

to the taxonomic and economic status of the kelep as expressed in two previous papers in this periodical.<sup>8</sup> Apparently the harder Dr. Cook works to confer exceptional attributes on the kelep, the greater becomes its similarity to other ants, especially to the relatively un-plastic *Ponerinæ*, and hence the less promising it becomes as a subject for agricultural experiment.

The sole result, which, in my opinion, we had a right to look forward to, from all this Corybantic enthusiasm over the introduction of an exotic ant into the United States, was not the protection of the cotton plant from the attacks of the boll weevil, but the production by some well-trained entomologist of a carefully written and illustrated memoir on the structure and habits of a ponerine ant. Under the circumstances and with the funds and facilities at its disposal, this lay well within the competence of the Bureau of Entomology, and may, in fact, be actually under way in the promised report. But assuredly Dr. Howard is not to be congratulated on the kelep articles hitherto published under the auspices of his bureau. We are accustomed to receiving much better work from that quarter.

WILLIAM MORTON WHEELER.