

L.—*A new Genus of Clavicorn Beetles.*
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THE curious little insect here described has been sent to me for identification by Professor R. Thaxter, of Harvard University, as the carrier of a parasitic fungus, *Dimeromyces ametrothecalis*, Thaxter. The two specimens, which are all

at present known of the genus, were found in West Africa, and from its form and affinities there is no doubt that the insect lives under the bark of trees and preys upon other insects. It is very distinct generically from any other insect hitherto known, although it has evident affinities with several distinct types of Cucujidæ. In the shape of the head, the very small size of the eyes, and especially in the reduction of the first tarsal joint, it shows the closest approach to *Cucujus*, the impressed lines on the head and thorax are like those so characteristic of *Læmophlæus*, and the abbreviated elytra as obviously indicate relationship with *Inopeplus*. The differences from all three genera are still more striking, however, than the resemblances. The structure of the tarsi is very different from that found in *Apytho* and *Pseudino*.

CUCUJINUS, gen. nov.

Corpus deplanatum, oblongum. Caput magnum, postice latissimum, postice et lateraliter stria submarginali profunde incisum. Oculi minuti, prominentes. Clypeus brevis, leviter emarginatus. Labrum exsertum, semicirculare. Mandibulæ prominentes, extus leviter arcuatæ, apice obtuse bifidæ. Antennæ moniliformes, articulis primo et ultimo modice elongatis. Pronotum breve, latum, linea sublaterali, postice paulo abbreviata, incisa. Elytra abdomen haud tegentia, postice paulo attenuata. Prosternum latum, haud productum. Coxæ 4 anteriores late distantæ. Femora omnia lata. Tarsi 4 anteriores 4-articulati, postici 3-articulati.

Cucujinus micromma, sp. n.

Testaceus, elytrorum dimidio postico vage infuscato; valde depressus, nitidus, ubique minute inæqualiter punctulatus, capite post oculos latissimo, pronoto valde transverso, angulis anticis paulo emarginatis, posticis toto obsoletis; elytris quam capitem et prothoracem paulo longioribus, sed abdomen haud tegentibus, partim subtilissime striatis, postice paulo attenuatis.

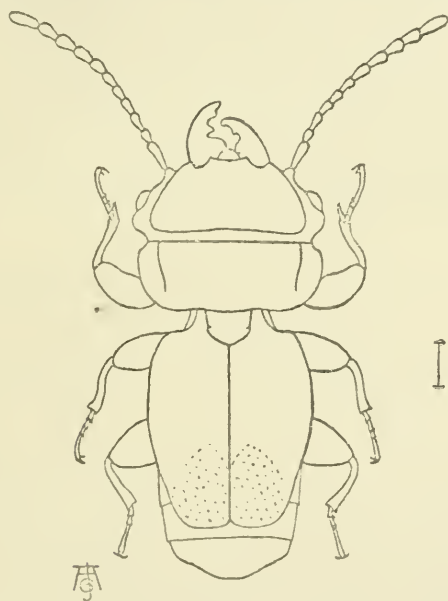
Long. (mandibulis exclusis) 4-5.5 mm.; lat. max. 2 mm.

Hab. W. Africa: Cameroon.

The rather indefinite dark posterior patch is probably due in part to the transparency of the elytra revealing the wings beneath, and may not be a constant feature. The two specimens described are males, and it may be expected that in the female the head and prothorax will prove to be of less exaggerated size and the hind tarsi four-jointed.

It is an extremely flat-bodied insect, oblong and loosely

jointed, with stout legs and prominent mandibles, the head very large and forming (in the male) the widest part of the body. The eyes are very small, prominent and hemispherical, and placed at the sides of the head, which is dilated behind them, so that their position is oblique. There is a straight incised line at the back of the head, continued forward on each side as far as the base of the antenna. The antennæ are more than half the length of the body, and consist of eleven loosely-articulated joints, all a little elongate, but especially the first and last. They are attached midway



Cucujinus micromma, sp. n.

between the eye and the base of the mandible. The mandibles are large and prominent, rounded externally and bluntly bifid at the tip, with two or three blunt internal teeth. The clypeus is broad and slightly emarginate in front, the labrum semicircular and closely fringed at the edge. The terminal joints of all the palpi are fusiform and elongate. The pronotum is nearly three times as wide as it is long and slightly wider than the widest part of the elytra. The front and hind margins are nearly straight, the sides strongly and regularly curved, completely obliterating the hind angles. The front angles are rather minutely excised. There is a

slightly sinuous lateral stria on each side, extending from the front margin to near the base. The scutellum is broad, rounded and not angulated behind. The elytra are nearly half as long again as their width in combination, feebly dilated at the sides from the shoulder to the middle, and thence narrowed to the extremities, which are separately rounded. The last segment of the abdomen and parts of the two preceding ones are exposed dorsally. The sternal sutures are straight, the coxæ of the front and middle legs small, globular and widely separated, and the hind coxæ transverse but rather far apart. The femora are very thick, the hindmost pair in particular being very broad in the middle. The tibiæ are short and each bears two terminal spurs beneath, very short and inconspicuous except the upper one of the front tibia, which is rather long and stout. There are in reality five joints to each of the four anterior tarsi and four to the hind ones, but the basal joint is so extremely short as to be invisible from above. All the joints are simple and the second, or apparent basal joint, is short and scarcely longer than the succeeding one.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTICE.

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