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TRANSACTIONS

OF

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THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

VOLUME I.



LONDON:

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BY RICHARD TAYLOR, RED LION COURT, FLEET STREET;

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PATERNOSTER-ROW.

1835.

XI. *Characters and Descriptions of several New Genera and Species of Coleopterous Insects.* By the Rev. F. W. HOPE, A.M., F.L.S. & Z.S.

Communicated May 28, 1833.

Ordo. COLEOPTERA, *Linn.*

Sectio. PENTAMERA, *Lat.*

Stirps. GEODEPHAGA, *MacLeay.*

Fam. BRACHINIDÆ, *MacLeay.*

Subfam. LEBIIDES.

Genus APLOA¹.

Corpus depressum.

Mentum in medio edentulum.

Palpi subcylindrici.

Thorax margine postico recto.

Tarsi haud dilatati, unguibus simplicibus.

Antennæ 11-articulatæ, articulo primo crasso, secundo minimo, tertio priores duos longitudine æquante, reliquis longitudine æqualibus. *Palpi maxillares* externi 4-articulati, articulo ultimo subcylindrico, simplici: *labiales* articulo ultimo elongato, subcylindrico, ad apicem truncato. *Mandibulæ* elongato-trigonæ, dentibus nonnullis minutis in medio armatæ. *Labrum* transversum, submarginatum, ciliatum. *Mentum* transversum, angulis acutis porrectis, dente medio nullo.

Caput ovale, oculis magnis prominentibus. *Thorax* cordato-truncatus, subconvexus, anticè capite latior, margine postico recto. *Corpus* latum, depressum. *Elytra* abdomine breviora, abruptè truncata, thorace multo latiora. *Pedes* simplices. *Tibiæ* anticæ emarginatæ. *Tarsi* articulo primo majore, duobus proximis æqualibus, quarto minore, quinto basalem longitudine æquante. *Ungues* simplices.

The insect upon which I have established this genus belongs to a group which I have termed *Lebiides*. The generic appellation of *Aploa* is derived from the simplicity

¹ "Ἀπλοος, simplex.

Hab. in Africâ Occidentali.

Mus. Nav.-Mil.

DESCR. *Antennæ* nigræ, corpore longiores, articulis omnibus aculeato-spinosissimis, septimi sequentiumque (præter ultimi) lateribus ad apicem dilatatis, ultimo elongato subensiformi. *Mandibulæ* variolosæ, 4-dentatæ, dente interno majore, cæteris apicalibus, externè 1-tuberculatæ. *Thorax* niger, margine spinis acutissimis armato, disco tuberculis difformibus scabroso-varioloso. *Elytra* ad apicem mucronata, nigro-brunnea, ad basin variolosa, posticè quasi vermibus erosa (scilicet disci variolis apicem versus minoribus), singula lineis quatuor elevatis quarum interna sequenti posticè conjuncta. *Pedes* antichi cæteris longiores, scabri, femoribus densissimè spinosis, tibiis aculeatis ad apicem hamis inflexis quatuor armatis; posteriorum femoribus suprâ infrâque aculeatis, tibiis suprâ infrâque subarmatis. *Tarsi* suprâ picei, subtùs brunnei, pulvinati. *Ungues* picei, simplices.

This magnificent insect is remarkable on account of the outer portion of its trochanters being pubescent. In size it is not surpassed by any coleopterous species with which I am acquainted. Many of the spines of the *antennæ* are curved at the tip; and the hooks at the extremities of the *tibiæ* are evidently for the purpose of enabling the insect when at rest to support its weight. I am not aware that similar hooks have been hitherto noticed, except in the insect constituting the genus *Chiasognathus*, Steph. Their existence in the *Chias. Grantii*, and in the present insect, leads to the presumption of an affinity between the *Lucanidæ* and the *Prionidæ*.

It was captured at West Bay, Prince's Island, in the Bight of Biafra, and received from the sailors, on account of its gigantic size, the whimsical appellation of King of the Cockroaches. It is now in the Naval and Military Museum, to which it was presented by Capt. J. Hayes, R.N., C.B., in honour of whom it has been named by Capt. Downes.

2. PRIONUS CUMINGII.

Tab. XIV. Fig. 7.

Pri. ater; *thoracis bifoveolati angulo antico utrinque dilatato hamato*; *elytris varioloso-tuberculatis*.

Long. corporis 27 lin.; lat. ad humeros 8, *elytrorum* 12.

Hab. in Chili.

Mus. Hope.

DESCR. *Antennæ* nigræ. *Palpi* picei. *Maxillæ* arcuatæ, 1-dentatæ, dente ferè medio. *Caput* nigrum, punctatum, anticè depressum, ad antennarum insertiones elevatum, lineâ longitudinali inter oculos profundè impressâ. *Thorax* anticè posticèque marginatus, pilis aurantiis obsitus, angulis anterioribus in hamum productis, foveolis

duabus rotundatis dorsalibus. *Scutellum* posticè rotundatum, punctatum. *Elytra* coriacea, varioloso-tuberculata, lineis tribus longitudinalibus vix distinctis. *Corpus* infrà piceum. *Pedes* atri.

This insect was obtained at Concepcion and Valparaiso, on the trunks of trees, by Mr. H. Cuming, in honour of whom I have named it. The success of his indefatigable exertions in various branches of Natural History, is well known by the extensive and interesting collections which he has recently brought to this country.

The species is remarkable for the form of its armed *thorax*; and also on account of the under surface of the basal joints of the *tarsi* being smooth and cylindric, and entirely destitute of the pulvination which exists in most of the *Prionidæ*. These considerations induce me to regard it as the type of a subgenus, to which the name of *Acanthinodera*¹ may be applied.

3. PRIONUS PERTII.

Tab. XV. Fig. 3.

Pri. ater; capite oblongo; thorace nigro; elytris castaneis; femoribus piceis; tarsis ferrugineis.

Long. corporis 12 lin.; lat. 4.

Hab. in Indiâ Orientali.

Mus. Sykes.

DESCR. *Antennæ* nigrae, corpus longitudine æquantes. *Mandibulæ* incurvæ, acutissimæ. *Palpi* picei, pilis flavis vestiti. *Caput* oblongum, nigrum, punctatum, tuberculis ad antennarum insertiones, foveolâque inter oculos positâ. *Thorax* subquadratus, lateribus in spinas duas productis. *Scutellum* nigrum. *Elytra* rubro-castanea, nigro marginata, lineis quibusdam vix distinctis. *Corpus* infrà nigro-piceum. *Prosternum* inter pedes anticos productum, anticè valdè incisum, posticè attenuatum et infra mesosternum extensum; hoc etiam paullò porrectum. *Femora* antica parùm incrassata, picea. *Tibiæ* concolores, ad apicem rufescentes. *Tarsi* ferruginei; anticorum articulus tertius bilobus, intermediorum sub-bidentatus, posticorum bifidus bidentatus.

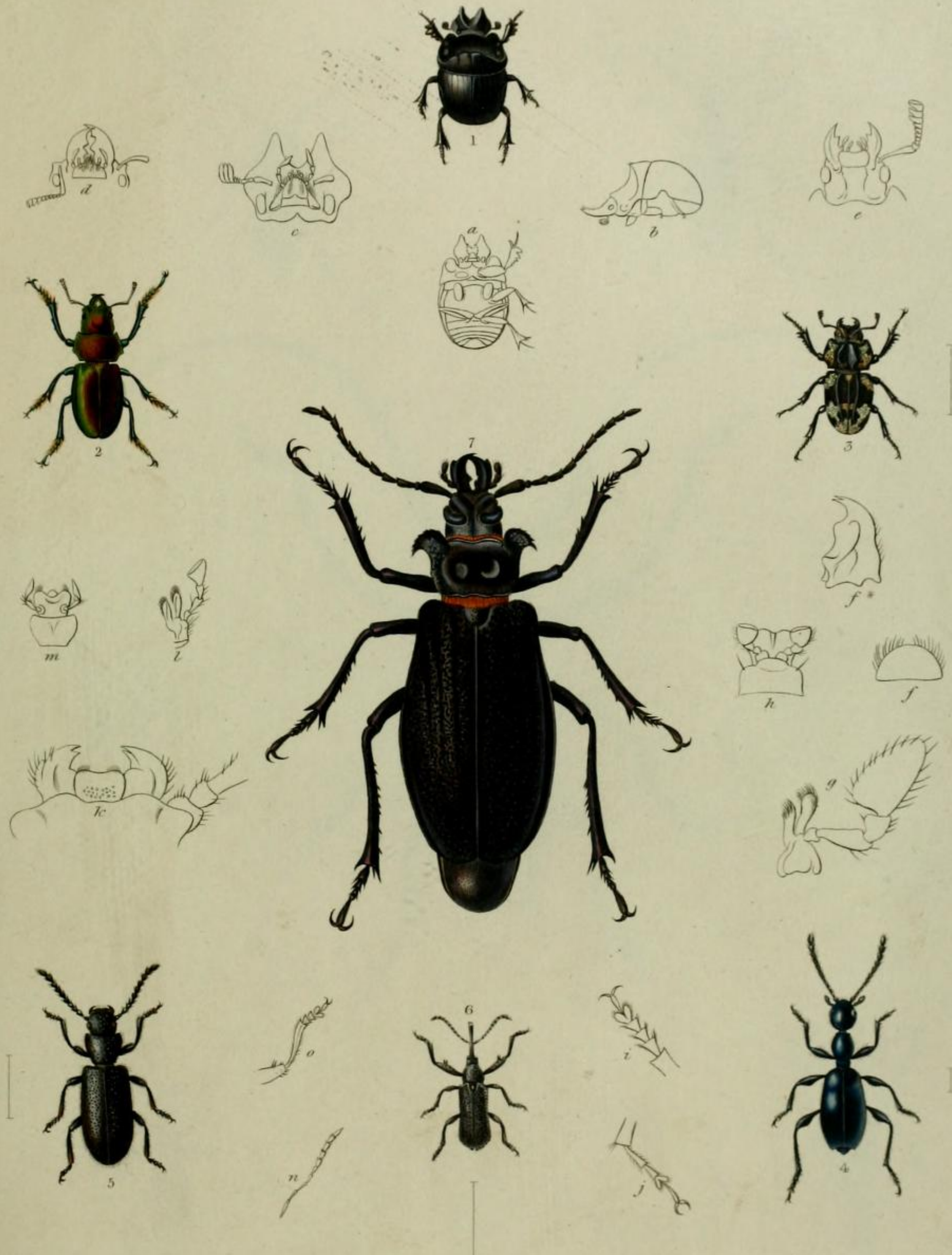
I have named this insect in honor of Dr. Maximilian Perty; and propose for it the subgeneric designation of *Dissosternus*², in allusion to the very remarkable structure of the *sterna* of its *prothorax* and *mesothorax*.

Fam. STENOCORIDÆ.

Differing from the greater number of entomologists, I regard the genus *Stenocorus*,

¹ Ἀκάνθινος, spinosus; δέρη, collum.

² Δισσός, duplex; στέρνον, sternum.



J. O. Westwood, F.L.S. del.

Swaine sc.

1. *Coptorhina Africana*. 2. *Succanus oratus*. 3. *Pholidotus irroratus*. 4. *Anthicus cyaneus*.
 5. *Sypröps chrysophthalmus*. 6. *Isacantha Rhinotivides*. 7. *Priopus Cumingii*.