

lightly at first; its counterfeit presentment appeared each month for a whole year on the cover of an entomological journal thus labelled, and I began to realize, as never before, the irrevocableness of things. I sought advice, and received much and diverse counsel. But the consensus of opinion seemed to be that, as the beetle was now so well known by the name I had unconsciously given, it had best retain it, and that a proper description with figures should be at once published.

I asked my friend, Mr. Frederick Blanchard, to prepare such a description, and he kindly consented to do this. But he courteously insisted upon my name remaining as authority for the specific, if not the generic, title. My first discovery was made in May, 1902. For two years after this I examined my insect boxes at intervals, but found no trace of the little pests. But in May, 1904, I again found them in the same closet where they occurred previously. This time I found with them one specimen of the larviform female and several larvæ. Mr. Joutel, our well-known, careful and skilled artist, made drawings of the beetle in its different stages. Mr. Blanchard for many reasons has been unable until recently to complete the promised diagnosis. I give herewith a description of the species, owning frankly that I could not have written it without much assistance from Mr. Blanchard. Let me add that since I first found *Ignotus* it has been recognized as a pest among the collections of the Public Museum of Milwaukee, as told me by Mr. C. T. Brues. In this case the beetle was found among land shells and other specimens "practically from all parts of the world." Of what country the mysterious unknown is a native we do not know. Perhaps the following description and Mr. Joutel's excellent drawings may assist us to solve the problem. Then, when we learn what euphonious name the unknown enigma bears in some far-away land, and its lately-given title vanishes into that bourne from which no synonym returns, nobody will regret less than its unfortunate sponsor to see it

"Suffer a sea change
Into something rich and strange."

THE CHARACTERS OF *IGNOTUS* (PLATES 6 AND 7).

Head suborbicular, constricted far behind the eyes, deflexed and much narrowed in front, the labrum short, transverse, and with the very small mouth a little reflexed, the frontal suture not obvious. The oral organs