BIOLOGIA CENTRALI-AMERICANA.

ZOOLOGIA.

Class INSECTA.

Order HYMENOPTERA.

ACULEATA.

Under the designation of 'Aculeata' are included the Hymenoptera commonly called Wasps, Ants, and Bees, the other section of the Order with petiolated abdomen being called 'Terebrantia.' As a matter of fact I do not see how any clear line of demarcation can be drawn between the 'Aculeata' and the 'Terebrantia,' nor am I sure that they can be separated by any one structural character. It is doubtful if Hartig's divisions of 'Ditrocha' and 'Monotrocha' can be looked upon as altogether satisfactory; for, like most classifications based upon a single character, it would separate groups which agree in many points to place them near those with which they agree in one only.

The Aculeata include four more or less clearly defined sections—the 'Fossores,' 'Diplopteryga,' 'Heterogyna,' and the 'Anthophila.'

Section FOSSORES.

This section contains the sand- and wood-wasps and the Mutillidæ. From the 'Heterogyna' (Ants) they are recognizable by the abdominal petiole having neither scales nor nodes, in which respect they agree with the 'Diplopteryga'; the 'Fossores,' in fact, only differ from the latter in the wings not being folded longitudinally in repose.

Fam. SPHEGIDÆ.

This family is tolerably well defined by the neck-like prothorax, the hinder angles of which do not reach to the tegulæ, and by the smooth, cylindrical petiole.

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