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FAUNA OTTAWAENSIS.

HYMENOPTERA—Superfamily III—VESPOIDEA.

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In Volume XV a list was published of eighty-one species of Ottawa wasps, belonging to the superfamily Sphegoidea, and the following list gives an equal number of the species included in the adjoining Vespoidea. This superfamily contains sixteen families, of which nine are represented in the list. Some of the remaining families have representatives in Canada, but these are mostly western forms, such as *Trigonalis* and *Masaris*, and it is probable that *Sapyga* is the only form which may be expected to occur in this district. For those who have not made a study of the numberless interesting forms belonging to our Hymenoptera, a few introductory remarks on the appearance and habits of the members of the several families may prove of more interest than the list itself.

The *Ceropalidæ* (*Pompilidæ*) are mostly small, or medium-sized black wasps, with frequently bluish or purplish reflections and occasionally with red or white markings, while the wings may be clear, smoky or maculate. They are very swift and agile insects, and the females, in common with those of other families, have stings which, especially in the larger species, can inflict a painful wound. *Anoplius* (*Pompilus*) and *Salius* (*Priocnemis*) fill their burrows in the ground with spiders, which they will take even out of their webs. The species of *Agenia*, which are smaller, construct mud nests in which they also store spiders. The spiders thus provided for the offspring of the genera mentioned are rendered immobile by the stings of their captor and often have their legs nipped off so that they may be more easily stowed in the nests. The wasp then lays an egg in the cell and seals it up. The members of the genus *Ceropales* are parasitic upon the other genera, the females watching for an opportunity to place their eggs in the nests which are being provisioned.

The *Vespidæ* are the typical Social Wasps, the "yellow-