

## THE MARX COLLECTION OF ARACHNIDA.

The eminent arachnologist, Dr. George Marx, of Washington, D. C., died January 3rd, 1895. His important collection of Arachnida has been placed by his widow in charge of the undersigned committee of the Entomological Society of Washington, to be disposed of by sale. The collection is one of the most important in existence. It contains more than one thousand species of Aranaeina alone.

Of this one thousand species, about five hundred are described species from North America. These are distributed among 175 genera. The families Theridiidae, Epeiridae and Theraphosidae are particularly well-represented, and have been identified largely by some well-known authority. The Theridiidae were in the hands of the late Count Keyserling, and about thirty of his species have their types in this collection. The Theraphosidae have been recently in the hands of Simon, of Paris, while Dr. McCook has examined the Epeiridae. In addition to these 500 described American species, there are about 200 species of European spiders properly identified and labelled, and nearly 300 American species which bear Dr. Marx's manuscript names. There is, further, a great mass of material which has never been worked up.

The species are many of them represented by many specimens. The collection is contained in vials in Muller's fluid, and the vials are arranged in the standard trays of Dr. Marx's own invention, as figured and described in Riley's "Directions for Collecting and Preserving Insects" (Smithsonian Institution, Part F, Bulletin 39. U. S. National Museum). The collection is of special interest, aside from the number of species, on account of the excellent representation of the boreal fauna. There are many specimens from Alaska on the west and Labrador on the east. In addition, all parts of America north of Mexico are represented. Besides the Aranaeina there are many specimens of Scorpionida, Solpugida and Pseudoscorpionida, and Pedipalpi.

After due consideration, we have decided to offer, for the present, this collection for sale for the sum of fifteen hundred dollars (\$1,500).

Correspondence relative to the collection, or its possible purchase, may be addressed to any member of the committee :

C. V. RILEY, U. S. National Museum.

L. O. HOWARD, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

E. A. SCHWARZ, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

THEODORE GILL, Smithsonian Institution.

Washington, D. C., August 1st, 1895.

P. S.—With the collection will be delivered to the purchaser, Dr. Marx's large and valuable library on Arachnida, comprising all the important works on the group, well-bound, together with several hundred pamphlets.

---

Mailed September 7th, 1895.