

INTRODUCTION.

THIS Volume contains an enumeration of the species of the following Families of Rhynchota-Heteroptera—Tingitidæ, Phymatidæ, Aradidæ, Hebridæ, Hydrometridæ, Henicocephalidæ, Reduviidæ, Nabidæ, Anthocoridæ, Ceratocombidæ, Cimicidæ, Saldidæ, Pelogonidæ, Gelastocoridæ (Galgulidæ), Nepidæ, Naucoridæ, Belostomidæ, Notonectidæ, and Corixidæ. The first twelve of these belong to the Gymnocerata (Geocorisæ), concluding that portion of the work contributed by Mr. Distant in Vol. I., and the remainder to the Cryptocerata (Hydrocorisæ).

The Tingitidæ include a large number of species, all of small size, some of them having the pronotum inflated, the margins of the latter, and the scutellum and elytra also, being often more or less diaphanous, with very conspicuous nervures. But little attention has hitherto been paid to the tropical forms of this family, and it is therefore not surprising that sixty-six of the seventy-eight species enumerated prove to be new, with seven new genera. Lethierry and Severin in their Catalogue (1896) give 335 species for the whole world. Of the American genera characterized by Stål, all but three are represented.

The Phymatidæ is a well-marked family of small extent, its members having very strong raptorial anterior legs. Some of the species are gregarious, and they have the habit of secreting themselves in flowers for the purpose of securing the small insects that may come within reach. Three genera and nineteen species are enumerated, one of them, *Agreuocoris noualhieri*, being probably eastern, though said to be from Mexico; eight species are treated as new. Herr A. Handlirsch's Monograph of these interesting Hemiptera was issued immediately after the publication of my own enumeration of the Central-American forms; the lithographic plates accompanying his work were drawn by Baron Max v. Schlereth, and they are perhaps the most beautiful delineations of Heteropterous insects that have ever appeared.