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ON THE SYSTEMATIC POSITION
OF THE GENERA *DISMEGISTUS* AM. S.
AND *PARASTRACHIA* DIST.



by E. BERGROTH

Few genera have been so differently placed systematically as *Dismegistus*. HAHN (1834) and GERMAR (1837) placed the two first described species in the genus *Cydnus* FABR., and AMYOT and SERVILLE (1843), the founders of the genus, placed it in the group Séhirides of their "race" Spinipedes, thus practically agreeing with the two German authors, and in this they were followed by DALLAS (1851) and STAL (1865 and 1876). SIGNORET (1881) placed the genus among the true *Pentatominae* near *Strachia* and its allies, and this view was accepted by LETHIERRY (1884), SCHOUTEDEN (1910) and JEANNEL (1913). The only reason why the genus could be considered a Cydnid is that the tibiae are furnished with slender spines; in all other respects *Dismegistus* is so totally different from the Cydnidae, that it is difficult to understand how even STAL could place it in that family. To the division Strachiarina the genus bears at least some resemblance in its general aspect, but this resemblance is of the most superficial description. Although three of its species are by no means rare, no hemipterist seems hitherto to have taken the trouble to closely examine the characters of *Dismegistus*. There can be no doubt whatsoever that it belongs to the subfamily Arminae (Asopinae). The characteristic insertion of the rostrum (close to the labrum) is quite as in all other Arminae, and if the first rostral joint is removed from the throat, we see at once that the rostral furrow is closed behind, the bucculae being roundedly confluent posteriorly, a character never found in any other subfamily than in the Arminae, where it is constant. In agreement with the other Arminae the first rostral joint, too, is not entirely enclosed between the bucculae, and its posterior end can not be brought in contact with the gula. It is true that only the two first rostral joints are (moderately) incrassated, the others being slender, but a rostrum of this kind we find also in the genus *Asopus* BURM. (*Amyotea* ELL.), and it is near *Asopus* the genus *Dismegistus* ought to be placed. HORVATH,

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to whom I have communicated my observations on this genus, now (*in litt.*) quite agrees with me as to its systematic place.

In 1880 SCOTT described a new Pentatomid under the name *Asopus japonensis* (1) On a synonym of this species DISTANT (1883) founded the genus *Parastrachia*, which he placed "somewhere between *Strachia* and *Catacanthus*, with both of which it has affinities". SCHOUTEDEN (1907) in his work *Genera Asopin.*, pl. 4, fig. 6 and 12, gives a figure of *Parastrachia japonensis* and of its head in profile, but in the text he excludes the genus from the Asopinae. In the *Annuaire du Musée Zoologique de l'Académie des Sciences de Russie*, XXIII (1922), p. 143-148, there is a posthumous paper by OSCHANIN, entitled "Sur les genres de la tribu des Strachiarina Put.", in which he says that both sexes of *Parastrachia* are known to him, and that SCHOUTEDEN's profile-figure of its head "est une preuve incontestable que le genre *Parastrachia* est totalement distinct de la sous-famille des Asopinae et doit être placé dans la sous-famille des Pentatominae".

In my opinion, this figure, on the contrary, clearly shows that the genus does belong to the Asopinae, provided the figure is correct. I have never seen any species of the subfamily Pentatominae with a profile-view of the head like SCHOUTEDEN's figure 12 on the cited plate. Although the very rare *Parastrachia* is known to me only from the published descriptions and figures, I think there can scarcely be any doubt that DISTANT, SCHOUTEDEN and OSCHANIN have been led astray by the slenderness of their rostrum (which is not a reliable criterion in distinguishing Pentatominae from Arminae), and that the hitherto not described bucculae of *Parastrachia* will prove to be joined behind. Its systematic place would thus be near the genera *Asopus* and *Dismegistus*. OSCHANIN gives a key to the known genera of the division Strachiarina, in which he also places *Agaeus* DALL., but I have shown in 1906 that DALLAS was right in placing this genus in the Halyinae.

(In the same Volume of the "Annuaire", p. 149-156, there is another posthumous paper by OSCHANIN, containing descriptions of "Deux espèces nouvelles de Pentatomides, appartenant à la faune de la Perse méridionale". One of these insects, *Solenocoris* (n. g.) *Zarudnyi*, is unknown to me. The other, *Actuarius satrapes*, is described by KIRITSCHENKO and placed by him in the genus *Actuarius* DIST. on OSCHANIN's authority. It is, however, not an *Actuarius*, in which the juga are much longer than the clypeus and almost meeting in front of

(1) KIRKALDY, in his Catalogue (p. 107) wrongly writes "*japonicus*" and gives the wrong citation *Ann. Mag. Hist.* instead of *Trans. Ent. Soc. Lond.*

it. *A. satrapes* KIR. (1922) is identical with *Menida insignita* BERGR. (1919). It belongs to that group of narrow, elongate Menidae for which two generic names, *Neostrachia* SAUND. (1877) and *Keriahana* DIST. (1918), have already been proposed, but which cannot be separated from *Menida* MOTSCH., as there are transitional links. In speaking of the genus *Apines* DALL., OSCHANIN has overlooked that I in 1912 founded the new genus *Pseudapines* on *Apines geminata* V. DUZ.).

CURCULIONIDES NOUVEAUX DE MADAGASCAR

(PREMIÈRE NOTE)

par A. HUSTACHE

Les Curculionides faisant l'objet de la présente note, ont été recueillis par MM. H. PERRIER DE LA BATHIE et J. DESCARPENTRIES au cours de la mission qui leur avait été confiée, en février 1922, par M. le Gouverneur Général. Ils proviennent du massif granitique de l'Andringitra, entre 2.100 et 2.600 m. d'altitude, l'un des noyaux géographiques et hydrographiques et le point culminant de l'île.

Ce massif n'avait pas été exploré jusqu'ici; aussi les Curculionides recueillis sont-ils nouveaux à quelques exceptions près; quelques-uns d'entre eux rappellent par leur forme et l'éclat de leur coloration les Pachyrrhynchides de Manille, mais ce n'est là qu'une trompeuse apparence.

Les types des espèces ici décrites m'ayant été généreusement abandonnés par leurs propriétaires font tous partie de ma collection.

Alloleptops nov. gen. **Leptopsides** de LACORDAIRE

Scrobes supérieurs, apicaux, très courts, leur prolongement postérieur indiqué seulement par un rang de points. Corbeilles terminales des tibias postérieurs ouvertes. Pas d'écusson, hanches postérieures très écartées, leur écartement presque du double du diamètre transversal d'une hanche postérieure. Segments ventraux convexes le 2^e plus long que le 3^e mais plus court que le 3^e et 4^e réunis. Les autres caractères comme chez les *Homaleptops* FAUST.

Alloleptops elongatus n. sp.

Allongé, glabre, d'un noir brillant, la moitié basale des fémurs et les tibias d'un rouge sanguin, les antennes ferrugineuses, leur massue noire.

Rostre subcylindrique, presque droit, un peu plus court que le prothorax et un peu moins épais que les fémurs antérieurs, nettement et assez fortement élargi en avant à partir des scrobes, les bords des pterygies parallèles, la ponctuation fine et éparse. Antennes apicales,