

labor), and second, by exaggerating the distensibility of the ingluvial and gastric walls in these individuals. Certain callows, engaged in feeding the young, had a tendency to remain in the nest and receive the honey brought in by foragers. At first they were simple receivers, able to move about freely through the chambers and galleries of the nest, and distribute the food to the larvæ and their fellow ants, but in the course of time, by increasing their capacity, they became receptacles, without power of locomotion and suspended themselves from the ceiling of the chambers as living flagons of

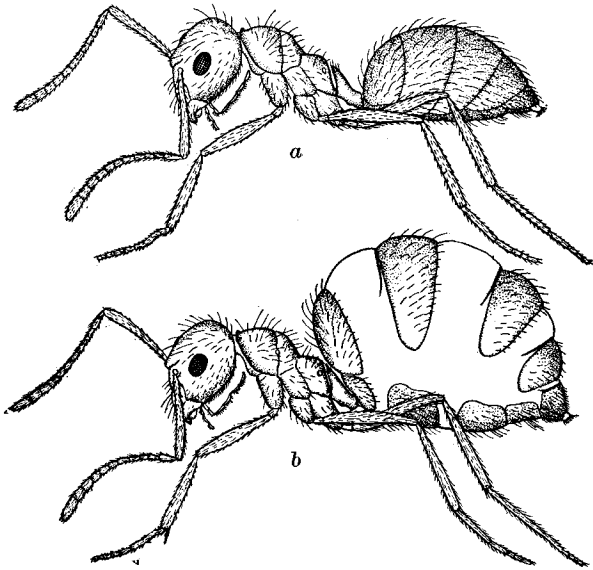


Fig. 26. *Prenolepis (Nylanderia) imparis* Say; a, worker in ordinary condition; b, replete. $\times 12$.

honey with animated necks and stoppers. Those who, in anthropomorphic mood, are wont to extoll the fervid industry and extraordinary muscular performances of ants should not overlook the patience and self sacrifice displayed by the replete *Myrmecocystus* as it hangs from the rafters of its nest, month in, month out, for years perhaps — a reservoir of temperamental as well as liquid sweetness.

We may now turn to a consideration of the honey ants described by various authors. The species may be arranged in two series, the first comprising certain forms that exhibit what may be called the semireplete condition — a stage somewhat in advance of incipient repletion, the second the forms that have attained the extreme of gastric distension. To the former belong the five first cases described below, to the latter only *Campo-*