

INTRODUCTION.

IN this Volume twelve Families of the section Fossores of the Hymenoptera Aculeata are dealt with—Sphegidæ, Ampulicidæ, Larridæ, Nyssonidæ, Bembicidæ, Philanthidæ, Mimesidæ, Pemphredonidæ, Crabronidæ, Pompilidæ, Scoliidæ, and Mutillidæ. It was commenced by Mr. Cameron in 1888 and concluded in 1896, a short Supplement having been added last year. Mr. H. H. Smith's earlier collections of Fossores from Mexico, as well as those made in Yucatan by Mr. Gaumer, were fortunately received in time to be included, the additions subsequently sent not being very numerous. Hence, a much more varied material was available for study compared with what we had for Volume I. at the time of publication, and probably our enumeration in this case is relatively more complete.

It is to be regretted that so many of the previously described Mexican Mutillidæ remain unrepresented or unidentified in our collection, and the same remark applies with still greater force to the Ichneumonidæ, dealt with in Volume I.

Altogether 711 species are enumerated, of which 391 are treated as new, the total number for each Family being as follows:—Sphegidæ, sixty-seven, with thirty-seven new; Ampulicidæ, two, with one new; Larridæ, fifty-two, with thirty-nine new; Nyssonidæ, thirty-two, with twelve new; Bembicidæ, twenty-six, with two new; Philanthidæ, fifty-four, with twenty-eight new; Mimesidæ, eight, all new; Pemphredonidæ, three; Crabronidæ, twenty-four, with twenty-two new; Pompilidæ, 163, with seventy-eight new; Scoliidæ, fifty-nine, with twenty-seven new; Mutillidæ, 221, with 137 new.

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