

SOURCES FROM WHENCE OUR MATERIAL WAS OBTAINED.

THE following particulars as to the sources from whence our material was obtained supplement the account given in the Introduction, *antea*, pp. 11, 12. In Volumes I. of the 'Aves' and of the 'Lepidoptera Rhopalocera' the names of the various collectors who were specially employed to obtain material for the present work are recorded, viz. Messrs. F. B. Armstrong, E. Arcé, G. C. Champion (1879-1883), W. Lloyd, W. B. Richardson (1897-1898), H. Rogers (1877), and M. Trujillo (1888), and Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Smith (1888). From many others, also, we acquired or received vast numbers of specimens, all of which were duly acknowledged by our Contributors.

As regards the Mammalia, Aves, Reptilia and Batrachia, Pisces, Mollusca, Lepidoptera Rhopalocera, and Neuroptera (Odonata), the sources from whence our collections were derived are mentioned in detail in the 'Introductions' to the volumes on these subjects and need not be repeated. The Coleoptera, or beetles, however, numbering 18,029 species in all, and requiring eighteen volumes for their enumeration, by twelve contributors, demand special notice. Notwithstanding their vast number, and the great abundance of individuals, this is the only group of insects, the Lepidoptera excepted, for which sufficient contributors have been forthcoming to enable us to complete their investigation. The Coleoptera, therefore, occupy in this work an undue amount of space amongst the thirty-eight completed volumes of Insecta, as compared with the Hymenoptera, Neuroptera, &c., certain important families of which still remain unworked, this being due to the fact that the beetles have proved more attractive both to the collector and describer.

The Coleoptera examined have been mainly supplied by the following collectors from each of the various countries:—MEXICO—A. Sallé, C. T. Höge (who collected in nearly all the different States, Tamaulipas and Yucatan excepted), H. H. Smith (who specially visited Guerrero, Morelos, Vera Cruz, Tabasco, &c., for us), G. F. Gaumer (Yucatan), A. Forrer (N.W. Mexico, including the Tres Marias Is.), J. Flohr, F. D. Godman (Central and Southern Mexico), M. Trujillo (S. Mexico), Becker (Durango), Buchan-Hepburn (Chihuahua and Durango), and H. F. Wickham; BRITISH HONDURAS—F. Blancaneaux; GUATEMALA—A. Sallé, O. Salvin, J. Rodriguez, G. C. Champion, L. Conradt, and F. Sarg; NICARAGUA—T. Belt, E. M. Janson, and W. B. Richardson; COSTA RICA—H. Rogers, P. Biolley, Van Patten, C. F. Underwood,