

containing some fresh clay, and corked up. They at once entered the earth, and in sixteen days. (June 20th), appeared as beetles, proving to be *Trogoderma Ornata*—all females. From these experiments it appears that this insect is annual: that the larvae enter the earth to develop, and that to escape from confinement for this purpose they have power to gnaw through a considerable thickness of wood. And further, that in case they are prevented from entering the earth, unlike the larvae of many Lepidoptera, they do not pupate, but continue to moult monthly for an indefinite period, perhaps a year, before dying.

STODREPA (*Anobium*) PANICFA Linn.—This insect appears to be omnivorous. Rev. Wm. Kirby states that its larva has been found in *Cantharis vesicatoria*: Dr. Geo. H. Horn, that it will breed in and destroy the cork in insect boxes. That it is likely to become more than an accidental museum pest is scarcely probable. But where so circumstanced as to be compelled to choose between cork and insects, the latter are most decidedly preferred.

My boxes are double, and lined with half-inch cork, which before papering is saturated with an alcoholic solution of corrosive sublimate. One box having escaped this treatment, on opening it last spring (1882), several of these beetles were found, having been bred in the cork. They were removed, and on one side of the box were pinned against the bottom several cards with duplicate beetles attached: the other was occupied by larger specimens mounted on pins.

During the summer, whenever opened, a number of the insects in question were picked out. About a month ago, on removing the duplicates, so as to treat the cork with the poisoned alcohol, the discovery was made that they were infested with the larvæ of *Panicca*, and completely destroyed. The larger beetles sometimes contained five or six grubs, each. They were in all stages of growth, from pupæ to larvæ apparently just hatched. The time required for development is unknown, but there seems to be at least two broods in the year in confinement. It may not, like *Anthrenus*, enter a collection from an appetite for insect food; but if imprisoned without way of escape, my experience shows the result will be the same.

American Natural History literature is somewhat barren in regard to such a common and obtrusive pest.