ART. XI.—*Description of a new Species of* Myrmica *which has been found in houses both in the Metropolis and Provinces.* By W. E. SHUCKARD, Esq., Vice Presid. Entom. Soc., Librarian of the Royal Society.

WHEN Dr. Bostock's paper was read at the Entomological Society in November, 1836,* I was referred to for the name of the species of ant which was therein described as having infested his house, to his own and his family's great annoyance; and which had also been found in many other houses and warehouses, in the metropolis and provinces. I considered it with doubt to be the *Myrmica unifasciata*, Latr., and which I stated to have found occasionally in winter, in a winged state, in moss in woods; which led the President to suspect that it might have been brought into dwelling-houses, where it has since remained, with the fire-wood usually consumed. Since this occurred I have been led to the investigation of the insect, by another and very distinct species having been communicated to me, and I find that both are extremely distinct from the *Myr. unifasciata*, Latr., and that both are most probably of exotic and West Indian origin. The species which led me back to the subject was found in a hot-house in Chelsea, and has doubtlessly been imported with plants; but whether it still continues to be found, and has located itself permanently, I do not not know,—the specimens I have being all neuter. That the domestic one will continue with us I think may be concluded from its very wide dissemination, and the difficulty of extirpating it; as Dr. Bostock has most amply proved by the very expensive experiments he had recourse to, and which but few individuals would voluntarily undertake. The *Myr. unifasciata* is indigenous, and has hitherto occurred only at large in the country.

The following descriptions will serve to discriminate the species.

MYRMICA, Latr.

* *Metathorax* armed with two spines.

Myr. unifasciata, Latr.

Formica unifasciata, Latr., Hist. Nat. des Fourmis. P. 237.

Dilutè ferruginea; metathorace posticè bispinoso; abdomine luteo-ferrugineo, fasciâ nigrâ transversâ.

Length, Fem. 2 lines. Neut. 1¼ line.

The male I am unacquainted with.

*See 'Ent. Trans.' vol. ii. p. 65, and 'Journal of Proceedings,' vol. ii. p. 29.

** *Metathorax* unarmed.

Myr. domestica, Shuck.

Dilutè ferruginea, abdomine apice fusco.

Length, Fem. 2 lines. Neut. ¾ line.

Pale ferruginous, opaque, the *abdomen* shining, emarginate in front for the reception of the nodose peduncle, with the margin of the first, and the whole of the remaining segments, dark fuscous.

The male of this species I am also unacquainted with. Dr. Bostock's paper before alluded to gives a full account of his endeavours to eradicate this domestic intruder.

Myr. terminalis, Shuck.

Dilutè ferruginea, nitida, capite et abdomine nigro.

Neut. length 1 line.

Pale ferruginous, shining, the head and the *abdomen* black, the latter not emarginate in front for the reception of the nodose peduncle, but lanceolate.

I am unacquainted with both male and female of this species, which was found by my friend A. Ingpen, Esq. in a hot-house in Chelsea.—It forms a remarkable exception to the rest in the genus, from its lanceolate *abdomen*, which is not emarginate in front. I possess other minute species of this genus from various parts of the world, which I will take another opportunity of describing, not having leisure at the present moment.

31, *Robert St., Chelsea. October 24th*, 1838.

REVIEWS.

ART. I.—*Introduction to the Modern Classification of Insects; founded on their Natural Habits and corresponding Organization: with Observations on the Economy and Transformations of the different Families. To which is added a descriptive Synopsis of all the British Genera, and Notices of the more remarkable Foreign Genera.* By J. O. WESTWOOD, F.L.S., Secretary to the Entomological Society, of London, &c. &c. London: Longman and Co. Parts 1 to 6. *To be completed in about ten monthly parts, with about* 130 *Engravings in wood, each containing numerous figures, and one coloured Plate illustrative of the Orders.*

PERHAPS the chief characteristic of the modern classification of every branch of zoological science, is founded upon the investigation of the natural relations existing between the various groups of species. In the Linnæan arrangement, although we may find the name of a species if known to the great