

and fully as long as broad at their bases; the postpetiole is nearly twice as broad as long, with bluntly conulate lateral borders. The pubescence is sparse but distinct, especially on the gaster. The surface of the thorax is densely rugulose-punctate, the pedicel and gaster densely and finely punctate, with larger, sparser piligerous punctures. The sculpture of the head resembles that of the soldier but is much coarser and the longitudinal rugæ are longer and more prominent. In the worker the epinotal spines are distinctly longer than in the cotype from Lower California, and additional material from this locality may show that the Californian form is a distinct variety.

16. **Pheidole militicida** sp. nov.

*Soldier.* Length 8 mm.

Head large, subcordate, scarcely longer than broad, distinctly broader behind than in front, with very deeply and angularly excised posterior border, in profile moderately convex above and below, the greatest depth being in the middle; cheeks slightly concave; eyes small, about  $\frac{1}{4}$  the length of the head from the anterior corners. Occipital furrow deep. Mandibles very convex, bluntly bidentate at their tips. Clypeus short, flat, ecarinate, its anterior border distinctly notched in the middle. Frontal area elongate, deep, triangular, smooth, without a median carinula. Frontal carinæ short, strongly diverging. Antennæ small, slender; scapes much curved but not flattened at the base, reaching only as far as the eyes, joints 2-8 of the funiculus slightly longer than broad, club shorter than the remainder of the funiculus, its two basal joints subequal, together a little longer than the terminal joint. Thorax robust, with rather prominent, rounded humeri, the distance between which is less than half the width of the head; pro- and mesonotum forming together a sub-spherical mass in profile, the mesonotum being without a transverse constriction or torus. Mesoepinotal constriction very deep. Epinotum short and high, its base in profile convex and passing into the sloping concave and somewhat longer declivity without a distinct boundary; spines stout, blunt, half as long as the distance between their bases, with slightly recurved tips, directed upward and somewhat outward and backward. Petiole from above but slightly longer than broad, with short, indistinct peduncle, broadest through the node, which is transverse, much compressed anteroposteriorly, with sharp, broadly excised border. Postpetiole somewhat less than twice as broad as the petiole, nearly twice as broad as long, forming above a low, anteroposteriorly compressed node, its sides produced in the middle as distinct conules. Gaster somewhat smaller than the head, flattened, broadly elliptical. Legs rather long and slender.

Shining; mandibles and posterior  $\frac{2}{3}$  of head sparsely and rather finely punctate; sides of clypeus and anterior third of head sharply and rather finely longitudinally rugose, the rugæ between the frontal carinæ diverging posteriorly, those on the cheeks separated by punctate spaces. Base of epinotum transversely, its sides irregularly rugulose; anterior surface of postpetiolar node with a series of short, parallel grooves. Gaster and legs with scattered, piligerous punctures.

Hairs rather short, golden yellow, abundant, erect or suberect, covering the whole body, scapes and legs.