoleti? *Antennæ* 9-articulatæ, articulo 2do tribus sequentibus æquali; 6to intus acute producto, tribus ultimis clavam articulis liberis formantibus. *Prothorax* fere rotundatus, antice truncatus, convexus, glaberrimus, medio profunde sulcatus. *Metasternum* subtriangulare. *Elytra* glabra, apicibus setosis, singulo 4-sulcato, sulcis æqui-distantibus. *Pedes* lati, compressi; tibiæ nec spinosæ nec serratæ, angulis externis apicalibus acutis, oblique truncatis.

*Chætopisthes fulvus*, Westw. (Pl. XVII. fig. 6.)

Totus fulvus, nitidus, capite et prothorace parum castaneis, hoc per totam longitudinem ejus sulcato, angulis posticis basi-que transverse impresso, impressionibus setulosis.

Long. corp. lin.  $1\frac{3}{4}$ .

Habitat in India centrali. D. Boys.

Pl. XVII. fig. 6. *Chætopisthes fulvus* magnified.

6a, the underside of the head; 6b, maxilla; 6c, mentum; 6d, antenna; 6e, fore foot; 6f, middle and hind feet; 6g, posterior angle of the pronotum.







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