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THE COLEOPTERA OF CANADA.

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I. THE CICINDELIDÆ OF ONTARIO AND QUEBEC.

[The following is the first of a series of papers which Mr. Wickham is specially preparing for this magazine. It is intended that they should treat of all the more conspicuous families of Coleoptera and present in tabular form the genera and species that are found in the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec; a descriptive list will also be given of the species, so far as known, that are to be found in the other provinces of the Dominion of Canada. The object in view is to assist collectors who have hitherto been unable, from the want of books or other causes, to identify the beetles they have caught, and to encourage them in the study of this most interesting order of insects. As many illustrations as possible will be given, and every effort will be made to render the papers thoroughly helpful to those who make use of them. It is hoped, also, that the aid thus given will lead on many of our younger readers to become students of Entomology, rather than mere collectors. The bibliography at the end of each paper will be of service to those who are not content to remain "beginners."—ED. C. E.]

The beetles of this family are among the first to attract the attention of the collector. Their graceful forms, bright colours, and activity displayed in the pursuit of their prey, on sunny banks or roadsides, render them at once objects of interest and beauty; as much on this account as because of their generally conceded position as the highest of Coleoptera, they are given the first place in this series of articles.

For our purpose the Cicindelidæ may be defined as predaceous ground-beetles, with eleven-jointed filiform antennæ, which are borne on the front above the base of the mandibles. Two genera are represented in the Dominion of Canada, one of which, *Omus*, is confined to the Pacific provinces. It is distinguishable from *Cicindela* by having small eyes and separate posterior coxæ, while in the latter genus the eyes are large and prominent and the posterior coxæ contiguous.