

rounded dorsally; seen from above transversely subelliptical, broader than the epinotum, with very bluntly angulate sides, nearly one and one-half times as broad as long. The peduncle bears on each side a blunt rectangular projection and at its anteroventral border a blunt tooth. Postpetiole anteroposteriorly compressed and cuneate in profile, with straight anterior and posterior surfaces and blunt superior border; from above much narrower than the petiolar node, broadly trapezoidal, fully twice as broad as long, its anterior and lateral borders straight, the latter strongly converging posteriorly. First gastric segment subquadrate, with broadly rounded anterior and posterior corners and deeply excised anterior border.

Shining; body and legs regularly, very finely and delicately reticulate, with sparse umbilicate punctures, distinctly coarser on the mandibles, head, thorax and petiole than on the postpetiole and gaster, which are smoother and more minutely and sparsely punctate. Frontal carinæ and clypeus granular, the raised median portion of the latter with a few longitudinal rugæ on each side. Cheeks coarsely reticulate-rugose; lower portion of epinotal declivity with several transverse rugæ.

Hairs yellowish, very short, erect only on the clypeus and tip of the gaster, elsewhere appressed and arising from the umbilicate punctures. Pubescence short, even, appressed, confined to the antennæ and legs.

Black; mandibles, antennæ, legs and terminal segments of gaster yellowish brown; femora dark brown, except at their bases and tips; median portion of antennal scapes somewhat infuscated.

Described from a single specimen taken by Mr. Maurice Willows Jr. at the northwestern end of Bellona Island, Solomons (VI. 23.33).

The genus *Willowsiella* evidently belongs to Emery's tribe *Meranoplini*, which has hitherto included only five genera: *Promeranoplus* Emery, *Prodicroaspis* Emery, *Mayriella* Forel, *Calyptomymex* Emery (with the subgenus *Dicroaspis*) and *Meranoplus* F. Smith. *Mayriella*, *Calyptomymex* and *Meranoplus* have deep scrobes for the accommodation of the antennæ and a different number of antennal joints, except in certain species of *Calyptomymex*. *Willowsiella* is more closely related to *Promeranoplus* and *Prodicroaspis*, which are known only from New Caledonia, but both have 12-jointed antennæ and a very differently shaped thorax and pedicel. The new genus is therefore more specialized than these two but much less so than the three other genera. Emery (*Les Fourmis de la Nouvelle-Calédonie et des îles Royalty*, 1914, p. 14, *nota*) expressed the following opinion concerning the phylogeny of the *Meranopline* genera: "The two genera *Promeranoplus* and *Prodicroaspis* are apparently very closely allied. They arose from an unknown primitive type of the tribe *Meranoplini* and suggest transitions to two existing groups, one of which is represented by the single genus *Meranoplus*, the other by the genera *Calyptomymex*, *Dicroaspis* and *Mayriella*. The mesonotum is very prominent and armed with appendages in *Promeranoplus* and *Meranoplus* but unarmed in the others, and, since the epinotum tends to become abbreviated, the basal surface is very short and the spines (if present) are at half the height on