

ON HERMAPHRODITISM IN ANTS.

BY FREDERICK SMITH.

A SINGULAR specimen of *Myrmica lævinodis* was captured in Dunham Park, Cheshire, by Mr. Joseph Chappell, who presented it to Mr. Benjamin Cooke, of Sunnyside Cottage, Bowdon, near Manchester. It combines characters of male, female and worker: the right side is entirely worker; on the left side the head is female, hence we see an ocellus, and antenna exhibiting the characters of the female; but the left side of the thorax is certainly male, and consequently the mesothorax has, in front, a deeply-impressed oblique line—in an ordinary male of this species there are two such lines which form a V-shaped space, which is not found in either the female or the worker—the metathorax, on the left side, is destitute of the spine which characterizes both the female and the worker, the legs on the same side are all male, being longer and much more slender than those of the other sexes. See Frontispiece, fig. 3. This is the first instance of the kind, to my knowledge, that has been observed in England.

Dr. Roger has recorded in the Berlin Entom. Zeitschrift, 1857, p. 15, a case of simple hermaphroditism in an ant belonging to the *Myrmicidæ*, found in pine-apple houses and probably a tropical importation, which he described as a new genus and new species under the name of *Tetrogmus cal-*

darius; in his case the left side is male, the right side female; the mandibles, antennæ, wings and legs, being quite different in the two sexes—indeed the female side, has no wings; it is a very small species, about two lines long; he gives an enlarged figure of the insect Pl. I. fig. 2a, as well as a separate immensely-magnified figure of the head, fig. 2b. Klug has also described a hermaphrodite ant in the Stettin Entom. Zeitung, 1854, p. 102.