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Descriptions of several new species of North American COLEOPTERA.

BY JAMES H. B. BLAND.

(Communicated April 10th, 1865.)

The insects described in the present paper were collected during the past year in Colorado Territory, by Mr. James Ridings, and presented by him to the Society.

PTEROSTICHUS INORNATUS n. sp.

Body black; head glabrous, furnished with several long, erect, brownish hairs; two deep impressions above the base of the mandibles; labrum rugose, coarsely and deeply punctured on the lateral and anterior margins; a long brown hair proceeding from each puncture; mandibles piceous, palpi chestnut-brown; antennæ piceous, clothed with prostrate fulvous pubescence, and long, erect, fulvous hair. Thorax widest in front of the middle, narrowed slightly to the anterior margin, and narrowed posteriorly to three-fourths the width of the elytra, obsolete rugose; a curved transverse line near the anterior margin; central longitudinal line deeply impressed, becoming obsolete before reaching the margins; a deep puncture near the posterior angles, a deep longitudinal depression extending about one-third of the length of the thorax, between the central line and the lateral margin. Elytra striated, punctures of the striæ obsolete; interstices convex, closely and minutely punctured; second striæ from the lateral margin coarsely and irregularly punctured; closely punctured near the tip; beneath piceous, minutely punctured; anterior tibiæ furnished with several rows of upright, fulvous bristles, those on the posterior tarsi somewhat prostrate. Length 6 to 7 lines.

PTEROSTICHUS AGRESTIS n. sp.

Body black, shining; head furnished with a few long, fulvous hairs; antennæ dark brown, clothed with fulvous pubescence; mandibles black; palpi dark brown. Thorax smooth, widest in front of the middle; sides rounded to near the posterior angles; a deeply impressed longitudinal line; thorax deeply impressed near the posterior angles, the impression closely and rugosely punctured, the punctures extending across the base. Elytra striated, striæ regularly punctured; interstices flattened, second lateral stria coarsely punctured at the rounding to the tip. Beneath black; head, prothorax and side pieces of the meso- and metathorax opaque, rugosely punctured; meso- and metapectus shining. Legs dark brown, minutely punctured. Length $5\frac{1}{2}$ lines.

NECROPHORUS HECATE n. sp.

Body black, shining, deeply punctured; elytra with four rufous marks.

Head minutely punctured, a deep glabrous depression on the centre between the antennæ, and a transverse suture back of the antennæ; central line not deeply impressed; a deeply impressed, obliquely rounded line extending from the base of the antennæ towards the centre within one-fourth of the base, forming a heart-shaped disc; suddenly contracted near the base and forming a neck; antennæ black, club rufous; mouth furnished with pale fulvous hairs. Thorax neatly punctured, broadest in front of the middle; central line not deeply impressed; lateral and posterior margin rounded and flattened; scutellum black, neatly punctured. Elytra deeply punctured, humeri prominent; two elevated longitudinal lines, commencing at the base of the scutel, separating to the width of one line, becoming obsolete near the tip; a wide, transverse, uneven, rufous mark in front of the middle, one on the posterior fourth, leaving the tip narrowly margined with black. Beneath black, closely punctured; thorax and tarsi clothed with golden pubescence; abdominal segments furnished with black ciliæ. Length 7 to 10 lines.

AGRILUS PULCHELLUS n. sp.

Head metallic-green, closely punctured, deeply impressed between the eyes; antennæ black. Thorax metallic-green, closely punctured; central line distinct, a deep dilated fovea on the dorsal surface extending from the anterior margin to the centre, also deeply impressed along the lateral margin. Elytra with lateral rufous vitta, covering the greater portion of the surface; centre of the dorsal surface green; tip narrowly margined with green, closely punctured. Beneath black, covered with silvery pubescence. Length $5\frac{1}{2}$ lines.

NYCTOBATES SUBLÆVIS n. sp.

Body black; head somewhat shining, coarsely punctured, flattened, with the surface uneven between the antennæ; labrum minutely punctured; mouth furnished with dark brown hair. Thorax opaque, closely punctured; dorsal surface flattened, widest before the middle, anterior angles much rounded; lateral margins irregular. Elytra convex, somewhat shining, striæ obsolete; nine longitudinal rows of punctures, not deeply impressed; interstices minutely punctured, with occasional rugoseness. Beneath minutely punctured; tarsi beneath brown-sericeous. Length $10\frac{1}{2}$ lines.

ANTHOPHYLAX? MIRIFICUS n. sp.

Body black, clothed with short, erect, brownish hairs; head grossly punctured, somewhat shining, central line deeply impressed between

the antennæ, becoming obsolete near the base; a broad transverse depression back of the eyes; antennæ about one-half the length of the body; third and fourth joints equal, fifth joint as long as the third and fourth combined; palpi piceous; mouth furnished with dark brown hairs. Thorax uneven, grossly punctured, opaque; a deep transverse line near the anterior and posterior margins; central longitudinal line dilated; a strong, obtuse, polished tubercle on the side. Scutellum triangular, closely and neatly punctured. Elytra: anterior half shining, grossly and very rugosely punctured; humeri prominent; lateral margins parallel to the rounding of the tip; posterior half opaque, minutely rugose; dorsal surface flattened, sides gradually depressed. Beneath black, shining, closely and neatly punctured. Length 9 lines.

This and the following species were found by Mr. Ridings close together, under the bark of the same tree; it may be possible, therefore, that they are sexes of the same species, but they differ so much in the color and sculpture of the elytra that it would be unsafe, at present, to describe them under the same name.

ANTHOPHYLAX? VENUSTUS n. sp.

Body black, coarsely punctured; elytra rufous with black markings.

Head black, coarsely punctured, deeply impressed between the antennæ; palpi rufous; mandibles rufous on the middle; antennæ nearly the length of the body; third and fourth joints equal, each of the following joints as long as the third and fourth combined, basal joints shining. Thorax black, coarsely punctured, surface uneven; a deep dilated central line and deep transverse lines near the anterior and basal margins; lateral margins nearly straight, with a strong obtuse tubercle. Scutellum triangular, closely punctured. Elytra rufous, densely vestate, coarsely punctured; humeri prominent, closely and minutely punctured; a circular black mark on the base, extending half way between the scutel and humeri; a small oblong black dot near the suture about one-sixth from the tip. Beneath minutely punctured; head, thorax and legs black; abdominal segments rufous. Length 7 lines.

LEPTURA NIGRO-LINEATA n. sp.

Body black, clothed with golden pubescence; elytra dark yellow, suture and lateral margins black.

Head black, coarsely and very closely punctured; deep central line becoming obsolete on the disk; suddenly constricted back of the eyes; mandibles rufous, tinged with black; palpi piceous; antennæ three-fifths the length of the body; basal joints black, third, fourth and fifth fulvous, tinged with dark brown, remaining joints dark brown, clothed

with golden pubescence. Thorax black, widest on the posterior half, deeply and closely punctured; central line dilated, deeply impressed; anterior margin elevated; sides rounded, suddenly constricted at base; scutellum black, neatly punctured. Elytra dark yellow, closely punctured; a narrow black line commencing on the humerus, widening and becoming confluent with the margin at the basal third and extending round the tip; suture black; two elevated longitudinal lines between the humerus and scutel, obsolete on the posterior fourth. Beneath black, with silvery pubescence; tibiæ and tarsi fulvous. Length 7 lines.

LEPTURA PROPINQUA n. sp.

Body black; elytra pale yellow, with black lateral markings.

♀. Head black, closely punctured, clothed with a golden pubescence; labrum and clypeus deeply and irregularly punctured; central line distinct, depressed between and back of the antennæ; suddenly constricted at the base and forming a neck; antennæ black, second joint longer than the third, the fourth and following joints annulated at base; mandibles rufous on the middle; palpi black. Thorax black, densely punctured, thickly clothed with pubescence; anterior margin slightly elevated, regularly narrowed from the base to the apex; central line not deeply impressed; posterior angles divergent, deeply excavated across the base and suddenly widening at the centre, forming a deep fovea; basal line bisinuate. Scutellum triangular, densely pubescent. Elytra pale yellow, densely punctured, thickly clothed with prostrate pubescence; humeri prominent; two elevated longitudinal lines between the humeri and scutel, becoming obsolete on the posterior third; suture and epipleuræ dark brown, base tipped with black; a small oblong black spot immediately back of the humeri near the lateral margin; a larger spot on the lateral middle, extending from the margin to one-third of the suture; tips black, obliquely truncate, lateral point forming an obtuse spine. Beneath black, closely and minutely punctured, thickly clothed with golden pubescence. Length ♀ $7\frac{1}{2}$, ♂ $5\frac{1}{2}$ lines.

The ♂ differs from the ♀ by the elytra being darker colored and the antennæ entirely black.