

“Poona, June 10 to 12, 1830.—A good deal of rain fell between the 10th and 11th of June, the first of the year, being, in fact, the setting in of the S.W. monsoon. After the 12th, the moisture, combined with the great heat, (heat alone being insufficient,) brought into life myriads of insects of all kinds, which for months previously had been lying in the pupa state: colonies of ants, white, black, and red, large and small, poured from their retreats in dense columns, taking wing, and literally darkening the air. As in the preceding year, birds of every description were in eager pursuit. In an hour or two the volant power of the ants terminated, their wings dropped off, and lay in such profusion on the ground around their nests as to form a carpet, and the insects themselves were seen hurrying away in every direction into concealment, or lying dead upon the grass, having completed the term of their ephemeral existence. It would appear from the above dates that ants swarm at different periods of the year, but whether or not the same nest sends forth two colonies, or different nests swarm at different seasons of the year, I did not determine.”

DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES.

PLATE XIII. Fig. 3.

3 a. *Formica indefessa*, neuter magnified. 3 b. One of the mandibles. 3 c. One of the maxillæ. 3 d. The lower lip and its appendages.

Supplementary Note, read January 5th, 1835.

I take the present opportunity of exhibiting to the Society a gigantic specimen of the *Formica indefessa*, an account of which was read some months since, measuring $\frac{1}{2}\frac{2}{3}$ ths of an inch in length. It is no doubt a female, and very many of them are seen amongst the workers. I may here say with respect to the *Termes bellicosus*, *Formica indefessa*, and *Atta providens*, that I never saw winged ants amongst them, excepting at the time of swarming; I believe, nevertheless, their communities to consist of queens, neuters, and males, the latter being wingless, unless at the period mentioned. In an examination of very many nests of the *Termites*, I never found a king shut up in the same chamber with the queen, as described by Smeathman, and I fully believe that a complete, patient, and philosophical investigation into their œconomy is still a *desideratum*.