

The several hundred acres composing the 'potrero' resembled an immense well kept park, with long vistas through groves and clumps of magnificent trees on undulating grassy slopes, cropped closely by the grazing cattle. On the right rose the cone of the volcano, covered with dense 'chaparral,' or bush of evergreen oaks, while to the left the long ridge-like mass of Irazu was plainly visible.

Mr. Ridgway made an ascent of this volcano, about 11,500 feet. The forest, of which but little remains, consists chiefly of oaks and differs widely from that of Poas and Turrialba. Higher up and close to the ash-cone the trees become scarce and scrubby, and finally only a growth of stunted *Vaccinium*-like shrubs exist.

It is remarkable that in Costa Rica at least 700 species and subspecies of birds have been found. Dr. Outram Bangs, when alluding in the 'Auk' (1907) to the Costa Rican collections made by Mr. Underwood, remarks that the extensive bird-fauna of this small country, scarcely larger than the State of Florida, is due to the fact that the Central American forms extend to the Atlantic lowlands, while those from Panama and the south go up the Pacific slopes, separated only by the range of high mountains.

An account of the Costa Rican Odonata, their larval forms and their habits, is given by Dr. Calvert in the 'Entomological News' for July 1910. He and his wife remained in the vicinity of Cartago for a year, making collections of Odonata as well as of terrestrial molluscs, annelids, araneids, orthoptera, microdiptera, coleoptera, and lepidoptera to a smaller extent, but they were hurried away by the severe and frequent earthquakes which finally destroyed the town in May 1910.

PANAMA.

This State—or Republic, as it must now be called—comprises the neck of land extending from Costa Rica to Colombia, an area equal in extent to about two-thirds the size of England and Wales, and forming the most southern country dealt with in the 'Biologia.' Very little, however, of the Isthmus of Darien, the land south-east of the Canal, has been visited by collectors. The main chain of the Cordillera decreases greatly in height towards the City of Panama, and between that place and Colon, where the railway and Canal traverse the country, the elevation falls to less than 300 feet. Salvin crossed by rail on more than one occasion, and spent some time collecting near the Station of Obispo, where he obtained a good many specimens; but Enrique Arcé and Mr. Champion were specially employed in Chiriqui, Arcé subsequently proceeding to Veraguas where he remained for several years.

The rivers, taken as a whole, are unimportant, but the Chagres with its tributary the Obispo attains formidable dimensions in the wet season, overflowing its banks and inundating a large area.

The district immediately adjacent to the Canal has recently been described by Mr. A.