

BIOLOGIA CENTRALI-AMERICANA.

ZOOLOGIA.

Class INSECTA.

Order COLEOPTERA.

Tribe LONGICORNIA.

Fam. PRIONIDÆ.

Subfam. PRIONINÆ.

In this subfamily are included the whole of Legions I. & II., and of the latter Cohortes I. & II. of Lacordaire's system, resting the definition of the combined subdivisions chiefly on the character of coarsely-faceted eyes. The highly artificial separation of diverse abnormal forms as a "Legion" equivalent to a natural group of the same rank, as proposed by Lacordaire, is here avoided. The character of coarsely-faceted eyes, in *Prionidæ* as in other subfamilies of Longicornia, seems very generally associated with nocturnal habits and sombre colours.

PARANDRA.

Parandra, Latreille, Gen. Crust. et Ins. iii. p. 28 (1802).

Thirty-five species of this aberrant Longicorn genus were recorded in the Munich Catalogue (Catalogus Coleopterorum, auctoribus Dr. Gemminger et B. de Harold) in 1873; but many of these have since been shown to be slight varieties or synonyms. The general form (or facies), colour, and sculpture are remarkably similar in all; and unless close attention is paid to the dentition of the mandibles in the males and the accessories of the tarsal claw-joint, it is impossible to distinguish them with accuracy. Some twenty distinct species, however, are known; and their distribution is remarkable: America (Tropical and North) is their metropolis, Western Tropical Africa, the Cape of Good Hope, the Moluccas, and New Caledonia having each one or two species; and one isolated member is found on the borders of the Caspian.