

Article VIII.—ADDITIONS TO THE ANT FAUNA OF THE WEST INDIES AND CENTRAL AMERICA

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During the winter of 1917-18 the writer spent several months in Cuba and one in the Bahamas, engaged in field work for the U. S. Bureau of Entomology. In the present paper are listed most of the ants collected during this time and, in addition, several from other localities, some of which were given to me by Prof. W. M. Wheeler and some received by the U. S. National Museum from other sources.¹

A number of the Cuban forms are those described by Roger in 1863 and not since seen by myrmecologists. Among these are the very interesting *Prenolepis gibberosa*, belonging to *Prenolepis sensu stricto*, *Camponotus sphaericus*, and *C. sphaeralis*, known hitherto only from the workers, which prove to be remarkable forms belonging to the subgenus *Colobopsis*. Twenty-two forms are listed as new to Cuba, which brings the number known from the island to ninety-nine. As Wheeler has noted (1913, Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool., Camb., LIV), the ant fauna is poor. The endemic species are mostly inhabitants of the forests and have disappeared in those districts that have been cleared. But even in the magnificent woods in the mountains of Oriente, Santa Clara, and Pinar del Rio, one does not find many species, though the majority of them belong to the older fauna. The desert region on the southeast coast, which has never been searched by myrmecologists, would certainly be productive of new forms, probably species related to those found in similar localities on Hayti.

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Prof. W. M. Wheeler kindly gave the freedom of his collection to compare specimens and also aided me in certain identifications. The accompanying drawings were made by Miss Mary Carmody.

¹Cotypes of the new species are in the U. S. National Museum and The American Museum of Natural History.