

## NOTE II.

## ON NEW OR LITTLE-KNOWN BATOCERIDAE.

BY

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*Batocera inconspicua*, v. d. Poll.

♂. *Nigra, omnino tomento fulvo tecta, subtus lateraliter ab oculis usque ad medium primi segmenti abdominis vitta lata alba ornata. Caput subtilissime densissimeque punctatum, in fronte aliquot punctis grossis intermixtis. Antennarum scapus sat elongatus, rugoso-punctatus, cicatrice fere haud conspicua; illarum articuli 3—10 prorsus spinis minutis obtecti et ad apices spinis plurimis validioribus armati. Prothorax in disco inaequalis, in medio utrinque longe et recte spinosus; delicatissime punctatus. Elytra elongata, subcuneiformia; humeris valde prominentibus, dente valido, perlongo et oblique posito, armatis; ad apicem recte truncata, quadrispinosa (spinae suturales majores); sparse punctata, quarta parte basali granulis sat dense obtecta. Tibiae anticae post medium arcuatae, intus denticulatae; primus articulus tarsorum extus in dentem brevem pervalidum productus.*

Long. 52 mm., lat. ad hum. 17 mm., long. antennarum 98 mm.

*Habitat*: Dinner Island, S. E. New Guinea (H. O. Forbes!).

Black, entirely clothed with a fulvous tomentum, the sides of the undersurface with a broad chalky white stripe, which originates at the eyes and stops about the middle of the first abdominal segment. Head extremely minutely

Notes from the Leyden Museum, Vol. XII.

punctured, in front with a few scattered larger punctures and a sharply elevated line in the middle, with a small pit behind the antennary tubers and a few small flattened granules along the upper lobes of the eyes. The scape of the antennae is rather slender, hardly angular and broadly rounded at the top, its cicatrix not very distinct, rugosely punctured. The 3<sup>rd</sup> antennal joint overreaching the next following with one third of its length, the 4<sup>th</sup>—10<sup>th</sup> gradually but slightly decreasing, the apical joint at least one fourth longer than the foregoing; the 3<sup>rd</sup>—10<sup>th</sup> joints covered roundabout with minute flattened spines, which are larger and more porrect along the underside, however these spines are absent on the uppersurface of the entire third joint and the basal half of the fourth, where they are replaced by a sculpture consisting of small punctures intermixed with numerous large ones; moreover the apices, except above, are armed with short stout spines. Prothorax constricted and wrinkled anteriorly and posteriorly, disc uneven but without strong inequalities, sides provided with long spines, which are straight, acute and slightly turned upwards, below them there are a few small granules. Scutellum large, broadly rounded. Elytra elongate and cuneiform with the shoulders very prominent and provided with an obliquely directed strong tooth; their apices cut off in a straight line, four-spined, the lateral spines short, the sutural ones longer and sharper; the basal fourth thickly covered with granules of moderate size, which are rather smaller and extend more downwards along the sides, all the remainder covered with scattered shallow punctures, which become the more and more obsolete towards the top. The forder tibiae are strongly arcuate beyond the middle and the inner margin is irregularly denticulate; the first joint of the forder tarsi is armed on the outerside with a very short but strong spine.

In several respects this species comes very close to *B. armata* Ol., but inter alia, the last antennal joint not being spatula-shaped, the presence of lateral spines at the apex

of the elytra and the more strongly arcuate forder tibiae, will be sufficient to separate both species without much difficulty.

*Batocera laena* Thoms.

The unspotted variety *Sappho* Thoms. of this species, has been considered peculiar to Northern Australia, being hitherto recorded from that locality only; however, I recently got a ♀ specimen from the Kei-Islands.

*Batocera Woodlarkiana* Montr.

Not having seen this species when writing my list of the *Batocera*'s, and judging from the insufficient description, I expressed my opinion that it might prove to be referable to the variety *Proserpina* Thoms., of *B. Wallacei* Thoms., but since several specimens having come under my notice, I may state that it is a perfectly distinct species. I think it will be best located near *B. laena* Thoms., but may be easily distinguished from that species by the following particularities, viz.: the elytral spots are larger, much more numerous and irregular; below the granules the elytra are but shallowly and distantly punctured and there are no lateral spines; moreover in the male sex the antennary scape and the 3<sup>rd</sup> joint are not so rough and the first joint of the forder tarsi has no dentiform prolongation. *B. Woodlarkiana* Montr. is not confined to the Island of Woodlark, but occurs also in the Island of New-Ireland and of course probably in many of the adjacent islands.

*Batocera nebulosa* Bates.

Hitherto only recorded from Duke of York Isl. and the Fidgi Isl. (the latter locality I consider somewhat doubtful, and may likely prove to be a »dealer's locality"), also occurs at New-Guinea, I just got a specimen from Emperor William's Land (German New-Guinea).