

have to sleep in the *portal*, as at San Juan the best "room" I could get had no window.

In September I spent a week at Tuxpan, near the construction camp of that branch of the Mexican Central Railway and about 30 miles from the volcano of Colima. That was a lonely place, but the volcano, looking down on all the country round and expressing its varying moods in wreaths of white steam or black smoke or casting a red glow on the clouds at night, was a companion to me. Although much nearer the sea level, Tuxpan is cool in summer and has many nearctic besides tropical forms of insects. The leaf-cutter ant cuts roads through the grass and the Kelep ant swarms up the stems of shrubs in the same field. At this time I did not know that this large ant was the one introduced against the boll weevil, although I looked for the latter in vain. The natives of Tuxpan have some strange ceremonies developed from Indian dances and ideas gotten from Spanish missionaries, and the place is of interest to a tourist. Returning to Guadalajara I remained until the latter part of September, when I left the Republic.

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## A New Fossil Ant.

BY T. D. A. COCKERELL.

Florissant, not far from Pike's Peak, in Colorado, has long been known as a wonderful locality for fossil plants and insects. It is, in fact, a sort of Tertiary Pompeii where the fauna and flora of an ancient period are almost perfectly preserved in fine mud and sand, ejected by the volcanoes which at that time were in full operation in the Rocky Mountain region. During the present year, collections have been made at Florissant by Judge J. Henderson and Dr. F. Ramaley, of the University of Colorado, and while most of the specimens are plants, there are a few insects. In the first railroad cutting east of Florissant was obtained an excellently preserved spider, *Clubiona arcana* Scudder, ♂; at a different place, the northwest corner of "Fossil Stump Hill," an ant was found belonging to an undescribed species.