

habitus" can and do act to form similar-appearing groups of genera, even though these genera may have the most diverse ancestry; (2) the number and condition of the spurs of the two posterior pairs of tibiae have been found to possess much less taxonomic value than Emery and Wheeler granted in their widely-used keys; in fact, the spurs are now known to be present as pairs, single units, or even to be absent in different species of the same genera in tribes where once the spurs were considered universally constant and tribally diagnostic.

With these facts in mind, one can proceed at once to a more natural classification of the genera and tribes of Ponerinae. *Probolomyrmex* and *Escherichia* have always seemed anomalous as members of the Proceratiini, and they are not, in fact, at all closely related to any other proceratiine genus. Following a slight clue dropped by Mann in 1923, when he mentioned the similarity of the pilosity and sculpture between his *Probolomyrmex boliviensis* and the species of *Platythyrea*, I have carefully compared the two last-named genera and find that they agree in an astoundingly complete way. In fact, the point-by-point agreement is so close that I must consider *Probolomyrmex* to represent a direct derivative of *Platythyrea* modified for a highly cryptobiotic existence in the same way, as I also believe, that the proceratiines are only modified ectatommines. If *Platythyrea* and *Probolomyrmex* are to be associated, then *Escherichia* should probably go along with them. While I have never seen an example of the latter genus, it appears from all accounts to be very close to *Probolomyrmex*, and may even be synonymous and representative of an ergatoid or other intermediate female caste of one of the Ethiopian *Probolomyrmex* species.

A fourth genus that must be included in the Platythyreini is *Eubothroponera*, in spite of its unfortunate name. In his original diagnosis of this Australian group, Clark stated, ". . . certainly close to *Bothroponera* Mayr;" he called the tarsal claws "simple" and gave the palpal formula as maxillary 4, labial 2 segments. I have examined types (Museum of Comparative Zoology) of all the *Eubothroponera* species described to date except *E. brunnipes* Clark, and find that all species, at least in the worker caste, possess single, small but distinct median teeth on all tarsal claws. The palpi in this genus are unusually long for a ponerine group, and the maxillary pair may reach the foraminal border behind if fully outstretched. Most of the few specimens available were inconveniently situated or else had the maxillae retracted, but in spite of this it is clear that all six species seen have more of both maxillary and labial palpal segments than Clark claims