

## INTRODUCTION.

---

THIS Volume contains the enumeration of the rest of the species of the subfamily Curculioninæ (under which the Cossonids are here placed) and the whole of the subfamily Calandrinæ. The Appendix to the Curculioninæ was required to include such species as had been overlooked or wrongly placed in the general sorting of the collections, or that had come to hand too late to be inserted in their proper places, one holarctic group, the Gymnetrina, being thus added to the Mexican fauna.

The preceding Volume of this series, Coleoptera, IV. part 6, is devoted to the families Brenthidæ, Scolytidæ, and Anthribidæ, and the general sequence of the arrangement of the Rhynchophora has thus been interrupted: species included in the present Volume, "Coleoptera, IV. part 7," should of course follow those enumerated in "Coleoptera, IV. part 5."

The subfamily Calandrinæ is represented within our limits by a large number of species, some of them (*Cactophagus*, *Phyllerythrurus*, *Eucactophagus*, *Metamasius*, *Rhodobænus*, &c.) being very conspicuous brilliantly-coloured insects. *Sphenophorus*, sensu stricto, includes many destructive North-American species, but it is poorly represented south of Mexico. It is probable that some of the Eastern genera of this subfamily named by Chevrolat and others will prove to be inseparable from *Metamasius*; but no attempt has been here made to identify them. *Calandra granaria*, *C. oryzæ*, &c. are carried about everywhere by commerce, and other species are often introduced in imported plants. The larger exotic forms attack palms, Cactaceæ, Amaryllideæ, Liliaceæ, Musaceæ, maize, &c.