

Having been described originally in Europe, and introduced, like many others, into our Catalogues uncharacterized, collectors here have to depend on tradition for a knowledge of the species. When recent and fresh there is no trouble in distinguishing them by differences in color and the arrangement of the scales; but with age and abrasion these disappear in many individuals, and anatomical characters have to be resorted to.

Normally, *canaliculatus* is ferruginous, and has the elytra with feebly impressed striæ, the base, middle and apex being covered so densely with whitish scales as to produce a tri-fasciate appearance. The sides of the thorax are likewise densely coated with scales similarly colored. *squamiger* is darker, slate-colored, or blackish brown. The scales are narrower and more uniformly distributed, but condensed on the centres of the disk of each elytron, so as to form a small round white spot, often obsolete. The striæ of the elytra are scarcely traceable.

It is not necessary for our purpose to relate minor anatomical differences, as there is one easy of observation that can always be relied on to separate doubtful individuals, namely, the epistoma and clypeus.

In *canaliculatus* this is short, somewhat convex, slightly channeled in the centres, with a *deep notch or depression* at the middle of the anterior margin.

In *squamiger* the same part is prominent, somewhat broadly concave, with the anterior margin *rounded*. These curious little beetles occur here abundantly on flowers from April till July, and occasionally till late in autumn. They hibernate in colonies, in crevices of standing trees in process of dry decay, where I have several times found them in large numbers.

*Elleschus bipunctatus* Linn. This is an introduced European species, first brought to notice by Dr. Leconte, Proc. Am. Phil. Soc., v. 17, p. 621,

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marked with rather obscure impressed lines, a broad shallow groove along the middle of their thorax, which groove is more deep anteriorly, and their anterior shanks with a row of about five little uneven teeth along their outer edge.

"In the month of April last, I met with sixteen of these beetles beneath the bark of a pine stump, slightly above the surface of the ground. The stump had been much eaten, by white ants apparently, the sap wood being all consumed and the cavity thus formed being stuffed with sand and dirt which had been carried up from the soil beneath, in which these insects were lying, torpid in their winter quarters, most of them crowded together in a heap in a single cavity in this dirt, the others scattered about in it singly, their larvæ having no doubt subsisted upon the decaying wood."—[Ed. C. E.]