

PAROTOSTIGMUS, gen. nov.

I propose this new generic name for the American species of Centipedes which have hitherto been assigned to *Otostigmus*. A considerable number of these species have now been described, and they all agree amongst themselves, and differ from the Oriental members which belong to *Otostigmus* in the strict sense of the word, in having the anal pleuræ posteriorly truncate and the anal femora unarmed.

1. *Parotostigmus denticulatus*, sp. n. (Tab. II. figg. 10, 10 a-c.)

Colour (in alcohol) very variable, mostly of a greenish ochraceous tint with a bluish or reddish tinge of colour; shining, sometimes strongly, with metallic lustre.

Body slender, attenuated anteriorly and posteriorly.

Head a very little wider than long, convex, finely punctured, without sulci.

Antennæ short, composed of 17 segments, whereof the basal 2 are naked and the rest clothed with pubescence of a reddish tint.

Maxillipedes: *coxæ* lightly convex, mesially and longitudinally impressed posteriorly, faintly punctured; prosternal plates wider than long, almost contiguous and parallel, bearing four sharp subequal teeth; femur with conspicuous sharply bifid tooth.

Tergites finely and closely punctured, from the sixth bisulcate, all, except the last, with unraised margins, laterally wrinkled and marked between the sulci with two shallow, longitudinal grooves, the wrinkling being especially conspicuous in the posterior portion of the body; finely granular, either thickly and irregularly, or more sparsely, indistinctly, and subserially.

Sternites smooth and shining, very finely punctured, not sulcate, but marked more or less distinctly with four, an anterior and posterior median and two lateral, impressions.

Anal somite: *tergite* with raised margins, not sulcate, mesially impressed posteriorly; *pleuræ* thickly covered with larger and smaller pores, produced posteriorly into a smooth blunt process which projects a little beyond the lateral margin of the tergite, without trace of spines; *sternite* with converging margins, rounded angles, and straight posterior border, mesially impressed; *legs* without spines, of moderate length, the femur thicker distally than proximally, claw basally spurred; tarsus unspined.

Legs: claws spurred, proximal tarsal segment with a single spine, first pair of legs with an anterior tibial spine; in the posterior part of the body the legs are sometimes finely granular proximally.

Length up to 56 millim.

Hab. MEXICO, Amula 6000 to 7000 feet, and Omilteme 7000 to 9000 feet, both in Guerrero (*H. H. Smith*).

Several specimens, found under rotting wood in clearings and in the forest.

Judged by the formation of the dorsal plates, the species of this genus may for convenience be divided into two sections—the first comprising those in which the tergites, at least in the hinder half of the body, have elevated margins, and the second those in which all the tergites, except the anal, have simple margins. Into the former division fall *Otostigmus scabriceuda* (Humb. & Sauss.) (= *O. appendiculatus*, Porat), from Brazil and Ecuador; *O. inermis*, Porat, from Buenos Ayres; *O. occidentalis*, Meinert, from Hayti; *O. brasiliensis*, Meinert, from Bahia; *O. sulcatus*, Meinert, from Monte Video; *O. kervillei*, Karsch, from Ecuador; and *O. spiculiferus*, Pocock, from St. Vincent. Whereas to the latter section belong *O. limbatus*, Meinert, from Buenos Ayres and Brazil, and the Mexican species above described.