

The specimen on which this species is based is an example of the remarkable preservation which occasionally occurs among Florissant fossils. Not only are the minute structures preserved in detail, but the whole insect stands out in such strong relief that the dorsal outline of the body can be ascertained by regarding the fossil from the side. There is not the slightest indication of distortion, the insect being perfectly symmetrical, in a normal, straight position, so that from the photograph one could easily imagine that the figure had been engraved on the rock. The existence of such strong relief is, of course, proof that distortion by flattening has been reduced to a minimum. It will be observed, however, that this conclusion is apparently contrary to the evidence afforded by the remoteness of the eyes from the lateral margins of the head, for, as was shown above, this condition usually results from flattening. This contradiction is at once removed and additional proof of the systematic position of the ant is furnished by comparing extant species of *Streblognathus*, *Dinoponera*, and allied genera, for in these forms the eyes are actually on the dorsal surface of the head rather than the sides, and from a dorsal aspect appear in precisely the same position as they do in the fossil. It will be observed also that only the first two gastric segments appear to be preserved, but a careful examination of the reverse of the specimen reveals the remaining segments compressed together and curled under the second segment. This is a condition frequently found in specimens of *Dinoponera*, which from a dorsal view show only the first two segments.

The constriction between the first and second gastric segments is very marked (see Plate 2), leaving no question that this ant is a ponerine. The linear mandibles, the form of the clypeus and petiole, as well as the characters mentioned above, place it very close to *Dinoponera* and *Streblognathus*. It differs from each of these genera in the more rounded head, and also by the lack of the blunt tooth on the sides on the median emargination of the anterior margin of the clypeus.

Inasmuch as the female of *Streblognathus* or *Dinoponera* is not known, I hoped to find the queen of *A. wheeleri*, sp. nov., in the Florissant collection, but only the male turned up. Unfortunately, the head of this latter specimen is not preserved, apparently having been separated from the thorax before the insect was entombed in the mud at the bottom of the lake. Nevertheless, there are sufficient details present to associate definitely this fossil with the above worker. The male has the following characteristics: length, 13.0 mm. Petiole large, the node with a long anterior face (indicated in relief); gaster long and slender; venation nearly identical with that of *Dinoponera grandis*. Length of