

## THE BEETLES OF THE LIMERICK DISTRICT.

BY STANLEY W. KEMP, B.A., F.E.S.

It is to be regretted that so little work has been done on the Coleoptera of the Limerick district.

Mr. Frank Neale and his son, Mr. Arthur Neale, are the only members of the Limerick Field Club who have studied this interesting group of insects. Their work has been rewarded by the discovery of several rare species, additions to the Irish list and to the fauna of Munster. All the other records have been made by non-resident Entomologists when visiting the district; of these Mr. J. N. Halbert has done most excellent work.

The ground in the neighbourhood of Limerick is exceptionally good for Coleoptera, on the marshes and lake-shores especially many scarce species have been found. Many local and rare insects have been obtained in Cratloe wood and in the marsh on Cratloe hill.

During the visit of the Dublin Field Club to Limerick in June, 1903, no less than twenty-three species were found which had never previously been recorded from the district.

A short and somewhat meagre account of these insects was published in the "Irish Naturalist" for September last, so perhaps fuller notes may be of interest. On June 18th a small party drove to Cratloe wood, no especially rare beetles were found, but *Rhynchites minutus*, *Deporatis betulae*, *Phyllobius pyri* and *Liosoma ovatum* were taken, all of which had not before been recorded from the Limerick district. A single specimen of the Longicorn *Rhagium bifasciatum* was also caught; this fine insect had once previously been taken at Cratloe. On June 19th an excursion was organised to Askeaton and Adare. When only a short distance from Limerick *Anchomenus oblongus*, a species which is very local in Ireland, was found on the banks of a small pond. In the River Deel, near Askeaton, a few specimens of *Brychius elevatus* were found, and a speci-

men of *Bembidium quinque-striatum* caught on a wall near the Abbey. Both these species are additions to the Limerick list.

*Coelambus quinque-lineatus*, which was found commonly in the River Deel, is an interesting example of a species which is quite common in Ireland, while it is of the greatest rarity in England.

A number of a fine large black form of *Galerucella nymphææ* was found on *Nymphaea alba*, the leaves of which were riddled by the larvae.

At Adare *Bembidium aeneum* and *B. flammulatum* were found close to the fish-ponds, these two species are also new to the Limerick fauna.

Lough Gur, however, where June 20th was spent, was the best day's collecting from the coleopterist's point of view. Along the sides of the lake rushes and equisetum grow in profusion, and on these several species of that fine genus, *Donacia*, were to be found, their metallic colouring of green, gold, and red glistening in the hot sun. One species, *Donacia vulgaris*, is an addition to the Limerick fauna. Other additions made the same day were *Anisodactylus binotatus*, a single specimen found under a stone; *Gyrinus minutus*, *Hydrobius fuscipes*, *Ilyobates nigricollis*, *Philonthus micans*, *P. corvinus*, *Dascillus cervinus*, *Litodactylus leucogaster*, and *Eriirrhinus aethiops*. These last two species are additions to the Munster list.

The morning of June 21st was spent collecting along the banks of the Shannon above Limerick. *Tachypus flavipes*, *Hydroporus vittula*, *Agabus femoralis*, *Donacia impressa* and *Eubrychius velatus* were found—all new to the fauna of the district.

The following list contains all the species, 270 in number, which have been found in the neighbourhood of Limerick; it is hoped that its publication may be the means of inducing lovers of natural history resident in the locality to study this interesting group.

In the preparation of this list my hearty thanks are due to my friend, Mr. J. N. Halbert, for the great assistance he has given me by placing local lists and other information at my disposal.

As regards nomenclature, I have followed Sharp & Fowler's Catalogue of British Coleoptera for 1893, and consequently no authorities are given for specific names.

*Cicindela campestris*, this interesting insect, the only Irish species of tiger beetle, has been taken at Cratloe wood running in the sunshine.

- Carabus clathratus*, a single old record from Parteen bog.  
*Notiophilus biguttatus*, common.  
*Notiophilus aquaticus*, recorded from Cratloe; probably common.  
*Nebria brevicollis*, common.  
*Elaphrus riparius*, common on lake shores.  
*Elaphrus cupreus*, common, often in company with the preceding species.  
*Dyschirius globosus*, Lough Doon.  
*Panagæus cruz-major*, this rare species was first found by Mr. F. Neale under stones on the shores of Finlough, May, 1895. This is the only locality in Ireland where this insect is to be found.  
*Badister bipustulatus*, near Limerick.  
*Chlœnius vestitus*, on lake shores.  
*Chlœnius nigricornis*, on lake shores; often commoner than the preceding species.  
*Chlœnius holosericeus*, this very rare insect was found by Mr. S. Stevens on the shore of Lough Derg, near Killaloe, in 1871.  
*Stenolophus vespertinus*, an old record from Parteen bog. Mr. Halbert has taken it in marshy ground at Finlough. The species is by no means of common occurrence in Ireland.  
*Anisodactylus binotatus*, a single typical specimen, on the shores of Lough Gur. (S.W.K.)  
*Harpalus ruficornis*, common.  
*Pterostichus minor*,  
*Pterostichus nigrita*,  
*Pterostichus vernalis*, } common in the marsh on Cratloe hill, and, no doubt, in other places as well.  
*Amara acuminata*, near Limerick.  
*Amara familiaris*, common.  
*Amara trivialis*, common,  
*Amara communis*, common.  
*Amara plebeia*, one very old record by Haliday.  
*Calathus cisteloides*, common.  
*Taphria nivalis*, Glenomeragh.  
*Anchomenus albipes*, in the greatest abundance on lake shores; one of the commonest beetles.  
*Anchomenus oblongus*, on the banks of a small pond near Limerick.  
*Anchomenus marginatus*, common on lake shores.

- Anchomenus viduus*, common, usually the variety *moestus*.  
*Anchomenus micans*, one old record by Furlong.  
*Olishopus rotundatus*, marsh on Cratloe hill and at Glenomeragh.  
*Bembidium quinque striatum*, a single specimen found on a wall at Askeaton.
- Bembidium æneum*,  
*Bembidium tibiale*, } on the banks of a small stream in Cratloe  
*Bembidium concinnum*, } wood, and also at Killaloe.  
rare ; one old record from the Shannon  
estuary.
- Bembidium littorale*, common.  
*Bembidium bipunctatum*, Lough Doon.  
*Bembidium punctulatum*, shores of Lough Derg, near Killaloe.  
*Bembidium flammulatum*, common by the fish-ponds at Adare.  
*Tachypus flavipes*, banks of the Shannon above Limerick.  
*Brychius elevatus*, River Deel, near Askeaton.  
*Haliphus flavicollis*, near Limerick.  
*Haliphus obliquus*, Lough Gur.  
*Haliphus variegatus*, Finlough ; an uncommon species caught by  
Mr. Halbert.
- Haliphus ruficollis*, common.  
*Haliphus fluviatilis*, common.  
*Pelobius tardus*, a specimen of this species, which is very rare  
in Ireland, was taken by Mr. Arthur Neale  
at Lough Doon, June, 1895.
- Noterus sparsus*, Cratloe ; probably common.  
*Laccophilus interruptus*, several specimens of this insect near Limerick.  
*Hyphydrus ovatus*, common.  
*Cælamбус quinque-lineatus*, this species, which is very rare in England,  
occurs in profusion in the Limerick district.
- Cælamбус inaequalis*, Lough Gur.  
*Deronectes depressus*, Finlough ; caught by Mr. Neale.  
*Hydroporus pictus*, fairly common.  
*Hydroporus umbrosus*, Lough Gur.  
*Hydroporus vittula*, River Shannon above Limerick.  
*Hydroporus palustris*, common.  
*Agabus femoralis*, a single specimen caught in the Shannon  
above Limerick. (S.W.K.)
- Ilybius fuliginosus*, near Limerick.  
*Gyrinus minutus*, Lough Gur.

<i>Gyrinus natator</i> ,	common.
<i>Orectochilus villosus</i> ,	Lough Derg.
<i>Hydrobius fuscipes</i> ,	a single specimen taken in Lough Gur.
<i>Philhydrus coarctatus</i> ,	Lough Gur.
<i>Hydrochus elongatus</i> ,	Lough Gur.
<i>Hydræna riparia</i> ,	Lough Doon.
<i>Aleochara lanuginosa</i> ,	Killaloe and Glenomeragh.
<i>Aleochara brevipennis</i> ,	caught by Mr. Halbert at Finlough.
<i>Aleochara morion</i> ,	Cratloe hill.
<i>Ilyobates nigricollis</i> ,	Lough Gur, a single specimen.
<i>Astilbus canaliculatus</i> ,	Finlough ; probably common in other places.
<i>Callicerus obscurus</i> ,	Finlough, a local species.
<i>Homalota gregaria</i> ,	common.
<i>Homalota elongatula</i> ,	Finlough lake shore.
<i>Homalota volans</i> ,	common on lake shores.
<i>Homalota vicina</i> ,	Glenomeragh.
<i>Homalota euryptera</i> ,	Glenomeragh.
<i>Homalota coriaria</i> ,	Glenomeragh, found in fungi ; the only Irish record.
<i>Homalota ravilla</i> ,	Glenomeragh.
<i>Homalota sericea</i> ,	common in fungi.
<i>Homalota nigra</i> ,	Glenomeragh.
<i>Homalota germana</i> ,	Glenomeragh.
<i>Homalota atramentaria</i> ,	common.
<i>Homalota sordida</i> ,	common in moss and fungi.
<i>Homalota fungi</i> ,	very common.
<i>Gnypeta labilis</i> ,	Lough Gur and Cratloe wood.
<i>Gyrophæna laevipennis</i>	Glenomeragh.
<i>Myllæna intermedia</i> ,	marsh on Cratloe hill.
<i>Myllæna minuta</i> ,	Glenomeragh.
<i>Tachyporus obtusus</i> var. <i>nitidicollis</i> ,	Glenomeragh.
<i>Tachyporus solutus</i> ,	Lough Doon.
<i>Tachyporus tersus</i> ,	near Limerick.
<i>Tachyporus hypnorum</i>	common.
<i>Tachinus marginellus</i> ,	} common in fungi growing on trees.
<i>Tachinus laticollis</i>	

<i>Bolitobius lunulatus</i> ,	}	common in fungi growing on trees.
<i>Bolitobius pygmaeus</i>		
<i>Mycetoporus lepidus</i> ,		
<i>Mycetoporus longulus</i> ,		
<i>Mycetoporus angularis</i> ,	}	Cratloe wood.
<i>Quedius molochinus</i> ,		
<i>Quedius attenuatus</i> ,		
<i>Ocypus olens</i>		Finlough ; probably common. This beetle is popularly known as the " Devil's Coach Horse."
<i>Ocypus cupreus</i>		Finlough.
<i>Philonthus splendens</i> ,		Killaloe.
<i>Philonthus fimetarius</i> ,		Lough Gur ; probably common.
<i>Philonthus ebeninus</i> ,		very common on lake shores.
<i>Philonthus corvinus</i> ,		Lough Gur, the only locality in Munster for this species.
<i>Philonthus quisquiliarius</i> ,		Lough Gur.
<i>Philonthus micans</i> ,		Lough Gur.
<i>Philonthus umbratilis</i> ,		Killaloe and Finlough.
<i>Philonthus nigrifulus</i> ,		Glenomeragh.
<i>Philonthus trassulus</i> ,		Finlough.
<i>Leptacinus linearis</i> ,		Broadford.
<i>Lathrobium brunripes</i> ,		common.
<i>Lathrobium filiforme</i> ,	}	caught by Mr. Halbert on the shores of Lough Doon.
<i>Lathrobium quadratum</i> ,		
<i>Stilicus rufipes</i> ,		Lough Gur.
<i>Sunius angustatus</i> ,		of frequent occurrence.
<i>Stenus buphthalmus</i> ,		common.
<i>Stenus declaratus</i> ,		Cratloe wood.
<i>Stenus carbonarius</i> ,		common on lake shores.
<i>Stenus impressus</i> ,		Glenomeragh.
<i>Stenus flavipes</i> ,		a single specimen caught at Broadford.
<i>Stenus pubescens</i> ,		Lough Gur.
<i>Stenus pallitarsis</i> ,		fairly common.
<i>Stenus nitidiusculus</i> ,		Glenomeragh.
<i>Stenus picipes</i> ,		Broadford.
<i>Stenus tarsalis</i> ,		Broadford and Glenomeragh.
<i>Oxytelus sculpturatus</i> ,		Lough Gur.

- Haploderus cœlatus*, near Limerick and Glenomeragh.  
*Omalius oxyacanthæ*, Glenomeragh.  
*Anthobium minutum*, Broadford.  
*Megarthrus depressus*, Glenomeragh.  
*Necrophorus mortuorum*, Cratloe wood.  
*Silpha atrata* var. *subrotundata*, common.  
*Silpha quadripunctata*, local ; caught by Mr. Neale in Cratloe wood.  
*Choleva grandicollis*, Finlough.  
*Halyzia sedecim-guttata*, Adare ; local in wooded districts.  
*Halyzia conglobata*, common.  
*Chilocorus bipustulatus*, Finlough, on willows.  
*Brachypterus pubescens*, Glenomeragh.  
*Cercus pedicularius*, Lough Gur, on willows.  
*Cercus rufilabris*, common.  
*Epuræa æstiva*, Glenomeragh ; probably common.  
*Epuræa deleta*, Glenomeragh.  
*Nitidula bipustulata*, a scarce species in Ireland. Caught by Mr. Neale in a dead stoat at Ballinagorm.  
*Focadius ferrugineus*, Glenomeragh, in fungus on tree-trunks.  
*Meligethes lumbaris*, Frequent. Many other species of this genus, no doubt, also occur.  
*Rhizophagus dispar*, Glenomeragh.  
*Coninomus nodifer*, common.  
*Enicmus minutus*, common.  
*Melanophthalma gibbosa*, common.  
*Telmatophilus caricis*, common in marshy places.  
*Telmatophilus typha*, Lough Doon and Lough Gur. These are the only Irish records of this species.  
*Cryptophagus dentatus*, common.  
*Atomaria pusilla*, common.  
*Ephistemus gyrimoides*, Glenomeragh.  
*Typhæa fumata*, Shores of Lough Derg ; caught by Mr. Halbert under bark.  
*Byturus tomentosus*, Cratloe wood and Glenomeragh.  
*Byrrhus pilula*, a single specimen caught by Mr. Halbert on the top of Adare castle.  
*Limnius tuberculatus*, Broadford.  
*Parnus prolifericornis*, near Killaloe ; probably common.

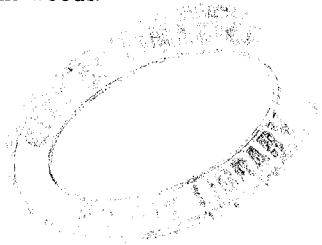
- Aphodius fossor*, common.
- Aphodius fimetarius*, common.
- Geotrupes stercorarius*, Finlough ; no doubt, common.
- Cetonia aurata* one old record, by Furlong, from Curragh Chase.
- Throscus dermestoides*, Broadford.
- Cryptohypnus dermestoides*.  
*Cryptohypnus quadriguttatus*, } common on lake shores.
- Elater pomorum* a specimen of this rare species was caught by Mr. Neale in a bog near Finlough.
- Athous niger*, Cratloe wood.
- Adrastus limbatus*, common.
- Dolopius marginatus*, common.
- Corymbites tessellatus*, caught by Mr. Neale near Limerick.
- Corymbites quercus*, Fairly common in wooded districts. The yellow form, *var. ochropterus*, also occurs.
- Campylus linearis*, Mr. Halbert found fragments of this species in a fir stump in Cratloe wood.
- Dascillus cervinus*, Lough Gur ; probably common elsewhere.
- Microcara livida* a single specimen caught at Lough Doon.
- Hydrocyphon deflexicollis*, There is an old record of this species from Castleconnell, and Mr. Neale has taken it at Doonass.
- Scirtes hemisphaericus*, common at Lough Gur on willows and rushes.
- Telephorus figuratus*, Cratloe wood.
- Telephorus bicolor*, very common.
- Telephorus flavilabris*, common
- Telephorus thoracicus*, common on sallow.
- Malthinus punctatus*, Glenomeragh ; no doubt common in wooded districts.
- Malthodes atomus*, Cratloe wood.
- Niptus hololeucus*, recorded by Haliday from Limerick.
- Rhagium bifasciatum*, this fine insect has been taken on several occasions in decaying logs in Cratloe wood.
- Grammoptera ruficornis*, Cratloe wood.
- Leiopus nebulosus* caught by Mr. Neale in Cratloe wood.
- Bruchus atomarius*, Cratloe wood.
- Donacia bicolora*, common on rushes, reeds and equisetum at Lough Gur.



- Donacia thalassina*, common at Lough Gur.  
*Donacia impressa*, Shannon banks above Limerick.  
*Donacia simplex*, common at Lough Gur, where a single specimen of the scarce dark blue form has been found.
- Donacia vulgaris*, Lough Gur ; fairly common.  
*Lema lichenis*, Lough Gur.  
*Chrysomela staphylea*, Cratloe wood.  
*Chrysomela polita*, Cratloe wood.  
*Chrysomela varians*, Cratloe wood ; caught by Mr. Halbert ; an uncommon species.  
*Chrysomela fastuosa*, a specimen of this rare beetle was found by Mr Neale in a sack of flour at Trough.
- Gastroidea viridula*, Glenomeragh.  
*Phedon cochlearia*, Finlough.  
*Lochmeva suturalis*, common.  
*Galerucella nymphaea*, common on water-lilies in the River Deel near Askeaton, and has also been found at Cratloe.
- Galerucella sagittaria*, common.  
*Galerucella lineola*, Cratloe wood and Lough Doon.  
*Galerucella tenella*, Lough Doon.  
*Longitarsus holsaticus*, Broadford.  
*Longitarsus luridus*, common.  
*Longitarsus jacobae*, Cratloe wood ; common on ragweed.  
*Haltica ericeti*, common on heaths near Cratloe wood.  
*Aphthona lutescens*, Broadford.  
*Aphthona non-striata*, Broadford and Cratloe, on iris.  
*Crepidodera helvina*, Glenomeragh.  
*Hippuriphila modeeri*, this rare beetle has been taken by Mr. A. Neale near Limerick and at Doonass.
- Psylliodes chrysocephala*, Glenomeragh.  
*Cassida equestris*, Broadford and banks of River Deel, near Askeaton ; common on *Mentha* and *Galeopsis*.
- Tenebrio obscurus*, in flour, Limerick.  
*Lagria hirta*, common.  
*Anaspis frontalis*, common.  
*Anaspis ruficollis*, common.  
*Anaspis maculata*, common.

- Rhynchites minutus*, a single specimen found by Mr. Halbert in Cratloe wood.
- Deporaus betulae*, Cratloe wood.
- Apion cerdo*, caught by Mr. Halbert in Cratloe wood ; a rare weevil.
- Apion subulatum*, Cratloe wood.
- Apion haematodes*, Glenomeragh.
- Apion striatum*, Glenomeragh, on furze.
- Apion gyllenhali*, Broadford.
- Apion violaceum*, common.
- Apion humile*, common.
- Otiorhynchus rugifrons*, near Askeaton.
- Strophosomus coryli*, common.
- Polydrusus tereticollis*, common in woods.
- Polydrusus pterygomalis*, Glenomeragh.
- Polydrusus cervinus*, Cratloe wood.
- Phyllobius pyri*, caught by Mr. Halbert in Cratloe wood.
- Phyllobius argentatus*, Glenomeragh.
- Barynotus schönherri*, Cratloe wood.
- Alophus triguttatus*, a single specimen on the shores of Lough Gur
- Sitones ononidis*, Lough Gur.
- Hypera rumicis*, fairly common.
- Hypera trilineata*, Finlough.
- Hypera nigrirostris*, Glenomeragh.
- Liosoma ovatum*, Cratloe.
- Orchestes quercus*, Glenomeragh.
- Orchestes alni*, Cratloe wood.
- Orchestes ilicis*, Glenomeragh. This and the preceding species are by no means common in Ireland.
- Orchestes rusci*, Broadford.
- Rhamphus flavicornis*, Glenomeragh.
- Erirrhinus ethiops*, a single specimen of this very rare beetle was taken by "sweeping" in a drain at Lough Gur, June, 1903. (S.W.K.) This capture is the most southerly record yet made for the British Isles.
- Thryogenes nereis*, lake shores ; common.
- Anoplus plantaris*, fairly common on birch.
- Gymnetron beccabungae*, Killaloe and Lough Gur.

<i>Nanophyes lythri</i> ,	Lough Doon.
<i>Cœliodes quercus</i> ,	Cratloe wood.
<i>Ceuthorrhynchus litura</i> ,	Cratloe wood.
<i>Ceuthorrhynchus pollinarius</i> ,	common.
<i>Ceuthorrhynchidius floralis</i> ,	Finlough.
<i>Rhinoncus pericarpus</i> ,	common.
<i>Eubrychius velatus</i> ,	Shannon above Limerick.
<i>Litodactylus leucogaster</i> ,	Lough Gur ; caught by Mr. Halbert. The only record for Munster.
<i>Phytobius comari</i> ,	Broadford.
<i>Limnobaris T-album</i> ,	Lough Gur.
<i>Balaninus pyrrhoceras</i> ,	Glenomeragh.
<i>Pityophthorus pubescens</i> ,	Finlough, in fir woods.




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