

is more on Mr. Blades' side. R. Hooke calls it Book-worm, and states that it corrodes and eats holes through the leaves and covers of books. The figure is for the time tolerably good and recognizable. On Mr. Hooke's authority, *Lepisma* was reported as obnoxious to books. As Mr. Hooke has apparently mixed up the destructions done by *Anobium* with those of *Lepisma*, of which in the following hundred years no damages were observed, the whole observation was doubted, and Prof. Herman, in Strasbourg, in his prize essay on library pests, declared (1774) that *Lepisma* was erroneously recorded as obnoxious. This was the reason that I did not mention *Lepisma* in my communication to the librarians, the more so as in the past hundred years no new observations had again been recorded. I did not mention other remarkable facts, as the *Jehthio-Bibliophage*, a codfish which had swallowed three Puritanical treatises of John Frith, the Protestant martyr. No wonder, after such a meal, the fish was soon caught and became famous in the annals of literature. This is the title of a little book issued upon the occasion: "*Vox Piscis, or the Book-fish, containing three treatises which were found in the belly of a Codfish in Cambridge Market, one midsummer eve, 1626*;" great was the consternation at Cambridge upon the publication of this work.

Nevertheless, just after the delivery of my communication, new proofs of the depravity of *Lepisma* came forward.

"God made him, and therefore let him pass for a man."

Prof. Westwood, of Oxford, showed to the Naturalists' Association in 1879, a framed and glazed print of which the plain paper was eaten by *Lepisma*, while the parts covered by the printing ink were untouched. I accept this as a sufficient proof of obnoxiousness, the more so as the white paper is often the best part of a print. Prof. Westwood mentioned that the same fact had been observed in India, where some of the Government records had been injured in the same manner.

Patrick Brown states in his Natural History of Jamaica, that *Lepisma saccharina* is very common there, and extremely destructive to books and all manner of woollen clothing. This notice had been reproduced by Linnæus, but was later considered as not reliable.

Mr. De Rossi writes in 1882 as follows: *Lepisma saccharina* likes damp places and destroys in my house paper hangings from inwards entirely. Muslin curtains were perforated and the living animals found near fresh holes. Probably the curtains were starched, though it is not