SOME REMARKS

ON

THE LONGICORN GENUS MEGACRIODES PASCOE,

BY

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Although the female of *Megacriodes Saundersii* Pascoe was described many years since (*Trans. Ent. Soc. London*, 3rd Series, Vol. III, 1866, p. 272), in as much I am aware up to this day the characteristics of the male remained unpublished. At all events it may be useful to publish some remarks on the male specimen I just received.

The measurements of this specimen are: length 36 mm.; breadth at the shoulders $12\frac{1}{2}$ mm.; length of the antennae 51 mm. Of course it is much smaller than the two female types of which Mr. Pascoe describes the length to be 22 lines (49 mm.); the author makes no mention of the length of the antennae, but measuring the figure they may be 2 or 3 mm. longer than the body. — The antennae of my male specimen are perfectly mutic, except the small spines at the apices of the joints, and have a small cicatrix at the scape. — The elytral spots of this ♂ are much larger, and of course, by the smaller size of the specimen, placed very close together; the basal spots have the shape of an oblique square; on the right elytron the two apical ones are confluent and form a single very elongate spot.

The genus *Megacriodes* seems to have much attraction to make new species for it; the two species described by Mr. Snellen van Vollenhoven, do not belong to it, being both females of *Batocera*

species (vide Ritsema's «Remarks» in *Notes from the Leyden Museum*, vol. III, 1881, p. 10); more recently Mr. Waterhouse has described *M. Forbesii* (*Annals and Magazine of Nat. Hist.*, 1881), but I am quite unable to separate this species from *M. Saundersii* Pascoe. — Mr. Waterhouse (who seems not to have compared Pascoe's type-specimens, as he says: «Near *Saundersii*, but judging from the figure it is a more robust species») describes it as differing chiefly in having «the base of the elytra and all the humeral region thickly studded with shining granules»; the granules of *Saundersii* are described by Mr. Pascoe as follows: «the elytra with numerous granules at the side near the shoulder and a few at the base». — Secondly *Forbesii* should differ in having «each elytron with three patches of white pubescence, the first and second placed as in *M. Saundersii* but very irregular in form, the third very elongate and as if formed of the two apical spots of *M. Saundersii*»; this character however is of no value at all as proved by my male specimen, of which consequently the right half should belong to *Forbesii* and the left half to *Saundersii*. — Of course the only difference that remains, and still doubtfully, are the somewhat more numerous basal granules of *M. Forbesii*, a very poor character indeed for separating two specimens from the same locality [1]), in a group of which the species in many respects are so much subject of variation. — In the figure of *M. Saundersii* the basal granules are indeed reduced to a minimum, but that figure is not very exact; who should suppose, judging from it, that the insect is «pube subtillissima cinerea indutus»?

Mr. Pascoe, establishing the genus *Megacriodes*, placed it between *Batocera* and *Apriona* [2]); Mr. Lacordaire in his *Genera des Coléoptères*, and the authors of the Munich Catalogue placed it after *Apriona*; two new genera have been established since, viz: *Abato-*

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1) Mr. Ritsema kindly did me observe that although Mr. Pascoe mentions *Megacriodes Saundersii* from Sumatra only, that species is figured in Mr. A. R. Wallace's *Malay Archipelago*, vol. I pl. 3 fig. 5, among remarkable beetles found at Simunjon, Borneo.

2) In his tabulation of the genera of the Lamiinae it is placed after *Apriona*.

cera and *Rosenbergia*, and both are placed between *Batocera* and *Megacriodes*, which was thus more and more separated from the genus *Batocera*, to which it has, I believe, much more affinity than any of the other three genera. From the four genera *Megacriodes* is the only one that has the antennal-scape like that of *Batocera*; *Abatocera*, now placed next to *Batocera*, is in reality the most aberrant form according to its broad front, rugous vertex and flattened antennary-tubers.
