

about more indirectly by the *Leptothorax*, *viz.*, by their continually pestering the *Myrmicas* for food and thus diverting to their own use much of the sustenance that would, under other conditions, benefit the *Myrmicas* themselves and their progeny.

If I have correctly estimated the influences which may tend to diminish the fecundity and prosperity of the *Myrmicas* we have in this double nest another striking demonstration of the complete absence in ants of any faculty of reason. For, if the *Myrmicas* possessed a glimmer of this faculty, they could easily annihilate the gluttonous little nest mates that are forever roaming about their galleries like so many animated stomach pumps.

As I was obliged to leave Colebrook I took advantage of the cold morning of September 5, when the ants were inactive, to transfer them all to a Cohansy jar containing some earth. From this date till October 1 I was traveling about and was therefore compelled to suspend observations on the compound nest. On returning to Austin, Texas, October 1, the ants were again transferred to a Lubbock nest, but to my dismay I found only the queen and a single worker of the *Leptothorax* remaining. The eggs, the two male pupæ, and the other workers of this ant, together with nearly all the larvæ and pupæ of the *Myrmica*, had disappeared. The *Leptothorax* queen was very uneasy and wandered about outside the *Myrmica* nest. On the following day she disappeared. She had probably contrived to cross the moat on the bodies of some drowned *Myrmicas*.

The single worker remained in the nest and for several days ran about shampooing the *Myrmicas* and soliciting food. On October 7 she, too, escaped from the nest and was found struggling in the moat. She was rescued from drowning and soon recovered sufficiently to crawl into the nest, though she showed no desire to mingle with the *Myrmicas*. Finally she lay motionless in a deserted gallery, where she was found dead the next morning. Thus ended the last of these fascinating little ants.

(To be continued.)