

TRIBE: LASIINI Ashmead emend Emery.

Myrmecocystus setipes (Forel.).

1894 *Myrmecocystus viaticus* Fabr race *setipes*, Forel, *op. cit.*, p. 401.

1905. *Myrmecocystus setipes*, Bingham, *op. cit.*, p. 312, fig. 94.

1925. *Myrmecocystus* (*Cataglyphus*) *viaticus*, Emery, *op. cit.*, p. 266.

The American representatives of the genus are known as honey ants; the workers which store up honey in their crops and act in this way as living store-houses of the colony, have their abdomens inflated and are known as repletes. The Indian species is so far not known to form any replete workers and they generally feed upon vegetable seeds and dead insects. The distribution of the species in India is interesting. The species is reported by Rothney¹ as not occurring in Bengal but is found in Bihar, the United Provinces and the Punjab. The species though rare in Bengal is not altogether absent. I have collected it at Krishnagar, Bengal. It extends westwards from the Punjab into Persia; a few specimens were collected in Seistan by the late Dr. N. Annandale and Dr. S. W. Kemp. In Bengal, however, as pointed out by Rothney, *Camponotus compressus* is the prevailing form, but in Bihar and Oudh this species becomes rare and is replaced by *M. setipes*. The crater nests of the species are found in hard soil and extend deep down in the ground. Two of such nests were observed in Madhupur to be situated very near one another.

TRIBE: FORMICINI Forel.

Formica graveleyi, sp. nov.,

Polychodrus?

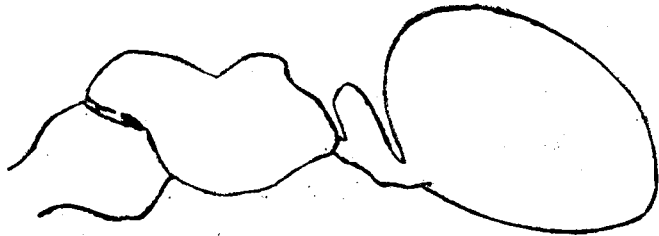


FIG. 6 a. *Formica graveleyi*, sp. nov. × 30. The side view of its thorax and abdomen.

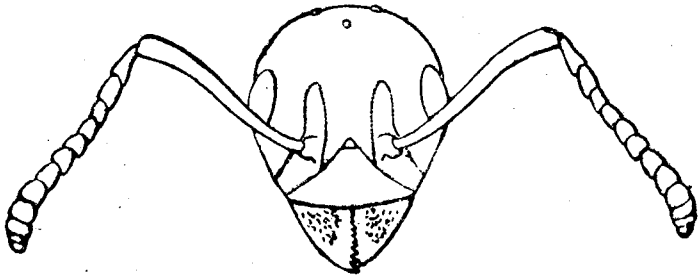


FIG. 6 b. Front view of its head.

WORKER.

Length, 4 mm. Head a little longer than broad, somewhat convex above, slightly emarginate behind; eyes placed at about the middle of the sides of the head, ocelli, present; clypeus triangular, convex in the middle and its anterior margin transverse; antennal carinae short and parallel; antennal and clypeal hollows confluent; antennae 12-jointed, first and second joints subequal, and larger than the rest, the scapes slightly sinuately curved and

¹ Rothney, G., *Trans. Ent. Soc. London*, iii, p. 347 (1889).