

pressly stated, it is clear from Ainslee's vivid description, that *A. taurulus* preys on the workers of the *Pogonomyrmex*. As will be seen from the following account, our eastern *A. frigidus*, though it also provisions its nests with ants, selects only the fertile females, or queens.

My observations on *frigidus* were made in the Blue Hills, near Boston, during July and August. The wasps were found to be at the height of their activities from July 26 to August 16. By the end of the latter month all the wasps had disappeared and the nests had been effaced by recent heavy showers. Like the species of *Bembex*, *frigidus* nests in colonies. Several of these were located, but observations were confined to three, which happened to be within easy reach from Boston. They were situated in the ravine that separates Great Blue Hill from the adjacent portion of the range, two of them being in the stony and sandy trail passing through Wild Cat Notch, the other on Administration Road. Each colony covered several square yards of territory and comprised from about 30 to 60 nests, the entrances of which were often within an inch or two of one another. In two of the colonies the nests were interspersed with the burrows of large Crabronid wasps and of Cicindelid larvæ. The wasps prefer to make their burrows on slightly sloping surfaces. The opening, a little more than a quarter of an inch in diameter, is semi-circular and lies in front of a little pile of earth that has been thrown out by the burrowing insect. The wasp spends much time, especially during the morning hours or on cloudy days, sitting in her burrow and looking out with her conspicuous black face, marked with three vertical yellow bands like exclamation points. As the heat of the day increases, however, she becomes more active and either does more or less excavating in the nest, kicking the earth out backwards from the entrance to a distance of a few inches, or goes off foraging for her prey. In all of this behavior she exhibits a striking resemblance to *Bembex*.

The burrow descends obliquely and abruptly to a depth of only six to eight inches, where it terminates in a small cell. There are also two or three other cells, but it was found impossible to determine their precise relations to the other portions of the nest, owing to the very dry and crumbling condition of the soil and to the fact that each cell is closed off from the main