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THE CONTROL OF ANTS IN DWELLINGS.—A NEW REMEDY.*

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A simple remedy for the control of ants in dwellings has long been a desideratum. The usual recommendations are: locate the nest outside and destroy the occupants by pouring into the entrance a quantity of bisulphide of carbon, kerosene emulsion, or even boiling water; trap the ants by placing on the shelves or other parts of the house frequented, sponges which have been soaked in sweetened water and which afterwards, with the ants therein collected, are dropped into boiling water; etc. Such other well-known recommendations as have been made from time to time need not be mentioned here.

During the summer of 1916, the common carpenter ant, *Camponotus pennsylvanicus*, was extremely abundant in a summer cottage in the Gatineau hills near Chelsea, Que., which my family occupied throughout the season. They were particularly numerous about the kitchen, frequenting especially a cross-beam near the chimney, close to which they evidently had established their headquarters. From this point they wandered throughout the kitchen and dining-room, getting into bread and cake boxes, etc., in fact, proving generally a decided nuisance. The problem of controlling ants in dwellings, therefore, became an immediate personal one, but fortunately a very simple one. Knowing the success which the United States Bureau of Entomology had had in controlling roaches with sodium fluoride, I obtained some of this powder and applied it during the evening of May 24, by

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