

*ANTHRENUS MUSEORUM* Lin. (*Castanea* Mels.)—This beetle is abundant in May and June on many flowering shrubs, especially Spiræas. In May, 1881, also in May, 1882, a number of these beetles were placed in a box containing refuse insects, as had been done with *Varinus*; but in neither year did larvæ appear. In Europe this beetle has a bad record as a museum pest, (hence its name): but in this country I have seen no notice of such a habit. If *Museorum* and *Castanea* are identical, it is strange how its taste has changed so completely: and it would be interesting to know whether it has been imported, or is a native of both continents. In the latter case its European taste for natural history has probably been acquired. However, may they not really be different species having forms so nearly identical that the anatomical differences of structure have not yet been observed, as was the case formerly with several much larger beetles, notably several species of *Lachnosterna*, *Cyllene pictus* and *robinie*, &c.?

Further experiments are contemplated with this species.

*TROGODERMA ORNATA* Say.—April, 1879, found a full grown Dermestoid larva in a large insect-proof show case in my office. Length, 6 mm.; shape, elongate, fusiform: color, pale, except last three dorsal segments, blackish. Placed it in an empty wooden box that had contained petroleum ointment, giving it a couple of insects for food. Monthly inspection showed that it ate nothing: that it moulted frequently and became smaller. It died July, 1880, having shrunk to one-fourth its original size. Fifteen skins, some of them exceedingly thin, were taken from the box, showing that it had moulted once a month. In May, 1881, five full grown larvæ, corresponding to the above, were found in the same case, having evidently lived on flies that had entered at such times as it had been opened. These were placed in a new ointment box, turned from poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*), the sides of which were one-eighth inch thick. Inspecting them two weeks afterwards, two were found to have escaped by gnawing oval holes through the sides of the box close to the top. The third had almost completed another hole, while the remaining two had not commenced operating. These three were placed in the petroleum ointment box above mentioned, and made no attempt to gnaw out,—the petroleum probably rendering the wood unpleasant to their taste. Seeing that they moulted as the former had done and that they were not likely to develop, they were placed in a wide mouth bottle