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THE IDENTITY OF THE ANT *CAMPONOTUS* (*MYRMENTOMA*)
CARYAE (FITCH).

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In 1854 Asa Fitch, then State Entomologist of New York, described all three castes of a new North American ant under the name *Formica caryae* (Trans. N. Y. State Agr. Soc. 14 : 855-859). His descriptions of the various castes are too brief to permit the species to be easily recognized, although his notes on the nesting sites and habits are of some assistance. Fitch cited no type locality but simply stated that he had encountered the ants under loose scales of hickory trees while searching for insects or while preparing these trees for fuel. In his general account he further remarked, "Hickory and walnut trees whilst growing are also a favorable resort for these insects and we have one American species which appears to be a constant resident upon them." It is unfortunate that he refers to *caryae* as living on walnut trees, and it is even more unfortunate that he went so far as to apply the common name, "the walnut ant," to this species, for his unpublished notes in regard to his cotypes record specifically that he found the ants in burrows in bitter walnut firewood and hickory, and also under the shaggy bark of hickory. Sudworth's "Check List of Forest Trees of the United States" (page 52, 1927) states that the name bitter walnut is applied to *Hicoria cordiformis* (Wangenheim). Undoubtedly, Fitch in using the term "walnut" referred to some form of hickory of the loose-bark type.

Seventeen cotypes of *Camponotus* (*Myrmentoma*) *caryae* (Fitch) are in the United States National Museum. These consist of 8 workers, 2 females, and 7 males, although some of the specimens are represented only by fragments. Each pin bears a square paper label with a single or a double red line and Fitch's handwritten number but no other data.

Through the kindness of Dr. R. D. Glasgow, State Entomologist of New York, and his assistant, Mr. K. F. Chamberlain, I was able to secure data pertaining to the original cotype series of *caryae* which was composed of 61 specimens, all from Salem, Washington County, N. Y. Twenty-seven, bearing