

more than likely that these two localities have more species described from them than any other localities in the United States. According to Creighton, *loc. cit. supra*, by 1900 Emery had described approximately 108 of our forms. Although Pergande's determination labels were written in a very neat and legible handwriting his personal collection lacks a great deal of uniformity and preciseness. Quite often vital information such as specific locality, date, or collector's name is missing from pinned individuals of numerous series. One frequently finds a series of individuals of the same species for example, labeled thus, "Nebraska, 1888, No. 110."

It was a common custom for Pergande to label series with certain assigned numbers regardless of the completeness of the other data. Undoubtedly he must have had notebooks pertaining to his ant collection which gave not only the correct number of each series but all other data as well. I am indebted to the late Mr. H. S. Barber, a former coleopterist in the Bureau of Entomology, for some pertinent information concerning Pergande and his ant collection. He knew Pergande for many years and was well qualified to speak concerning him. He told me that contrary to popular belief the collection of ants was Pergande's personal one and that he kept it in his home. At his death it was given by his family through the Bureau of Entomology to the National Museum; unfortunately, however, the family did not recognize the value of his notebooks and destroyed them.

The destruction of the notebooks was one of the most calamitous things that could have happened to Pergande's ant collection. Many myrmecologists including myself have found ourselves stalemated on numerous occasions as we have sought definite information on certain specimens or series of Pergande's ants. Wishing to check further into the acquisition of the ant collection by the U. S. National Museum I requested the proper authorities there to kindly check their records for such information as to when acquired, from whom, size of collection, and details concerning number of species and also number of types. They reported that the collection was acquired by the museum in September 1916 as a gift from Miss Laura