

known that the same causes produce the same effects in the domestic animals, which we fatten after they have been castrated. Be this as it may, however, it is worth remarking, that in the ants under consideration, the vesiculate abdomen contains no organs; or rather, it is itself only a huge sac-shaped stomach, beginning at the second segment and terminating in the anus."

In May, 1852, Langstroth presented to the Philadelphia Academy some repletes of a *Myrmecocystus* which his brother had collected at Matamoras, Mexico. The low altitude of the locality shows that they belonged to *M.*

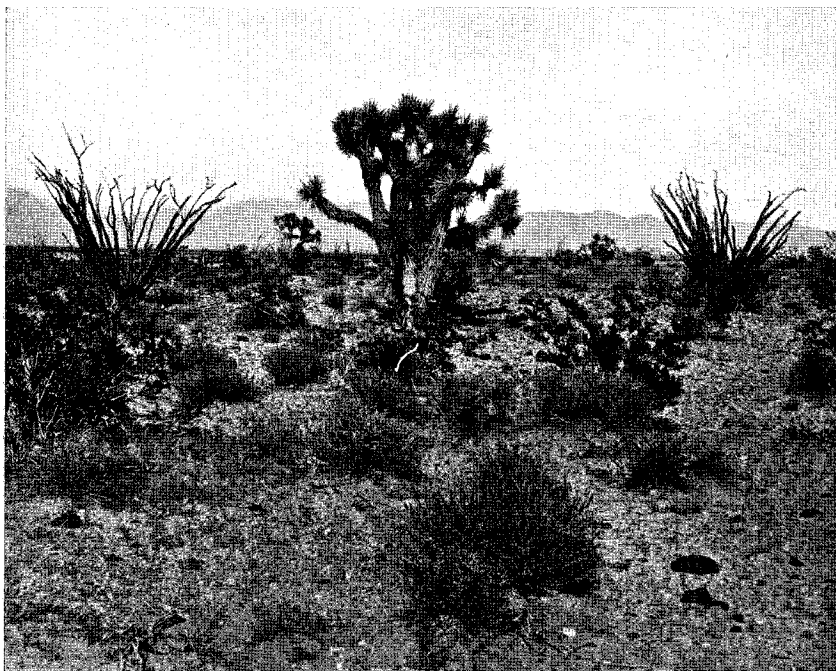


Fig. 12. Desert at Yucca, Arizona; home of *Myrmecocystus melliger mimicus* subsp. nov.

*melliger*. These repletes were correctly described "as living repositories for the surplus honey of the colony, which in time of need answer the purpose of the full honey-combs of the bee." At the same meeting Leidy reported on the gastric anatomy of the specimens, asserting that the honey is contained within the greatly distended stomach and that "all the other viscera of the abdomen are completely obliterated, and even the tracheal vessels have entirely disappeared, which is an important physiological fact, as by the supply of oxygen being cut off, none of the honey is consumed in the