Fam. GRYLLIDÆ*.

The members of this family resemble the Locustidæ in their saltatorial habits, and also in being furnished with an ovipositor †; they have long setaceous antennæ, and a musical apparatus on the elytra. The Gryllidæ form, however, a very distinct family, differentiated from the Locustidæ by the following characters:—

1. The tarsi are only 3-jointed.
2. The elytra in repose lay flat on the body; their discoidal field is united to the anal field, so as to form a single dorsal plane, and not well separated from each other; their marginal field alone being deflexed perpendicularly downwards, covering the sides of the body.
3. The tympanum or musical organ of the elytra extends on to the discoidal as well as the anal field, and often covers it almost entirely.

In the Locustidæ the tarsi are 4-jointed; the discoidal field of the elytra is joined on a single plane with the marginal field, and occupies a lateral, somewhat perpendicular, position, the anal field alone remaining in the dorsal plane: the musical organ of the males is thus confined to the anal field.

The family Gryllidæ having already been monographed ‡, it is unnecessary to repeat here the synopses of genera, or to give detailed descriptions of them.

The Gryllidæ may be divided into six tribes as follows:—

Synopsis tribuum.

1. Tarsi compressi, secundo articulo compresso, minuto.
2. Pedes antici fossores; tibiis anticis apice digitis 2–4 instructis. Pronotum elongatum, ovatum, postice arcuatum. Femineæ absque ovipositore; marium elytrorum tympanus, quando adest, absque speculo.—Gryllotalpinae.

* By Dr. Henri de Saussure.
Principal works referred to for this family:—
H. de Saussure, 'Miseion Scientifique au Mexique etc.', Orthoptères. (Vide supra, p. 13.)
H. de Saussure, 'Mélanges Orthoptérologiques,' t. ii. fasc. 5 (1877) and 6 (1878).
† The Gryllotalpinae form an exception, being adapted to a subterranean life, which renders an ovipositor useless.
‡ By Dr. Henri de Saussure.