

The actual damage caused by these ants is said by Mr. J. D. Mitchell, who has made many observations on the species, to be greatly overestimated.

Von Ihering (19) in Brazil found nests of the army ant, *Eciton coecum*, deep in the earth beneath termite nests. It has long been supposed that ants of the genus *Eciton* do not make permanent nests, but move about from place to place. At times clusters have been found with many workers, larvae and pupae, and often a female, and these have been considered temporary nests. Von Ihering thinks that these are swarms. The female, blind and wingless, is not capable of founding a colony unaided, after the manner of most queen ants, and new colonies are established by means of a "swarm," composed of a queen and numerous workers, often accompanied by males. Sometimes males of different species are present, and von Ihering thinks that hybridization may not be uncommon among the species of *Eciton*.

Jacobson (20) in Java observed the larvae of the butterfly, *Hypolycaena erylus*, which is attended by the ant *Oecophylla smaragdina*. Both of these insects were common on the rubiaceous plant *Banguersia spinosa*. The butterfly lays her eggs on a plant tenanted by the ants. These attend the larva, and by caressing it receive a drop of exuded liquid which is eagerly lapped up. A considerable amount of this liquid is secreted by a single larva during the course of a day. Larvae under observation, not attended by ants, became listless and later died, so there is evidently a close though not well understood, symbiotic relation between the two insects. The pupae also were cared for and licked, though in them there is no evident food supply for the ants.

Lea (21) in a supplement to a paper on the Australian and Tasmanian Coleoptera inhabiting or resorting to the nests of ants, bees and termites (Proc. Roy. Soc. Victoria, Vol. XXIII, (New Series, pt. 1, 1910.)) lists and describes a large number of myrmecophilous and termitophilous beetles. Through the energies of Mr. Lea and his co-workers the very rich ant-nest fauna of Australia and Tasmania is becoming comparatively well known. It is an interesting fact that the ponerine ants of those islands, especially *Ectatoma metallicum*, harbor a preponderant number of the inquilines.