## The Canadian Entomologist.

VOL. XXXIV.

LONDON, APRIL, 1902.

No. 4

## CLASSIFICATION OF THE FOSSORIAL, PREDACEOUS AND PARASITIC WASPS, OR THE SUPERFAMILY VESPOIDEA.

EY WILLIAM H. ASHMEAD, A. M., ASSISTANT CURATOR, DIVISION OF INSECTS, U. S. NATIONAL MUSEUM.

(Paper No. 4.—Continued from Vol. XXXII., 1900, p. 296.)

Subsamily III. -- Aporine (= Pompilinæ).

1815. Aporida, Leach, Edinb. Encyc. IX., p. 149.

Pompilus, Fabr., is preoccupied, and the family name Pompilidae must be changed to Ceropalidae, as has been shown recently by Fox (vide Ent. News, Vol. XII., 1901, p. 268). In consequence, my subfamily Pompilinae must be changed to Apprinae.

This subfamily is unquestionably the largest in number of genera and species of any of the groups of the family *Ceropalidæ* (Pompilidæ). Most of the species, in comparison with those found in the *Pepsinæ*, are of medium size or small, few attaining much over an inch in length, while the vast majority are much smaller.

All of the species, so far as we know, dig burrows in the ground, in which they store up spiders as food for their young. I suspect, however, that some of the genera, judging from their structural characters and the absence of a tarsal comb, will prove to be *inquilinous* in the nests of others, as with the Psithyridæ, Stelididæ and other families in the Hymenoptera.

The characters made use of in my table of subfamilies readily separate the subfamily. The spiny or strongly bristly legs, which are never smooth nor serrate, and the absence of a transverse grooved line or furrow on the second ventral segment separate it from the *Pepsinæ* and the *Ageuiinæ*; the antennæ being placed higher up on the face, and not low down on or below an imaginary line drawn from the base of the eyes,