

CONCERNING *Monomorium destructor* Jerdon.—In a brief paper on certain tropical ants introduced into the United States, published in the January number of the ENT. NEWS, I recorded the occurrence of a well-known Indian ant, *Monomorium destructor*, in Alabama and Florida. The specimens from which this record was made were collected by Mr. Clarence B. Moore and sent to the Philadelphia Academy of Sciences. From the occurrence of the ants in two such widely separated localities, I inferred that these insects must have been recently introduced at different points on the Gulf Coast or were already widely distributed through the Southern States.

Since the publication of my paper, Dr. Skinner has kindly called my attention to certain facts which put the matter in a different light. He writes me that Mr. Moore frequently sends to the Academy sacks of earth from various localities in the Southern States. This earth is sorted over for small snails, and it was from such earth from Black Warrior River, Alabama, and Seminole Point, Florida, that the specimens of *M. destructor* were taken. The following letter from Mr. Moore to Dr. Skinner gives an interesting and satisfactory explanation of their supposed occurrence in the two localities: "I am inclined to think that the tropical ants are not found in the localities named in the article describing the ants. My boat is infested by myriads of these ants, and, no doubt, they got into packages of snails from the places named, after the snails had been brought aboard the steamer.

These ants do not make their appearance in cool weather, but appear in myriads when the hot weather sets in. They are fierce little chaps. One night I awoke with my legs stinging all over. I found the ants had swarmed into my bed and had been biting my legs. I found them with their noses buried in the skin.

No doubt the ants got aboard originally at some shipping centre, probably Jacksonville or Savannah."

It is probable that *M. destructor* has reached the ports mentioned by Mr. Moore or other ports in the Southern States, from the West Indies. Ernest André recorded its occurrence in Jamaica (*Revue d'Entomol.*, 1893, p. 152,) and I recently saw a colony nesting at the foot of a tree near Tallaboa on the southern coast of Porto Rico.—WM. M. WHEELER.

Doings of Societies.

A meeting of the Feldman Collecting Social was held at the residence of Dr. Henry Skinner, 716 N. 20th Street, Philadelphia, on April 18, 1906. Mr. Erich Daecke, President, in the chair. Nine members were present, and Mr. H. A. Wenzel, visitor.