

edible parts. *L. elongata* is, to my knowledge, the only ant known to feed on crustaceans as a regular diet. Other ants are either insectivorous, granivorous, mycetophagous, or collectors of the saccharine exudations or juices of insects and plants.

The little that is known concerning the habits of other species of *Leptogenys* would indicate that the North American form is peculiar in the character of its food. Wroughton has studied the habits of two of the Indian species of *Lobopelta*, *L. distinguenda* Emery and *L. chinensis* Mayr.<sup>1</sup> Concerning the former he writes as follows: "This species is fairly common from Poona westwards to the Ghats. The idea of a disciplined army has been fairly developed in this genus. *L. distinguenda* may sometimes, it is true, be found loafing about singly, but these individuals are probably only scouts; ordinarily, she is only met, in the early morning or late in the afternoon, travelling in an unbroken column four to six or eight abreast, straight, or rather by the easiest road, to the scene of operations. This is usually a colony of white ants whose galleries have been broken open by the hoof of a passing beast, or some similar accident. Arrived at destination, each worker seizes her termite prey, tucks it under her thorax in the orthodox ponerine fashion, and the column then returns (but marching 'at ease' and much less regularly than on the outward journey) to the nest. I have never succeeded in finding a nest; on one occasion I tracked a column for more than fifty paces, only to lose it in a patch of prickly pear. I do not think that *L. distinguenda*, any more than any other ant, ever has the inspiration to open a termite gallery for herself; on the occasion mentioned above, the column passed close to several, and even over one colony of white ants before reaching its destination; I believe, however, I saw a worker break open a piece of tunnel, into which a termite had retreated, but cannot be sure, and the practice certainly was not general. Nor are the termites followed into the galleries, partly, perhaps, because the passage is too small for a *Lobopelta*, but equally, I imagine, because such a measure would be very like 'drawing' a badger 'only more so.' Mr. Aitken tells me he has seen 'hundreds going into a hole in the ground and emerging with white ants,' but this is very different from entering a termite gallery."

<sup>1</sup>"Our Ants," *Journ. Bombay Nat. Hist. Soc.*, 1892, p. 56-58.