Introduction 11

insects in the box are unlabelled; some names are non-Fabrician and some are illegible.

The Lepidoptera collection consists of 9 boxes. As shown in the list of the Fabrician Lepidoptera, quite a number has been lost; so many that I touched on the idea of including the now existing species only.

As regards the Schiffermüller-Fabrician species, those concerning which Fabricius cites Schiffermüller have not been included in the list, owing to the fact that there has been and still is, some disagreement as to the question Schiffermüller-Fabricius.

The supplement at the end of the list includes all the Schiffermüller-Fabrician species which are still to be found in the Fabricius collection. They are not many.

The Diptera collection is a tragedy. Among the ten existing boxes there is only one in which the insects are reasonably well preserved; the rest has been eaten by dermestids. There is reason to suppose that the collection was spoiled even at the beginning of the last century, since many authors at that time mention its miserable condition. The Kiel Museum authorities have fortunately had the good sence to keep the name labels even if an insect was missing. They can thus tell us with certainty that the type does not exist.

It may be noted that Sehested & Tønder Lund's collection comprises many Fabrician species donated by himself. Among these specimens lectotypes may be chosen if the type itself is lost.

Besides the above collections, there are 4 boxes of Orthoptera, 3 boxes of Odonata, and some specimens of other orders.

## SEHESTED & TØNDER LUND'S COLLECTION

After Fabricius' own collection, that of Sehested and Tønder Lund includes by far the greatest number of Fabrician types, and it is extremely well-preserved.

Niels Tønder Lund (1749–1809) was tutor to the young Count Ove Sehested, and for a period of two years, both of them attended lectures by Fabricius in Kiel and became keen collectors of Danish insects, especially Tønder Lund.

The collections also included many tropical insects. Both Sehested and Tønder Lund held high posts in the Civil Service, through which they were able to contact officials sent out to the Danish colonies, in Guinea, Tranquebar, and the West Indies; and from these regions they obtained large collections of insects.

While their tropical collection is well labelled with regard to localities, the localities of the Danish specimens are seldom stated.

Later on the two friends, Sehested and Tønder Lund, combined their collections, and the right of possession was transferred to Tønder Lund. In 1809