

had crowned the summit and lodged their burthen on the common heap."

On the 13th of October of the same year, after the closing thunder-storms of the monsoon, I found this species in various places similarly employed as they had been in June preceding: one heap contained a double-handful of grass-seeds.

It is probable that the *Atta providens*, is a field-species of ant, as I have not observed it in houses.

DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES.

PLATE XIII. Fig. 2.

- 2a. *Atta providens*, neuter, magnified. 2b. One of the mandibles. 2c. One of the maxillæ. 2d. The labium and its appendages.

FORMICA INDEFESSA, *Sykes*.

Plate XIII. Fig. 3.

♀ Nigra, capite magno, thorace compresso, antennis pedibusque ferrugineis. Caput maximum atrum. Antennæ ferrugineæ, articulo primo longissimo nigro. Mandibulæ porrectæ 6-dentatæ. Thorax antice rotundatus, medio constrictus continuus, posticeque attenuatus. Squama petiolaris transverse elevata, nigra. Abdomen ovatum concolor. Femora ferruginea. Tibiæ tarsæque fuscantes.

Long. lin. $6\frac{1}{2}$, lat. lin. 2.

Habitat in India Orientali circa Poona.

Mus. Dom. Sykes.

♀ capite multo minore, abdomine dilatato.

This insect approaches *F. compressa*, Fab., and infests houses.

(Among the insects collected from the same nest there are many specimens, of different sizes, having small heads, but they are uniformly much smaller than the individuals of both sexes above described. Can they be males which have lost their wings, or are they varieties of neuters?—F. W. H.)

The depths at which these ants have their nests under the foundations of houses and about the roots of trees, baffled my attempts to discover their internal œconomy; but I observed ants of three sizes, although not differing very much in form, and not at all in colour. The largest (of which a drawing is given) is the female, and I have a specimen $\frac{1}{4}$ ths of an inch long: the next size is probably the male; the head and thorax are much smaller than in the female, but the abdomen in proportion is larger. The third size is probably the neuter, and differs only from the male in being more slender.