

“ While the foremost battalion of insects had
“ already taken possession of the place, the rear-
“ guard was more than a quarter of a mile dis-
“ tant. The whole ground seemed alive and
“ crawling with unceasing destruction. After
“ deliberating a few moments upon what was
“ to be done, it was resolved to lay a large train
“ of gunpowder along the path they had taken :
“ by this means millions were blown to pieces,
“ and the rear-guard perceiving the destruction
“ of their leaders, thought proper instantly to
“ return, and make back to their original ha-
“ bitation.”

The order which these ants observe, seems very extraordinary; whenever they sally forth, fifty or sixty larger than the rest are seen to head the band, and conduct them to their destined prey. If they have a fixed spot where their prey continues to resort, they then form a vaulted gallery, which is sometimes a quarter of a mile in length; and yet they will hollow it out in the space of ten or twelve hours.

Of the *Beetle* there are various kinds; all, however, concurring in one common formation of having cases to their wings, two in number; which are the more necessary to those insects,

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