

butternut weevil appears so closely like it that it has often been pronounced a large plum weevil.

No other member of this genus has been found attacking as many fruits as this plum weevil. Most species confine their depredations to a single kind of plant, like the quince weevil, *Conotrachelus crataegi*, which deposits its eggs in that fruit. The plum weevil is, however, a general fruit weevil, attacking, with only an occasional marked preference, every species of fruit in the botanical genera, *Prunus*, *Pyrus*, *Cydonia*, and some other species in other genera of the Rose family; and Miss M. E. Murtfeldt states* that she has bred them from gooseberries. In this connection it is singular that the grape has not suffered from its crescent thrust. Finally, from its habit of breeding in the "black knot" of the plum, it must be considered the most omnivorous of all the 1050 species of weevils now known in N. America.

LIFE HISTORIES OF FIVE SPECIES OF SCOPELOSOMA.

BY ROLAND THAXTER, KITTERY POINT, MAINE.

During the spring of the past year I was fortunate enough to procure eggs of the following species of *Scopelosoma*, and succeeded in rearing a sufficient number of each to ensure an accurate observation of their larval differences. The matter is of some interest, as it settles beyond question the specific difference between the two species known in collections as *S. Walkeri* and *S. vinulenta*, which have been enumerated as varieties of the mythical *sidus* in recent lists. That one of these species is really *sidus* I think there can be little doubt; but which should be referred to it is somewhat uncertain.

My friend, Mr. Chatfield, has had the kindness to send me for comparison with my own material, a specimen of a *Scopelosoma* taken by him at Albany, which, he informs me, has been pronounced by Mr. Grote to be with little doubt "a veritable *sidus*." On comparing my material of *Walkeri* (determined thus by Mr. Grote) with this specimen, I find no essential differences between the two, Mr. Chatfield's specimen being somewhat more clearly marked and darker than usual, and most decidedly not "d'un rouge de brique * uni, avec les lignes a peine distinctes."

* Rept. Entomologist U. S., C. V. Riley, 1881-1882, p. 66.