

largely endemic. The Endomychidæ, which I regard as also being a highly evolved family, but as containing more primitive and generalized genera than the Erotylidæ, bear out this view.

The number of genera of the family Endomychidæ, including the additions to the Munich Catalogue, may be roughly taken as sixty, and the described species as 480. In the volume now completed the genera recorded are fifteen, with eighty-one species, of which four genera and thirty-nine species are new. I have before recorded my conjecture that the smaller and more hairy species, as those of the large genus *Stenotarsus*, represented a more primitive less evolved form, and these are found in all parts of the world.

The large family of the Coccinellidæ presents more difficulties on the subject of distribution, from their being, as it appears to me, taken as a whole, of a more generalized type than the two preceding families.

What strikes one, on studying this group with attention, is the very feeble and trivial characters on which the genera are based, and yet that better ones cannot be found. And this appears from the varying opinions of classifiers as to their adoption in their systems. Thus, while Crotch admits 137 genera for 1340 species, only 100 genera are retained in the Munich Catalogue for 1444 species.

For Central America, as recorded in this volume, 239 species are placed in forty-three genera; and while of this rather limited number 108 species are apparently new, I have only-ventured to propose three new genera.

But the species of this family rather readily divide into two sections, according as they are smooth or hairy, and still more so if we take the larger and more important portion of the latter which are phytophagous, and have the mandibles retaining the form adapted for that kind of food.

One can hardly avoid the conclusion that the *Epilachmæ* are derived from the Phytophagous stirps, not only on account of their food, but of their very close resemblance in many instances to Cassididæ, some very closely resembling *Chelymorphæ*, and others having the metallic lustre of so many of this latter family; and the singularly convex and inflated form of the elytra in the Coccinellidæ, modified, but present, in the *Ægithi* and true *Erotyli*, having, as I think, its counterpart in the gibbous and elevated forms of Cassididæ. It is not only in their food that the