

ual; a small eye is shown arising from beneath a scrobe-like head groove, and elongate mandibles are suggested in vague outline. The 10-segmented antenna is depicted by Emery with a clearly 2-merous club and an apically thickened and sharply bent scape.

The amber piece has now been cleaned, partly re-ground, and somewhat cleared by injection of a small amount of Canada balsam. Figures 1 and 2 are photographs of the *Hypopomyrmex bombiccii* type, a winged queen, in the new preparation. The specimen is badly shrivelled and compressed, especially from side to side, and the petiolar and postpetiolar nodes are strongly compressed anteroposteriorly. It can now be seen that the *Strumigenys*-like cranial shape portrayed by Emery is really only his free interpretation of the crumpled head; the deformed left eye protrudes from the dorso-lateral margin of the head, not from any scrobe, and the mandibles do not extend as Emery's figure 11 vaguely suggests they do. The right side view (fig. 2) of the head now available shows the right compound eye also distorted, but larger, more elliptical and less protruding than the left eye. The right antennal scape has its apex flattened, but not sharply bent like that of the left scape, indicating that the latter was distorted after death.

Hypopomyrmex is clearly not a member of tribe *Dacetini*. Habitus, wing venation and the form of the waist do place it in the subfamily Myrmicinae. The 10-merous antennae with 2-merous club, the forewing venation and the propodeal teeth make it most likely a member of the group of genera near *Pheidologeton*, and it may be regarded as a doubtful synonym of *Oligomyrmex*. The taxonomy of the living forms of this group is still so poorly known, and the fossil is in such poor condition that formal synonymy here would be premature.

It may be noted, however, that *Oligomyrmex sophiae* (= *Aeromyrma sophiae*), based on male specimens, was described by Emery from the Sicilian Amber in the same (1891) paper.

With the removal of *Hypopomyrmex* from the *Dacetini*, that tribe loses its entire known fossil history.

Sicilomyrmex corniger

Gesomyrmex corniger Emery 1891:581, pl. 3, fig. 33-35, worker.

This extraordinary formicine is portrayed in the photographs (figs. 3 and 4). Emery originally assigned it to *Gesomyrmex*, but the bicornuate head and two-spined propodeum clearly put it into a