

politely requested to leave. The *Leptothorax* then at once set to work to repair their dilapidated wall. At 1.30 a worker went out into the adjoining gallery, picked up a pellet of earth and placed it in the breach. Again and again she returned and gathered earth, often going to a distance of one or two inches from the chamber for suitable pellets. Another worker soon began to assist in repairing the breach from the inside, taking the pellets for this purpose from the inner wall of the chamber. Then the first worker walked around the nest, entered it through the passageway at *r* and began to clean herself, while a third worker went out through the breach and continued the work on the outside till the wall was completed. This was accomplished by 3 P.M.

At 4 P.M. a little water was poured under a corner of the glass where the *Myrmicas* had congregated in greatest numbers. This additional moisture induced them to move *mit Kind und Kegel* to the middle of the nest. Here they soon began to break through the walls of the *Leptothorax* cell in two places (Fig. 6 *s s*). Two *Myrmicas* again settled down in the cell and underwent the usual shampooing. As soon as they had departed the little ants again set about repairing the walls as before. Sometimes three or four of them worked at the same breach. During the progress of the work they frequently went from two to three inches into the *Myrmica* galleries in search of the requisite earth. At the same time a few workers toiled from the inside of the cell, and these were soon joined by the queen, working as busily as any of her progeny.¹ Occasionally a worker, after building for some time on the outside, would slip through the breach, turn around and build from the inside. Twice *Myrmicas* rushed up to the spot *s* (on the right side in Fig. 6) and commenced tearing down the wall. They easily took out pieces of earth eight or ten times as large as those which the little *Leptothorax* workers were putting in with so much care and difficulty. But the infraction of the *Myrmicas* did not escape the attention of the *Leptothorax*. They

¹ It is interesting to note in this connection that Forel ('74, pp. 339-341) long ago observed that the queens of the European species of *Leptothorax* (*L. acervorum* and *tubero-affinis*) do not shirk their share of the menial labors of the nest.