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## THREE OBSCURE GENERA OF PONERINE ANTS

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The recent discovery by Mr. R. H. Van Zwaluwenburg of two singular species of ponerine ants in Hawaii has induced me to study the genus *Cryptopone*, established by Emery in 1893 for a small Ceylonese worker ant, which he regarded as conspecific with a female specimen described by Motschulsky in 1863 as *Amblyopone* (?) *testacea*. Emery's description is preceded by the following generic diagnosis:

"WORKER. Clypeus carinate, its anterior border broadly arcuate, acute, edentulous. Mandibles narrow, masticatory border very oblique, 5-toothed. Eyes absent. Frontal laminae short, approximated. Antennae 12-jointed, with 4-jointed club. Thorax with distinct sutures. Peduncle [petiole] of abdomen nodiform, inserted at a third of the height of the anterior surface of the abdomen [postpetiole]. Legs stout, short, with the first tarsal joint much shorter than the tibiae; spurs with long pectination; claws simple.

"Facies that of a *Ponera*, but differing in the insertion of the pedicel [petiole] at about a third of the anterior face of the following abdominal segment [postpetiole], in the mandibles, which have a very oblique masticatory border, and in the antennae, the four last joints of which form a very distinct club. The two former of these characters place this genus near *Trapeziopelta*, from which it differs in its clypeus and antennae. Antennae with a distinct club are also found in *Typhlomyrmex* and *Myopias*; this last genus is unknown to me in nature."

In the ponerine section of the 'Genera Insectorum,' published in 1911, Emery cites five species of *Cryptopone*, four of which had been added since 1893, namely, *fusciceps* Emery (1900), *tenuis* Emery (1900), and *mocsaryi* Szabó (1910), all from New Guinea, and *nicobarensis* Forel (1905) from the Nicobar Islands. In order to include these four species in the genus, Emery had to modify his generic diagnosis, which now reads as follows:

"WORKER: Head relatively short, slightly longer than broad. Anterior border of clypeus straight or well-rounded. Mandibles narrower than in *Ponera*, armed with four or five stout teeth, or with the masticatory border toothless posteriorly and with three teeth anteriorly