

EUPONERA GILVA (ROGER), A RARE NORTH
AMERICAN ANT.

BY W. M. WHEELER AND F. M. GAIGE,
Bussey Institution, Harvard University and University of Michigan.

In 1863 Julius Roger described, among other North American Formicidæ, *Ponera gilva* and *Discothyrea testacea*, two species which the senior author has vainly sought for the past twenty years, both in the field and in the numerous collections sent him for identification. "Nordamerika" was the only locality appended to the descriptions, and as the other species of the two genera are tropical or subtropical it was natural to infer that Roger's types were taken somewhere in Mexico. The *Discothyrea* is still to be rediscovered, but recently the junior author succeeded in taking four workers of *gilva* in northwestern Tennessee.

In his most recent revision of the Ponerinæ (1910) Emery refers this species to the subgenus *Trachymesopus* of the genus *Euponera*. He divides the species of the subgenus into three groups: those with small, but developed eyes in the worker (*stigma* group), those with very minute, vestigial eyes in the same caste (*ochracea* group), and those known only from female specimens (*darwinii* group). The first group comprises several species of which the best-known, *E. stigma* Fabr., is common throughout tropical America and even has a variety, *quadridentata* Smith, in the Indomalayan and Papuan Regions. The typical form of the species occurs also in Florida, since Father J. Schmitt many years ago gave the senior author a worker captured at Fort Worth. To the *ochracea* group Emery assigns three species: *gilva* Roger, *ochracea* Mayr of the Mediterranean Region (according to Forel with a subspecies, *guatemalensis*, in Guatemala!) and *sauteri* Wheeler of Japan. To the group known only from female specimens two species are assigned: *darwinii* Forel, which occurs in Northern Australia, India, Indonesia, Madagascar and the Congo, and *crassicornis* Emery from New