

not fully described by the author, but is afterward limited and restricted by other writers previous to the publication of synonyms, we think the law of priority should apply.

The supporters of the law of priority do not so much insist upon its application in those few cases in which opinion as to the validity of the description is denied, as upon its being taken as the acknowledged guide in the great majority of cases in which recognizable descriptions are attached to both names.

The difference between the catalogue of Mr. Kirby and that of Dr. Staudinger is easily explained.

Dr. Staudinger may have adopted priority in some cases, but he certainly has not in all. For instance, he has not in several cases recognized the names of Fourcroy, Scopoli, Bergstrasser and others. The differing degree of strictness with which the law was carried out, is sufficient to explain the discrepancy in the catalogues.

To be effective, priority must be rigidly enforced. The advantages to be gained by the universal adoption of this law are so great to us, and more especially to the future Entomologist, that the drawbacks, formidable at first, but steadily decreasing with time, can, it seems to us, offer but slight resistance to its entire acceptance.

LIST OF COLEOPTERA OF ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI.

BY S. V. SUMMERS, M. D., NEW ORLEANS, LA.

(Continued from Page 147.)

DYTISCIDÆ.

CNEMIDOTUS, *Illig.*
12-punctatus, *Aube.*
HYDROPORUS, *Clairv.*
hybridus, *Lec.*
imbelus, *Lec.*

HYDROPORUS, *Clairv.* (*continued.*)
pratruelis, *Lec.*
moestus, *Aube.*
lacustris, *Say.*
notus, *Lec.*