

to include it in the subfamily Myrmicinae, when he said that the fourth tribe ("Myrmicii") included "les autres genres de la sous-famille des Myrmicinae." And later (1901) he excluded it from the Dorylinae when he says, "Donc, je maintiens la sous-famille *Dorylinae* limitée aux genres *Dorylus*, *Aenictus*, *Eciton* et *Cheliomyrmex*." In Dalla Torre's "Catalogus" (1893) it was still in the Myrmicinae but near *Trigonogaster* and *Pheidologeton*. In 1895 Emery was still of the opinion that it belonged in the subfamily "Myrmicini" in the second tribe ("Myrmicii") near *Huberia* and *Phacota*. But nine years later (1904), after describing the female of *L. revelierei*, he returned it to its original subfamily (Dorylinae). In the following year in Ashmead's skeleton it stood between "*?Liomyrmex*" and *Epipheidole* in the tribe Stenammini, subfamily Myrmicinae, family "Myrmicidae." In 1907 Santschi described males of 3 species, which he referred to the genus *Leptanilla* and claimed that their doryline affinities justified Emery's original allocation of the genus. It should be noted, however, that males of *Leptanilla* have never been taken with females or workers; hence it is not certain that those described by Santschi belong to this genus. In the "Genera Insectorum" Emery (1910) established for the genus a separate tribe (Leptanillini) in the subfamily Dorylinae, where it seemed destined to abide in isolation: Wheeler (1910), Forel (1917 and 1923), and Wheeler (1922) did not disturb it. Wheeler (1923, p. 335) suggested that even further isolation might be necessary: "I believe that the tribe Leptanillini, which Emery includes among the Dorylinae, will have to be separated out as a distinct subfamily (Leptanillinae). Dr. George C. Wheeler finds that the larva of *Leptanilla* is very aberrant, and the characters of the adult are either quite unlike those of other Dorylinae or only superficially similar and due to convergence, or similarity of subterranean habits." By 1932 (p. 57) the separation had been effected: "Emery, as is well known, regarded the Leptanillinae as constituting a special tribe of the Dorylinae, but Dr. G. C. Wheeler and I have raised the group to subfamily rank." Bernard (1951) raised the taxon to family rank.

Brown and Nutting (1950, p. 124) in their study of the wing venation for the family Formicidae wrote: "The position of the leptanillines is debatable. They are usually treated as a subfamily by modern authors, and the venation is so highly reduced in the forms we have seen that little may be deduced from them concerning relationships to the other subfamilies." Brown was apparently still puzzled in 1954 (p. 28) for he wrote: "This little subfamily has suffered such drastic anatomical reduction in most of the usually