

Descriptions of new species of North American FORMICIDÆ.

BY S. B. BUCKLEY.

About five years ago, while we were engaged in the Geological Survey of Texas, our attention was frequently drawn to the Ants and their wonderful works, which, in Texas, evince so much intelligence, industry and perseverance, as to attract the attention of the most ordinary observer. Finally, although pressed with other duties, we gave a large portion of our leisure to collecting them and observing their habits, which we have continued to do up to the present time, with much pleasure and satisfaction.

The following described species were collected by us, unless otherwise stated.

To Mr. Edward Norton, of Connecticut, the well-known Entomologist, who has made the Hymenoptera a special study, we are indebted for many European species (which are useful for comparison,) and also for many new American species, as will be seen in the following pages.

We are also under obligations to Dr. J. L. LeConte of Philadelphia, for access to his valuable entomological library, and for the loan of a French Edition of Latreille's *Histoire Naturelle des Fourmis*, which contains figures of 75 species of Ants. This work, although old, is still of great service in the study of this Family, because subsequent authors often refer to its figures.

The large libraries of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, and of the Entomological Society of the same city, have afforded the greatest aid; for without their assistance, the following descriptions could not have been written. Most of what has been published on Ants, is scattered through the publications of learned Societies, which are found in but few of the libraries in our country.

Dr Gideon Lincecum, Sen'r, of Washington Co., Texas, has collected 34 species of Ants in his neighborhood, and although we have also found most of them, still the Doctor has given valuable assistance.

Mr. Frederick Smith, in his Catalogue of the Hymenoptera in the British Museum, states that there are 490 species of Ants on record.

Mr. Bates, who has collected for some years in Brazil, thinks the number of species in the Valley of the Amazon, cannot be less than 400.

There are about 100 species of Ants in Europe. Nylander enumerates 68 species in France and Algiers. There are probably at