

mesoëpinal impression, but differ in the much smaller and shallower clypeal foveae, more slender, small-clawed tarsi, higher and more squamiform petiole and in sculpture and pilosity. The females are much more similar, but the head in *Myrmoplatys* is flattened throughout and not conspicuously convex at the vertex. I find in my females of *Myrmoplatys* that the gizzard is precisely as in the typical *Camponotus* (e.g. *herculeanus* L.), but that both the maxillary and labial palpi are very short and consist of only 3 joints! I have not yet been able to undertake a comparative study of the palpi in representative species of other aberrant subgenera of *Camponotus*, but probably *Myrmopalpella* and *Myrmoplatys* are not the only ones with a reduced number of palpal joints.

It would seem, therefore, that if *Myrmopalpella* is to be raised to generic rank, we must also accord *Myrmoplatys* the same status. The plethora of subgenera, species, subspecies and varieties in the genus *Camponotus* as defined by Forel and Emery is so excessive that even so moderate a detachment from it as two subgenera, five species, two subspecies and two varieties seems to be worth one's while. I therefore propose regard both *Myrmopalpella* and *Myrmoplatys* as independent genera though I am willing to admit that future students of these ants find reasons for including *Myrmopalpella* as a subgenus in *Myrmoplatys*. This procedure, indeed, seems to be indicated not only by the structural affinities of the species of the two groups but also by their similar, very circumscribed geographical distribution, if we ignore the British Museum specimen of *megalonyx*, which quite possibly was received by Col. Bingham from some locality in Borneo or Sumatra.

*Myrmoplatys* and *Myrmopalpella*, furthermore, are closely related oecologically, since the species of both groups inhabit the papery ochreae, or inflated leaf-sheath appendages, of *Korthalsia*, a genus of myrmecophytic palms comprising about 20 Oriental species. Beccari (1884—1886), while studying the myrmecophytes of Malaya and Papua, was the first to discover the relations of *Myrmoplatys* to these palms and it was from his specimens that Emery described three of the species. *Myrmoplatys hospes* was taken by Beccari from the ochreae of *Korthalsia scaphigera* Martius (the „rotan semut” of the natives), *M. contractus* from those of *K. echinometra* Beccari (the „rotan udang”) and *M. korthalsiae* probably also *beccarii* from those of *K. augustifolia* Blume. The varieties *buttesi* and *scortechinii* also are known to inhabit the ochreae of palms of the same genus. In order to reach the cavities beneath the ochreae, the ants make perforations which serve as their nest-entrances. When disturbed the workers, probably by striking the walls of their habitations