

regarding *ridicula* as an extreme subspecies of *absurda*. I have compared the new form with a paratype of *absurda*, kindly given me by Prof. Emery, and with numerous specimens of the same species which I took some years ago in the neighborhood of Cartago, Costa Rica. The nests of these ants were under flat stones in rather moist, clayey soil, and contained numerous garnered seeds of herbaceous plants, showing that *absurda* is a harvester. The habits of *Ph. ridicula* are undoubtedly the same.

***Cryptocerus (Cyathocephalus) rohweri* sp. nov.**

*Soldier* (fig. 2, a). Length 6 mm.

Closely related to *C. wheeleri* Forel. Head as broad as long, with rectangular posterior corners, and surmounted, as in other members of the subgenus, by a broadly subcordate, saucer-shaped structure, with emarginated anterior margin and rather flat floor, feebly convex in the middle. Thorax through the pronotum as broad as the head, a little longer than broad, the pronotum with acute, subdentate anterior corners and a pronounced transverse ridge or crest, indistinctly interrupted in the middle, the lateral borders crenate, converging behind and not angularly produced in front of the mesonotum. Promesonotal suture distinct. Sides of mesonotum rounded and convex, but not angulated. Mesoëpinal suture distinct. Epinotal spines longer than broad at the base, rather acute; epinotal declivity rather abrupt, longer than the base and feebly concave. Petiole a little broader than long, each side near the middle with a straight, acute, backwardly and outwardly directed spine. Postpetiole distinctly broader than the petiole, about twice as broad as long, laterally and anteriorly with a pair of straight spines as long as those on the petiole and with a similar direction. Gaster oblong-elliptical, with concave anterior border and without dilated anterolateral ridges or margins.

Opaque; mandibles densely punctate-rugulose; head, thorax and pedicel densely punctate or granulated, the concavity of the cephalic saucer somewhat shining and with the fine punctures less dense, covered with round foveolæ, except on the sides and declivity of the epinotum and parts of the mesopleuræ. These foveolæ, which are distinctly shining, are smaller and denser on the petiole and postpetiole, larger and uniformly distributed on the upper surface of the head and thorax. Gaster very opaque, densely granulated, at the base also finely, longitudinally rugulose and with a few elongate, shallow foveolæ. Venter also longitudinally rugulose on its