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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

NEW ENGLAND ZOÖLOGICAL CLUB

TWO NEW ANTS FROM TEXAS AND ARIZONA.

BY WILLIAM MORTON WHEELER.

The two peculiar Myrmicine ants described in the following pages, like so many other species of the same genera, are properly neotropical, but as they were taken within our boundaries, we must include them in the fauna of the United States. The *Pheidole* has evidently strayed from the tierra caliente of Eastern Mexico, the *Cryptocerus* from the Mexican highlands. The former is most closely related to a species known only from Guatemala and Costa Rica, the latter to one known only from the State of Morelos.

Pheidole ridicula sp. nov.

Soldier (fig. 1, a and b). Length about 5 mm.

Closely related to *Ph. absurda* Forel. Head very large (nearly 2.5 mm. long), one and one half times as long as broad, distinctly broader at the anterior border than behind, with concave cheeks, straight sides, deeply and angularly excised posterior border, flattened dorsal and slightly convex gular surface. Mentum without teeth. Occipital groove deep, continued forward nearly to the frontal area and terminating in a small occllus-like pit. Eyes small, rather flat, a little behind the anterior fifth of the head. Mandibles very convex. Clypeus very short, ecarinate,