

altitude of about 7,000 feet. Like most of the widely distributed ants, it exhibits remarkable variations in colour and size and several sub-species and races have been recognised. The race *compressus* is black in colour, and is the common house ant in Calcutta. It dwells in the crevices of our buildings and lives upon our food. The same race may be found on trees feeding upon the products of ant-cattle, such as Coccids, Fulgorids and Membracids.

The individuals inhabiting trees generally nest in the soil round the roots of the tree, and form, like those living in our houses, big colonies. They swarm generally towards the evening in the months of June and July.

Two females of the species with enlarged abdomens were found living together in a common nest at the base of a palm tree. The nest contained also a few cocoons, but there was no food stored in it. The nest was situated a few inches below the ground and had no outlet. Apparently the ants together with the cocoons were living buried in the ground. The presence of the cocoons in the same nest is interesting, as it suggests the particular method adopted by the queen in founding a colony. It is probable that the queen would first rear a set of workers that hatch out of these cocoons, and these workers in turn would rear the following broods laid by the queen and help her in founding the colony. The association of two queens at the time of founding new colonies, in the same nest, is of special interest as such occurrence is seldom noticed.

A race which I cannot refer to any previously described form was found at the foot of Palni Hills (alt. 500-800 ft.), South India, by Dr. S. W. Kemp in 1922. I refrain from giving it a name as I am not definite of its being a distinct and undescribed race. I, however, give a description of it below :—

*Camponotus compressus*, a new race.

The head of the worker 18 mm. long, of this race differs from *Camponotus compressus* Fabr. in being rectangular in shape and in the absence of prominent occipital lobes. The scape extends greatly beyond the top of the head and is black in colouration except at its point of insertion to the head. The flagellum is long and castaneous. In other respects the head resembles that of *C. compressus*. The thorax is yellowish-brown and forms a regular arch as in *C. compressus*.

The abdomen differs from that of *C. compressus* in not having a shining appearance; it is reddish-brown in colour, and each of its segments is shaded transversely with a fuscous tinge. The posterior margin of the abdominal segments is testaceous. The legs are long, prismatic and spined beneath. They are characterised by having the longitudinal edges of their dorsal surface raised above so as to form a longitudinal channel along the dorsal surface of each leg. The femur is honey yellow and tibiæ and tarsi yellowish brown.

*Camponotus rufoglaucus* (Jerdon).

1851. *Formica rufoglaucus*, Jerdon, *op. cit.*, p. 124.  
 1892. *Camponotus rufoglaucus*, Forel, *op. cit.*, pp. 226, 237.  
 1903. *Camponotus rufoglaucus*, Bingham, *op. cit.*, p. 363.  
 1925. *Camponotus (Myrmoseris) rufoglaucus*, Emery *op. cit.*, p. 105.

*Camponotus rufoglaucus* exhibits great variation in colour. In most forms the head is blood-red; in a few, however, it is black. In all the forms the abdomen is pilose.

The species nests in ground and the workers forage singly on small shrubs.

The distribution of the species is Calcutta, Assam, Burma, Central India, Travancore and Ceylon.

*Camponotus singularis* (Smith). *Brit. Mus. Cat.*,

*Hymenoptera*, vi, p. 27.

The ant described as *C. singularis* (Smith) is, as Bingham has shown, only a variety of *C. camelinus* (Smith). The head of the variety is blood-red in colour. Examples of this variety were collected from Kalimpong at altitudes varying from 600 to 4,500 feet, Eastern Himalayas and from Singla (alt. 1,500 ft.), Darjeeling district, by Dr. F. H. Gravely and the late Lord Carmichael respectively.