

'Introduction' (published in 1886), states that it is now seen that the tropical portions of the earth are as rich, or richer, in these groups (he presumably refers to Telephoridæ) than the cooler parts. The Lycidæ, Telephoridæ, Lampyridæ, and Cleridæ clearly show a closer relationship between our fauna and that of Tropical South America than with any they possess with that of America north of Mexico—this being rendered even more apparent in such large genera as *Calopteron* amongst the Lycids and *Chauliognathus* in the Telephorids. More striking, however, is the marked peculiarity of the Central and South American genera as compared with the faunas of other parts of the globe. The author remarks:—"If it were true that similar conditions would produce similar forms, how is it that the specialized genera of the Neotropical regions are so dissimilar from those of the Æthiopian and Indo-Malayan? Of the few genera common to Central America and to the Palæarctic or Tropical regions of the Old World, there is not one which is not of the rank of feebly differentiated forms, or persistent forms of an earlier stage of development. The total absence of many widely distributed well marked forms cannot be explained by any intrinsic dissimilarity in the conditions, which certainly do not differ more than they do in the wide areas over which such genera are dispersed, but rather by the isolation from these other areas, contact with which is only effected through the northern parts of the globe. One further fact is noted, viz., that, to whatever cause it may be due, where a genus is common to Central or South America and other distant parts of the World, it is also the case that it is represented by a species also identical or nearly related in the two districts. In this case its presence must be due to recent transmission, through artificial means, or to the conditions having long remained practically similar under which it exists in places so far apart."

The thirteen plates illustrate 330 species.

Vol. IV. parts 1-2. By G. C. Champion. *Heteromera*. The fourteen families included in the Heteromeros-series are dealt with in two volumes: (1) Tenebrionidæ, Cistelidæ, Othniidæ, Nilionidæ, and Monommidæ; (2) Lagriidæ, Melandryidæ, Pythidæ, Edemeridæ, Xylophilidæ, Anthicidæ, Mordellidæ, Rhipidophoridæ, and Meloidæ. The general 'Introduction' (published in 1893), which includes a Table showing the geographical distribution of the genera represented within the limits of Mexico and Central America, is given in part 1. The total number of species enumerated is 1776, of which 1295 are treated as new. Amongst the Tenebrionidæ, the apterous terrestrial forms clearly belong to the Nearctic beetle fauna which extends down the central plateau to the Isthmus of Tehuantepec (*Asida*) or to the Los Altos region of Guatemala (*Elaodes*), while the winged forest forms are Neotropical. The winged genera inhabiting the open country (*Epitragus*, *Blapstinus*, *Xystropus*, &c.) have a wide distribution, and such apterous forms as appear to be insensible to drought and heat (e.g. *Zopherus*) range from the Southern United States