

rather difficult to count, they are so small. One of the long joints is shorter than the others, but I don't recall whether it is the 7th or 8th. This is a very peculiar form of antenna, and would still be so if there were the normal number of eleven joints. Your insect is furnished with a single ocellus between the eyes, which is a very rare character in beetles. Some Dermestidæ have one ocellus, and in the Homalini of the Staphylinidæ there are two somewhat distant ones. The only other instance I have been able to find is in the case of *Hylotomus bucephalus*, from Sierra Leone, belonging to the family Paussidæ, which is not represented in this country. Here there are again two ocelli. I shall probably hear from Cambridge in a day or two, and will write you again." A few days later he wrote: "I heard from Henshaw yesterday. Like myself, he is unable to furnish any clue at all to the beetle's relations. I think that all that can be said of it is that it is a member of the great Serricorn series, which includes such a variety of types. In the Leconte and Horn Classification this embraces families XXXIX.—LI., but Casey (Jour. N. Y. Ent. Soc., Vol. VI., p. 76) is inclined to go further and add several other groups, hitherto considered Clavicorn. Just where your beetle comes in I can't say. The whole arrangement of the Serricornia would have to be carefully studied first, as it does not appear that your anomaly belongs to any recognized family." I had, in one of my letters to Mr. Blanchard, spoken of the varied contents of the cedar-closet in which the puzzling pest was found, and hinted jocosely that the presence of some ancient Egyptian relics, mummy wrappings, beads and images of Osiris, might possibly account for this strange visitant. He writes: "I note your playful remarks about a possible relation to ancient Egyptian dynasties, disclosed from the tombs of the Pharaohs and starting upon a new career of uselessness, and am reminded of the stories of still fertile seeds of grain reported to have been taken from tombs in the land of the Nile."

In the meantime I had sent specimens to Messrs. Schwarz and Fall. The former was too busy just then to reply, but I heard through others that he was unable to throw any light on the matter. Mr. Fall wrote: "I have just received your letter and the box containing specimens of that most astonishing little creature found eating your specimens in New York. I would like much to know the circumstances a little more exactly. Were the specimens attacked native or exotic? If native, were they from Florida? And how long had they been in the box? Could they have found access from any other source in the closet itself? I feel sure that