

under these circumstances as a politic act of hospitality on the part of a defenseless but intelligent creature. To-day there would be little hesitation in interpreting it as merely a machine-like reflex called into activity by its customary stimulus, the presence of the *Myrmicas*. That the truth lies somewhere between these two conceptions, though possibly nearer that of reflex than of intelligent action, was apparent from the subsequent behavior of the *Leptothorax*. These ants undoubtedly had some dim desire to remove the *Myrmicas* from their nest, for from time to time a *Leptothorax* was seen to pull with her mandibles at the fore leg or antenna of one of the intruders, as if to remind her that there are limits to polite hospitality. This action was never performed by the *Leptothorax* while foraging in the *Myrmica* galleries, but it was regularly performed whenever, as on this and several subsequent occasions, any *Myrmica* broke into the central chamber. The direction of the tugging was not very definite or constant. Often when a *Myrmica* thrust its head through the wall, the tugging was indeed towards the interior of the chamber, as if to draw the intruder in. But as the small ant was not able to move the large *Myrmica*, and as it could not under the circumstances tug in any other direction, the action could hardly be regarded as anything more than a gentle means of persuading the *Myrmica* to leave. This tugging was the only act even approaching hostility witnessed between the two species. The *Myrmicas* never showed the slightest irritation towards the *Leptothorax*, never seized them in their mandibles, nor even menaced them. They seemed rather to look upon the little creatures with gentle benevolence, much as human adults regard little children. They never passed their little guests without the antennal greeting, and the *Leptothorax* shampooed their hosts with comical zeal.

The two *Myrmica* workers whose intrusion into the *Leptothorax* chamber led to the above observations finally departed, only to give a second party of *Myrmicas* an opportunity to make a large breach in the wall at *xx*. These entered the chamber at 1.20 P.M. and were received in the same gracious manner as the first party, and in turn departed after being as