

of the adjacent keys, but a black variety, allied to the Texan var. *xyloni* McCook, was very common on New Providence Island wherever there was soil or sand (West Bay, Nassau, Hog Island, Stanley, etc.). It constructs straggling moundlets with many entrances, garners seeds, but still retains its carnivorous instincts, stings fiercely—in short, exhibits all the traits which have gained for it the name of ‘hormiga brava’ in Cuba and of ‘fire ant’ in many other localities.

18. **Pheidole androsana** sp. nov.

*Soldier* (Fig. F). — Length, 5.25 mm.

Allied to *Ph. guilelmi-muelleri* Forel. Head large, longer than broad, sides parallel, posterior corners rounded, separated by a deep occipital notch, which is continued forward as a deep frontal groove. Mandibles convex, with two very blunt apical teeth. Clypeus very short and flat, with a prominent median carina and slightly excised anterior border. Behind the frontal area, which is triangular, as long as broad, and fused with the clypeus, there is a rather deep elliptical pit. Antennæ short, their scapes bent at the base and dilated towards their tips, which reach only a short distance behind the eyes. Eyes convex, situated between the anterior and middle third of the head. Frontal carinæ large, flattened, continued back obliquely on either side as a ridge, which borders a shallow groove for the reception of the antennal scape. This ridge and groove end rather abruptly a little behind the middle of the head, and a little more than half way from the frontal groove to the lateral surface of the head. Pronotum with large rounded tubercles on the sides, without a distinct transverse depression and fold in front of the short and concave mesonotum. Epinotum with a longitudinal groove, its basal surface straight in profile, distinctly longer than the slightly concave declivity. Epinotal spines directed upwards, very short, not longer than broad at the base, hardly a third as long as the basal surface of the epinotum, and twice as far apart at their bases as they are long. Petiole from above nearly twice as long as broad, broadest through its posterior third; in profile the anterior slope of the medially excised node is long and slightly concave, the posterior slope shorter and convex. Postpetiole not quite three times as broad as the petiole, produced in the middle on either side to form a rather acute conule, which is directed slightly backward. Legs rather long.

Mandibles smooth and shining, their discs with a few small punctures, and towards the edges of the blades with deeper parallel linear depressions. Clypeus in the middle smooth and shining, on the sides with coarse rugæ. Anterior four fifths of head with coarse longitudinal rugæ, which on the posterior fifth pass over into transverse rugæ of the same kind, so that the whole head is sculptured, but nevertheless somewhat shining. There is a faint tendency to anastomosis among the rugæ. Thorax somewhat shining like the head, tubercles glabrous; prothorax crossed transversely by coarse rugæ like those on the head; basal surface of epinotum rugose-punctate; declivity smooth but opaque; pleuræ with longitudinal and rather dense rugæ. Petiole and postpetiole nearly opaque, irregularly rugose-punctate. Gaster shining, the basal segment finely reticulate.