

family, the Passalidæ. Of Lucanidæ we are able to record only 5 species of 3 genera, whilst in Passalidæ we have 67 species of 27 genera. A comparison with such allied faunas in other parts of the world as have been worked out sufficiently to promise approximately accurate results, seems to show that the poverty in Lucanidæ arises from Central America lying too far south in the continent to have been reached by many species of Old-World genera, which in America extend no further south than the temperate zone, and too far north for the genera characteristic of South Brazil, Chili, and the Andes. The conditions seem, however, to be very favourable to the Passalidæ, which here reach their highest development and exhibit more diversity of form than in any other region. Other faunas show the following proportions:—North America (Henshaw's Catalogue, 1885, and Suppl. 1887) possesses of Lucanidæ 14 species of 5 genera, and Passalidæ 1 species of 1 genus; Brazil (Gemminger and Harold's Catalogue, 1868), Lucanidæ 22 species of 6 genera, Passalidæ 25 species of 16 genera. The Colombian subprovince probably approaches our fauna nearer in its proportions of the two families; but the data for an approximate enumeration, in this case, are not at hand. In the tropical regions of the Old World the predominance of the Lucanidæ is everywhere strongly marked. In the islands of the Malay Archipelago there are upwards of 80 species of Lucanidæ of a dozen genera, and only about 27 Passalidæ of 6 genera.

The Lamellicornia are well represented in Central America in all their families. In the following pages we are able to record the large total of 1028 species contained in 127 genera. This is about one-tenth of the number described to the present date from all parts of the world, which I find, on a rough enumeration, to be very nearly 10,000. On comparing this proportion with those of the previously completed tribes in the present work, we find that it is rather greater than in the Geodephaga, where the numbers are 1086 : 12,000, and much less than in the Longicornia, of which Central America possesses 1273 species out of the total number described, viz. 8968. 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: we cannot say therefore whether our fauna is exceptionally rich for a tropical region; but as compared with temperate regions, *e. g.* Europe and North America, it is certainly very much richer than either. Of Lamellicornia Europe possesses only 636 species of 71 genera and North America 523 of 75 genera. In the less tropical tribe of Geodephaga the proportion is nearly reversed, our region furnishing only 1086 species, as compared with 1750 and 1223 for Europe and North America respectively; on the other hand, in the more tropical tribe of Longicornia Central America shows a still more decided superiority,