

Endomychidæ, and Coccinellidæ (these three families being here placed at the end of the Coleopterous series in Vol. VII.) are treated as belonging to the same division. The Silphidæ, Corylophidæ, Trichopterygidæ, Sphæriidæ, and Scaphidiidæ were worked out by Mr. Matthews, the Histeridæ by Mr. G. Lewis, and the remaining sixteen families by Dr. Sharp, the last named author also contributing a list of the Rhipidandri—a small group of somewhat uncertain position, but really belonging to the Tenebrionid-series near Boletophagini. The total number of species is 1629, of which 996 are described as new. The dates of publication of the various subjects are: Pselaphidæ and Scydmaenidæ, 1887; Silphidæ–Scaphidiidæ, 1887–1888; Histeridæ, 1888; Phalacridæ–Byrrhidæ, 1888–1905; Rhipidandri, 1905. The ‘Introduction’ to this Volume was simply an editorial note; but in his remarks on the Histeridæ (p. 182) Mr. Lewis states that the chief interest of this series of insects centres in the species which feed on the wood-boring Coleoptera of other families. The nineteen uncoloured plates include, it is believed, some of the finest lithographic illustrations of beetles that have as yet been published, those devoted to the Colydiidæ (plates xiv. and xv.) being particularly excellent. The artist, Baron Max Schlereth, was unfortunately unable to draw the whole number.

18. COLEOPTERA. Vol. II. part 2: by H. W. Bates: Pectinicornia and Lamellicornia.

The total number of species for these two important families is 1100—72 Pectinicornia and 1028 Lamellicornia. The author, in his ‘Introduction’ (published in 1890), remarks that the Pectinicorn-fauna is exceedingly poor in the chief family of the tribe, viz., the Lucanidæ; but, on the other hand, it is unusually rich in the more aberrant family, the Passalidæ. A comparison with such allied faunas from other parts of the world, which have been sufficiently worked out to give approximately accurate results, seems to show that the poverty in Lucanidæ arises from Central America lying too far south to have been reached by many species of Old-World genera, and too far north for the genera characteristic of South Brazil, Chile, and the Andes. The conditions seem, however, to be very favourable to the Passalidæ, which all pass their earlier stages in rotting tree-trunks, reaching their highest development and exhibiting more diversity of form here than in any other region. All the families of Lamellicornia are well represented in Central America; they include 1028 species belonging to 127 genera, but a comparison of the Lamellicorn-fauna with that of other tropical regions of similar extent is impossible, as the necessary data do not exist in a connected form. The actual number of species described up to 1890, for the whole world, may be roughly estimated at 10,000. Of the twenty-four plates illustrating the 492 species figured, all but one (Pectinicornia) are coloured.

Since this Volume was finished (in 1890) a good many species of Lamellicornia have been added by various authors, these showy beetles being great favourites