

or four drachms of the honey to six ounces of water. It has not commercial value, is not brought to market, but simply made for their own use. They use this drink among themselves in the mountains in cases of fever, where medical attendance cannot be obtained. The honey is also used by them as a cure for eye diseases, especially for cataract." The following is one of the most interesting remarks in Saunders's paper: "In early life none of these insects present any unusual distension of the body, but when arrived at a certain period of maturity some individuals begin to show a distended



Fig. 18. Nest crater of *Myrmecocystus horti-deorum*, from above; Red Rock Cañon, near Manitou, Colorado. About $\frac{1}{8}$ natural size.

abdomen, which after a time becomes swollen into a comparatively immense sphere, produced by the distension of the membrane connecting the abdominal segments, this sphere or sac being filled with a sort of honey. Another class of individuals in the community, raised from the same brood of eggs, manifest no tendency of this sort, but retain the usual normal form of the abdomen." At first sight this looks like a *bonâ fide* observation, but the context shows that it is merely a restatement in somewhat clearer and more positive form of Wesmael's supposition above quoted (p. 362). It occurs, in fact, in a paragraph reviewing the work of the Belgian author. There