

Publ Jan 48.

Reprinted from PSYCHE, Vol. 54, No. 4, December, 1947, pages 263-264.

⑤ A NEW STICTOPONERA, WITH NOTES ON
THE GENUS (HYMENOPTERA: FORMICIDÆ)

BY WILLIAM L. BROWN, JR.

Biological Laboratories, Harvard University

Among ants collected in Western China during the years 1944 and 1945, I have two specimens of a new *Stictoponera* collected on a high, sharp ridge near Chao Kung Mountain and about one and one-half days' travel afoot west of Kuanhsien, Szechuan Province, China. The elevation was between 5000 and 7500 feet, probably closer to the higher altitude, in the zone of dense bamboo growth. The ants were taken together in the thin bamboo humus at the ridge summit. They moved very slowly, and resembled our species of *Proceratium* in their sluggish locomotion and in feigning death at the approach of danger.

Stictoponera panda new species

Holotype worker. Size, excluding mandibles, 5.2 mm. Length of thorax, Weber's measurement, 1.8 mm. Closely related to *taivanensis* Wheeler in possessing a high petiolar node with steep anterior and posterior faces. It differs from *taivanensis* mainly in its larger size, broader head (cephalic index, or greatest breadth of head expressed as a percentage of greatest length, mandibles excluded, is 93) and its different sculpture and color. The posterior corners of the head are also a little more acute. The eyes small, like those of *taivanensis*, with 6 to 8 ommatidia in the greatest diameter, placed near the middle of the sides of the head.

The frontal carinæ are slightly farther apart, and the longitudinal costulæ arising between them and continuing back across the vertex are finer and more numerous (four distinct costulæ in *taivanensis*, at least twice that many in *panda*, the more laterally placed costulæ with scattered shallow pits separating them). Clypeus very finely longitudinally striate, its median groove shallow and not bounded by definite carinæ laterally, somewhat shining. The declivity of the epinotum much less distinctly margined, the epinotal teeth obsolete, cross-rugæ on the face