

or on the northern slope are very seldom seen. On the southern slope of the Volcano, between 2000 and 4000 feet, a great deal of the forest had already been cleared (in 1881) to plant coffee. San Miguel (Isla del Rey) in the Pearl Islands and Tobago were visited by Mr. Champion, in April and May 1883, from Panama, and a certain number of insects, &c., were collected by him in these places. The absence of Conifers in the mountains, the paucity of Cacti, and the much less arid nature of the country afford a striking contrast to Guatemala, the fauna of Panama being very similar to that of Tropical South America. There is no arid central plateau in Panama, and the Cordillera, the loftiest part of which is in Chiriqui, decreases towards the isthmus, where it is only a few hundred feet high, so that the fauna of the two slopes is not likely to differ greatly. The Atlantic slope, however, has not yet been investigated. A Tenebrionid-beetle of the seashore, *Phaleria dytiscoides*, is recorded by Mr. Champion as common to the coasts of British Honduras on the Atlantic and of Guatemala and Nicaragua on the Pacific [*cf.* Coleopt. vol. iv. pt. 1, pp. 218, 219 (1886)], indicating a former connection of the two oceans at the isthmus of Panama. His itinerary was as follows * :—

1879. March 16–18. San José de Guatemala, the Pacific port of arrival for travellers from Panama or San Francisco. Sea-coast, mangrove-swamps, lagoons, &c.
 March 19, 20. Travelling up to capital *viâ* Escuintla, by diligence, over execrable roads, all inches deep in dust at this (dry) season.
 March 21–April 2. Guatemala city (about 4500 feet). Open plains, intersected by deep barrancas (ravines). Scrubby oak and pine woods in places on hill-sides. The volcanoes Pacaya, Agua, and Fuego visible to the southward. Many insects found on the banks of the streams in the barrancas.
 April 3–5. Ciudad Vieja. The first capital of Guatemala, in the valley between the volcanoes Agua and Fuego. Coffee-plantations and cultivated ground, unsuitable for collecting-purposes.
 April 6–8. Guatemala city.
 April 9. Aceituno. Coffee-plantation near the capital.
 April 10–16. Guatemala city.
 April 17–May 12. Capetillo. Valley between the volcanoes Agua and Fuego. Coffee and sugar-cane plantations, with the forest-clad slopes of the Fuego adjacent. This estate is the property of the well-known Guatemalan naturalist, Juan J. Rodriguez, who has, from time to time, for upwards of thirty years, supplied the editors of this work with material from his district.

1879. May 13–June 22. Zapote (about 2000 feet). On the forest-clad southern slope of the Volcan de Fuego. Broad, deep, dried-up watercourses, full of great boulders, run downward through the forest here, making travelling difficult. The locality good for insects. Coffee cultivated. Some very fine forest passed through at San Cayetano, between Zapote and Capetillo, along the descending coast-road.
 June 24, 25. Antigua.
 June 26–July 21. Dueñas (about 4500 feet). Near Capetillo. Coffee and Opuntia (for rearing the cochineal-insect) plantations adjacent to the Lake of Dueñas. Various excursions made from here to Calderas, on the upper eastern slope of the Volcan de Fuego, up to about 7500 feet. Pines on the higher slopes. Earthquake-shocks frequent—the house belonging to the owner of the estate (who had to leave it and live in Antigua) in ruins. The Acatenango peak of the Volcan, as well as the smoking Fuego itself, conspicuous from Dueñas.
 July 22–Aug. 7. Guatemala city.
 Aug. 8. Carrizal. Arid district with scrubby woods.
 Aug. 9. Llano Grande (about 2600 feet). Scrubby woods, cultivated ground, and pasture. Mule-trains and Indians bearing heavy loads constantly met with here, the route from the capital to Salama, Coban, &c., passing through this place.

* Elevations approximate only, taken from an uncorrected aneroid barometer. Probably too low in many cases.