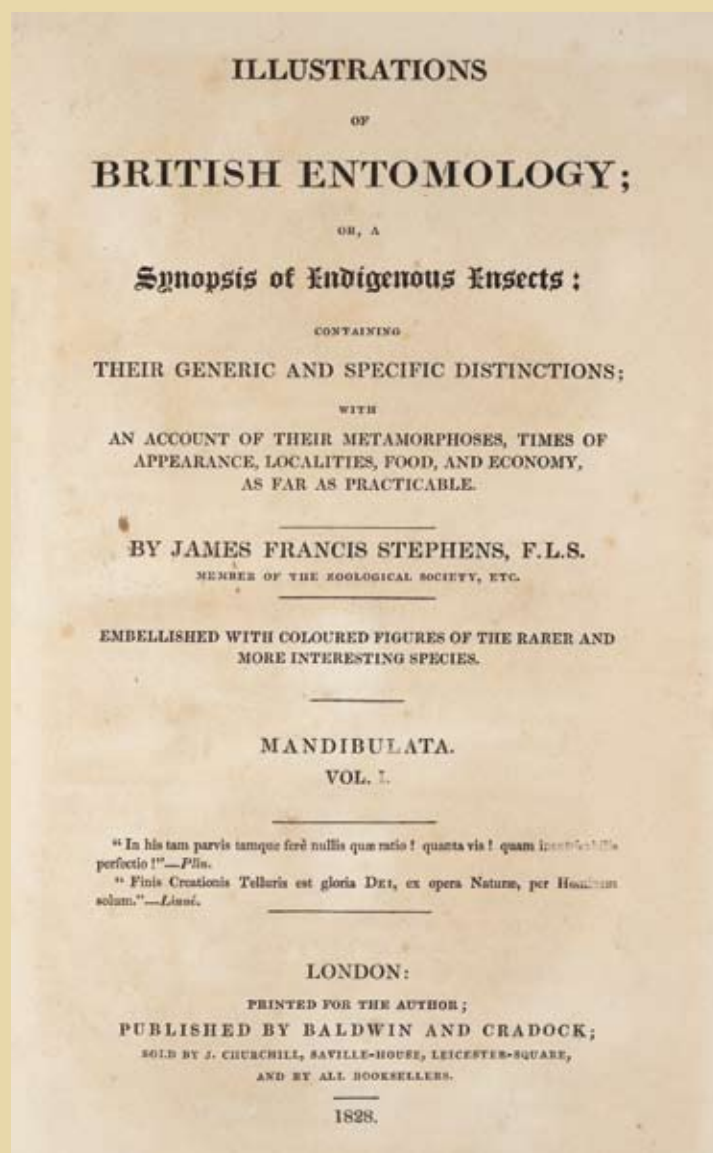


# Collecting Beetles



The  
Grandeur  
of Life



Top Left: Titlepage to James Francis Stephens, Illustrations of British entomology, 1828-35.

Top Right: Beetles, from James Francis Stephens, Illustrations of British entomology, 1828-35. Beetles 2 and 3 were captured by Charles Darwin.

Left: Stag beetle, from Edward Donovan, An epitome of the natural history of the insects of India, 1800.

Below: Text with citations to Charles Darwin, from James Francis Stephens, Illustrations of British entomology, 1828-35.

194 MANDIBULATA.—COLEOPTERA.

Page 67. COLYMBETES striatus. "Not very abundant near Marton Lodge."—L. Rudd, Esq. "Cardew-mire."—T. C. Heysham, Esq. "Newcastle."—G. Wailles, Esq.

Page 69. COLYMBETES pulverosus. "Very common in the gravel-pits at Weyhill and Appleshaw, sparingly at Kimpton in streams; and in the canal at Chatford, near Andover."—Rev. G. T. Rudd. "In profusion near Cambridge."—C. Darwin, Esq.

Page 70. COLYMBETES notatus. "In abundance near Cambridge."—C. Darwin, Esq.

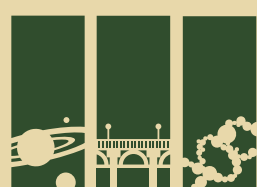
Page 70. COLYMBETES exoletus. "Abundantly near Cambridge."—C. Darwin, Esq.

Page 71. COLYMBETES agilis. "In pools on the hills near Marton Lodge, but very scarce, October, 1828."—L. Rudd, Esq. "In profusion near Cambridge, in 1829."—C. Darwin, Esq.

Page 71. COLYMBETES adpersus. "Plentiful near Cambridge in 1829."—C. Darwin, Esq.

Many collectors were fascinated by beetles, because of their iridescence and endless variety. Beetles certainly proved irresistible to Charles Darwin. During his years at Cambridge, 1828-30, Darwin collected beetles with great enthusiasm. As he confessed in his autobiography, he didn't know much about them, but he managed to get them named, and he sent accounts and perhaps specimens of his finds to James

Stephens, who was just then publishing a multi-volume work on the insects of England. In the appendix to volume two, Stephens included some of the observations of "C. Darwin, Esq." It marked the first appearance of Darwin's name in print in a scientific publication.



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