

steer in, with their heads to the southeastward, keeping about half a cable outside the extremity of the wharf, and when the centre of it is abreast the centre part of the ship, let go the port anchor (which will then be dropped in about 10 fathoms), and haul in by means of the wooden piles placed at convenient distances along the shore. A red buoy is moored to the northward as an off-fast for the stern, but large vessels will require to lay out an anchor in addition, as the moorings of the buoy being light, the anchors "come home" with any strain. The price paid for the coal was £3 per ton, but with labour for coaling ship, it amounted to £3, 4s. 11d. per ton. The hire of the labourers was a Dutch rupee, or 1s. 8d. per day, but since here, as in all Dutch places, they cease work at 11 A.M., and do not commence again until 4 P.M., the coaling is necessarily slow and irritating.

On the shore of the harbour of Amboina, coral reef rock occurs raised many hundred feet above sea level, forming a steep hillslope. At the summit of the ridges so formed the rock stands out here and there, weathered into fantastic pinnacles, with surfaces honeycombed by the action of rain, just as at Bermuda. The rocks collected beneath the coral reef rock at Amboina were serpentine, granitite, and altered diabase.

Some of the smaller trees growing on the coral rock ridges are covered with the curious Epiphytes, *Myrmecodia armata* and *Hydnophytum formicarum*, belonging to the natural order Cinchonaceæ. Both are associated in their growth with certain species of ants; as soon as the young plants develop a stem, the ants gnaw at the base of this, and the irritation produced causes the stem to swell; the ants continuing to irritate and excavate the swelling, it assumes a globular form, and may become larger than a man's head. The globular mass contains within a labyrinth of chambers and passages, which are occupied by the ants as their nest. The walls of these chambers and the whole mass of the inflated stem retain their vitality and thrive, continuing to increase in size with growth. From the surface of the rounded mass are given off small twigs, bearing the leaves and flowers. It appears that this curious gall-like tumour on the stem has become a normal condition of the plants, which cannot thrive without the ants. In *Myrmecodia armata* the globular mass is covered with spine-like excrescences. The trees referred to at Amboina had these curious spine-covered masses perched in every fork, and with them also the smooth-surfaced masses of *Hydnophytum formicarum*.

Two Lizards (*Keneuxia smaragdina* and *Bronchocele cristatella*) were obtained near Amboina, also a new species of Orthopterous Insect (*Necroscia moderata*, Kirby).¹ A large collection of Lepidoptera was made, including the following new species:—*Vadebra murrayi*, *Gerydus boisduvalii*, *Terius biformis*, *Artaxa simulans*, *Pegella ichorina*, and *Spiramia funestis*.

The Moth (*Artaxa simulans*) is shown in fig. 191, and is interesting as representing

¹ *Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist.*, ser. 5, vol. xiii. pp. 477-479, 1884.