

larger, only two specimens, all the others belonging to the second species. I submitted the beetles to Dr. G. H. Horn, and received the following kind answer:

"The beetles are not specifically known to me. The *Lyctus* (the numerously represented species) is different from any we have. The other is a Bostrichid, and is allied to *Sinoxylon*. There is just enough to show that the last three joints of the antennæ form a loose club as in *Sinoxylon*."

Therefore as the beetles are not yet known living in the U. S., they must have been imported from China, and lived and propagated in the bamboo box. I remembered directly a similar fact represented in the biological collection here. In 1870 was presented by Mr. J. H. Hubbard from Detroit, Mich., a piece of Supple-tack, a vine of Jamaica, imported nine years ago. Only during the last two years was observed fine mealy dust dropping out of numerous small round holes. By splitting the stick many living beetles and larvæ of a species of *Lyctus* were discovered.

I tried to make out the Chinese species, but Harold's Catalogue has no species of *Lyctus* or *Sinoxylon* from China. Lewis's Catalogue of Japan has *Lyctus brunneus* Steph. By comparing the description and figure in Steph. Illust. iii., p. 117, pl. 18, f. 4 (Wollaston Ins. Mad. were not at hand), and Kiesenwetter, Insect. Deutschl., v., p. 17, I suppose that the Jamaica species may be *L. brunneus*. This insect is given as imported by trade into Germany, and has been raised by Mr. Fuss out of walking sticks made from the so-called Cuba vine.

I compared the Jamaica and the China specimens, and find the latter ones identical with the smaller specimens of the lot from Jamaica, as I was not able to find any difference. But some of the larger specimens from Jamaica have a decidedly stronger sculpture on the thorax. Being well aware of the difficulty of determining species of *Lyctus*, and not having to compare a specimen of *L. brunneus*, I may only draw the attention of American entomologists to this species. It would be surprising if a species so widely spread and imported into Germany to the Baltic shores, and living in the Antilles Islands, should not be found in the United States. Considering the species near *Sinoxylon*, I am not able to give a determination. The larvæ in the bamboo box belong very probably to *Lyctus*.

In my Bibliotheca, ii., p. 499, are related all cases of insects boring through metals, mostly lead. I do not know if block-tin is known as in: