

the ants you sent me with F. Smith's types (two workers on one card, one large, one medium) of *Solenopsis savissima* at the British Museum on Saturday and they agree perfectly in every way. The types were taken by H. W. Bates at Pará." There can be no doubt, therefore, that Forel's *pylades* is merely a synonym of *savissima* Smith.

Forel disagrees with me further on the rank of this form, maintaining that it should be regarded as a distinct species and not as a subspecies of *geminata*, because the polymorphism of the worker is very feeble, owing to the complete absence in the colonies of any large-headed forms like those of *geminata*. This is a matter of personal opinion. I called attention to the fact that two of our North American forms, *maniosa* Wheeler and *xyloni* MacCook are in this respect intermediate between *savissima* and *geminata*, and I may add that the Brazilian form *medusa*, recently described by Mann, is even more polymorphic than *geminata* since its largest workers have the head greatly enlarged and flaring in front, with very strongly curved mandibles. If *savissima* is elevated to specific rank, these forms should also have the same status, but in my opinion they may all be regarded as so many subspecies of a single variable species. I admit that it might be more logical to include *aurea* Wheeler as still another subspecies, with *amblychila* Wheeler as its variety. Owing to the great accumulation of forms in this section of the genus *Solenopsis* within recent years I am not altogether averse to regarding *savissima*, *geminata*, *maniosa*, *xyloni*, *electra*, *medusa* and *aurea* as so many different, though very closely allied, species.