It will perhaps be of interest to mention some of the genera which are either peculiar to Mexico or Central America, or have very many representatives there. This is all we can do at present, as we scarcely have as yet any knowledge of the life-history of any of the species. It is probable that the larvæ of these insects play some part in checking vegetation, as is the case with many species in the temperate zone, where they often seriously injure crops and cereals. Yet it is difficult to believe that the luxuriant tropical vegetation should be at all seriously affected by the ravages of the Phytophaga, while on the other hand a very considerable number of them probably fall victims to birds or other enemies. Be this as it may, there is no doubt that the Eumolpidæ, especially the metallic species, and the still more numerous Galerucidæ (*Diabrotica*, &c.) swarm in Central America, and are a feature amongst the Coleoptera of that region.

Amongst the Sagridæ, *Aulacoscelis* has 11 species, 2 only of which were known at the date of publication of Gemminger and Harold's Catalogue. Amongst the Eumolpidæ, the genus *Euphrytus*, characterized in this work for the first time, has 17 species, and *Promecosma* 19 species, all of which are peculiar to Mexico. It is, however, among the true Chrysomelidæ that we find genera numerously represented by species which are for the greater part peculiar to our region; these are *Calligrapha*, *Zygogramma*, *Leptinotarsa*, and others, for the most part containing neatly marked, closely allied species, distinguished by the peculiar pattern of the elytra and their system of punctuation—characters apparently depending on each other for their development. These genera have their head-quarters in Central America, North and South America each possessing comparatively few representatives. As regards the numerous new genera of Halticinæ and Galerucinæ described in this work, it is impossible to say anything at present about their geographical distribution, as it is highly probable that some of them extend beyond our limits.

Owing to the great variability of the Phytophaga, more particularly of the Galerucidæ, our immense amount of material has increased the difficulty of accurately defining the limits of particular species, instead of diminishing it as might have been expected. If the extreme varieties only of certain of them were available for examination, they would in most cases be considered as specifically distinct, the variation not only affecting colour, but, in some species, shape or sculpture also. So that, until the limits of variation are better understood, nothing can be done by the systematic worker but to treat as distinct such forms which in his opinion differ sufficiently from their allies.