

if the rooms be ceiled, otherwise they will drop from above, bringing along with them their noxious prey in the act of contending for victory.

For food they prefer fresh animal, or insectal matter. The larvæ of other insects, and the young of all animals, are obnoxious to them, hence all heaps of rubbish, and hiding places of such prey, when occurring in their route, are carefully explored. Hence, too, the Drivers, when returning from their predatory excursions, afford some of the rarest and finest of the smaller specimens of Entomology.

Newly expressed oils are also favorite articles of food, especially the vegetable, that obtained from the fruit of the *Elais guiniensis*—the Palm oil of commerce.

The Drivers, though often a great annoyance, are not without their uses in the economy of nature. They tend to keep down the rapid increase of noxious insects and smaller reptiles. They consume much dead animal and vegetable matter, which, constantly occurring in tropical climates, vitiates the atmosphere; and, which is not the least important, they compel the inhabitants to observe habits of comparative cleanliness in their dwellings and on their premises, as a filthy town or house is the sure object of frequent visits.

The natives of Africa dread their approach, for being almost naked, wearing a narrow piece of cotton around their loins only, they are the more exposed to their bites; but more especially, say they, "because they deprive us of two things we love most, poultry and sleep."

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*On the identity of Anomma with Dorylus, suggested by specimens which Dr. Savage found together, and transmitted to illustrate his paper on the Driver Ants. By the Committee to which it was referred.*

In the letter transmitting his paper on the Driver ants to the Academy, Dr. Savage says, "In the small vial you will find specimens of *rubella*, with three very large individuals, which I consider the perfect insect. Now here is presented an interesting point of investigation, viz., the true relation of these larger individuals to the Driver ants." These specimens afford a solution to a problem which has engaged the attention of entomologists; namely, the relation of the Dorylides to the Formicidæ, since the large ones alluded to belong to the genus *Dorylus*. They are 13 lines long, and seem to be referrible to *D. nigricans*, and they had cast their wings. There is little to indicate an identity of species between them and *rubella*, as these want the holosericeous surfaces. The color and texture of the head and mandibles agree, however, and the medial and posterior coxæ present a narrow excavation superiorly (for the reception of the femora when elevated,) in place of the conspicuous cup-shaped one in the corresponding limbs of the male. The mandibles in this sex are slender and have the apex incurved, but not falcate, and they are without teeth. The femora are extremely compressed, and the abdominal peduncle is about as wide as the succeeding segment.

There are two forms, both of *arcens* and *rubella*, one of which includes the largest individuals, the mandibles of which are armed with one abrupt, erect medial tooth; the other and more abundant form is variable in size, and the mandibles have two slender teeth directed forwards. The labial organs and maxillæ are alike in both forms of both species. These organs cannot be compared in '*Dorylus*,' because, with the mouth, they are entirely wanting: the margins of the labium and labrum being solidly united.