

to be, but actual micrometer measurements show that the length (excluding the mandibles) exactly equals the width. It is possible Wheeler depended upon apparent conditions and may not have taken measurements. The mandibles are said to have two apical teeth and two smaller basal ones. The closed mandibles of the type make it impossible to see the basal teeth, and the apical ones are not present, though it is evident they did exist and have been worn off. According to Wheeler, the anterior $\frac{3}{4}$ of the head, thorax, petiole, and sides of the postpetiole are subopaque. The specimen agrees with this except for the head, which, though sculptured anteriorly, is nevertheless shining. The expressions "shining", "subopaque", and "opaque" are susceptible to variable shades of meaning, as anyone who has studied myrmecological descriptions can testify. Whether a surface is thought to be subopaque or shining can depend upon the amount of illumination and the power of magnification used, and it has been observed also that the same investigator may vary in his interpretation, regarding a surface of a given texture as subopaque in one species and as quite shining in another. On the type of *exigua* the cephalic interrugal sculpture is faint enough to leave the surface virtually shining. This, of course, might not be true if one had additional specimens to examine, and it points up one of the serious limitations of type material, despite the admittedly great importance of such material. Wheeler further states that the antennal scrobe is sharply defined laterally by a distinct ruga, and that all rugae on the sides of the head stop abruptly at the scrobes, their surfaces being indistinctly punctate and shining. At first sight this seems to be a serious discrepancy between the type and the description, but upon closer examination the situation clears up. In certain other members of the *flavens* group, the so-called "scrobe" is nothing more than a broad flattened area on the side of the head between the frontal carina and the eye, and is much wider than the antennal scape. This same flattening is evident also on the *exigua* type, but there appears to be a much deeper longitudinal groove just below the carina (which extends far posteriorly), and this groove is wide enough only to accommodate the scape. There are no rugae in the groove, it is shining, and it is bounded laterally by a long ruga which parallels the frontal carina. Be-