

were, in Central America, fully one-half of the described species being found there, many of these not extending beyond our limits. *Semiotus*, too, though poor in species, is represented by some of the largest known members of the genus, several of these (like *Chalcolepidius*) being very much in evidence in the forest clearings in the low country.

Attention has already been called to the excessive rarity of the males of the genera *Chalcolepidius* and *Semiotus*, and to the fact that the sexual characters of the last-mentioned genus have been misunderstood, the supposed males being really females. The extraordinary geographical distribution of *Meristhus scobinula*—China, Southern United States, and Central America,—doubted by Dr. Candèze, has been verified, but no explanation can be offered to account for it. The wide distribution in America of *Hemirhipus fascicularis* and *Orthostethus infuscatus*—both large and conspicuous insects—is also worthy of comment.

To summarize, there is little to distinguish the Elateridæ of Central America from those of Tropical South America, most of the genera being common to both regions, and the endemic genera exceedingly few in number; but they differ greatly from those of America north of Mexico, as shown by the larger North-American genera, *Corymbites* having eighty, *Elater* forty-nine, *Melanotus* forty-four, and *Limonius* thirty-one species respectively—the numbers for Central America being one, one, five, and two,—and the absence in Central America of such genera as *Melanactes*, *Sericosomus*, *Pityobius*, &c. North America, moreover, has only one *Pyrophorus* and three *Ischiodontus*, and no *Semiotus*. My labours on this Family have been greatly facilitated by free access to the very extensive collection of Elateridæ formed by the late E. W. Janson; and also by the assistance of Dr. Candèze, the well-known veteran specialist in this group, who has been kind enough to lend the types of the whole of the described Central-American Elateridæ now in his possession.

The Cebrionidæ is a Family containing but few species, mostly belonging to two genera, *Cebrion* and *Scaptolenus*, chiefly remarkable from the great rarity of the females, which are either apterous or have abbreviated wings, the males, too, of many of them being rarely found. One genus only, *Scaptolenus*, is represented in Central America; twenty-nine species, with nine new, are enumerated. It has not yet been recorded from South America.

The Rhipidoceridæ is another Family of limited extent, and in which also the females are rarely met with. Fourteen species, belonging to three genera, are recorded from Central America, one genus and eleven species being treated as new. *Callirrhapis*