may be positively formulated, often numerically stated. For the present, we will admit that these differences, thus accurately expressed, do really exist, and depend upon measurements which may be repeatedly verified.

With the first of these items we need do little more than present a few illustrations; the array in parallel columns will usually bring them into sufficient prominence. The second is of more consequence, for it raises the important question upon which this whole discussion will turn—Are these differences of such a character as will warrant the erection of distinct genera? Mr. Scudder has already answered this question in the affirmative; for us to answer blankly in the negative would be to pit our opinion against his, in which case the weight of authority would very largely and very properly lie on his side.

We must, therefore, briefly inquire into the distinctions which exist between genera and species, as found in law and in usage.

Probably we can appeal to no higher authority upon the law than that of Agassiz, and accordingly we quote his definitions as found in the "Essay on Classification."

"Genera are most closely allied groups of animals differing neither in form nor in complication of structure, but simply in the ultimate structural peculiarities of some of the parts." Eng. Ed., p. 249.

"Genera [are] characterized by ultimate peculiarities of structure in the parts of the body.

"Species [are] characterized by relations and proportions of parts among themselves, and of the individuals to one another and to the surrounding mediums." P. 265.

Here the question turns upon the force of the words "ultimate structural peculiarities." Can they mean that any difference which can be formulated in the ratio of length to breadth in the same part, or of length of one part to length of another part, is a difference of ultimate structure? If one insect has its fore-tibia five-sixths the length of its fore-femur, while another has the same parts in the ratio of four-sixths, or six-sixths, are they for this cause of different genera? Does this principle extend through zoology? Is Gen. Sheridan, who is short and stout, and who, according to Pres. Lincoln, can scratch his ancle without stooping, generically different from Gen. Sherman, who is tall and slender, and whose ancles are evidently out of his reach? Can any one safely affirm of any individual of any species of any genus in the whole realm of nature, that all its ratios of measurement in all its members are identical