



FIG. 4.—Base of antennal scape of worker: A, *Veromessor smithi*, n. sp.; B, *V. lariversi* M. R. Smith; C, *V. lobognathus* (Andrews).

margin greater than $1\frac{1}{2}$ times its maximum diameter; epinotal spines very long, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ times the distance between their bases; nests generally beneath stones in compact gravelly soil; diurnal; length 6.29–6.87 mm; (thoracic profile as shown in figure 1C; base of antennal scape flattened, broader than apex; color a rather uniform deep ferruginous brown).....*lobognathus* (Andrews)

Head not strongly rugose, the rugae not extending into the occipital region; eye large (ocular index, 30–31), the distance from its posterior margin to the occipital margin no greater than or notably less than $1\frac{1}{2}$ times its maximum diameter; epinotal spines shorter, no longer than the distance between their bases; nests in open and surmounted by craters; crepuscular or nocturnal; length 3.61–5.86 mm..... 3

3. Occipital region of head shining and faintly shagreened; rugae around antennal fossae concentric; maximum diameter of eye subequal to distance from posterior margin of eye to occipital margin; scape index 87; base of scape narrower than apex and not flattened, the dilation reduced, involving only the extreme base, and meeting the shaft at strong angles (fig. 4B); thoracic contour as shown in figure 1B; epinotal spines notably shorter than distance between their bases; apex of petiolar node acute; head, thorax, petiole, and postpetiole brownish yellow; gaster darker; length, 3.61–5.86 mm; nocturnal.....*lariversi* M. R. Smith
- Occipital region of head subopaque, densely and finely punctate; rugae around antennal fossae not concentric; distance from posterior margin of eye to occipital margin of head about $1\frac{1}{2}$ times maximum diameter of eye; scape index 96; base of scape flattened, broader than apex, the dilation involving more of the shaft and meeting it at weaker angles (fig. 4A); thoracic contour as shown in figure 1A; length of epinotal spines and their interbasal distance subequal; apex of petiolar node broadly convex; head, thorax, petiole, and postpetiole medium reddish brown, gaster slightly darker; length 5.70–5.86 mm; crepuscular.....*smithi*, n. sp.

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