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No. 93.

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*A List of Ants from Mesopotamia;
with a description of a new species
and a new variety.*

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A List of Ants from Mesopotamia; with a description of a new species and a new variety.

By H. DONISTHORPE, F.Z.S., F.E.S.

Nearly all the following *Formicidae* were taken by Lieutenant W. Edgar Evans, R.A.M.C. (T.), at Amara, on the Tigris, Mesopotamia, a few of each species having been sent to me to name by his father,

Mr. William Evans, of Edinburgh. One species and one variety are new to science.

Subfamily **DORYLINÆ** Leach.
 Section **EUDORYLINÆ** Forel.
 Tribe **DORYLINI** Forel.
 Genus *Dorylus* Fabricius.
 Subgenus *Typhlopone* Westwood.

D. fulvus West. 1 ♂ sent to me by Lieutenant Buxton, taken at Kumait, R. Tigris; 7 ♀ ♀ taken by Lieut. Evans under clods of earth in cultivated ground near Amara. 10. ii. 18. (No. 9).

Subfamily **MYRMICINÆ** Mayr.
 Section **EUMYRMICINÆ** Emery.
 Tribe **PHEIDOLINI** Emery.
 Genus *Messor* Forel.

M. barbarus structor Latr., var. *orientalis* Emery. 10 ♀ ♀ in moist ditches in garden, 1. xi. 17. (No. 1), and 1 deãlated ♀ under clod in garden, near Amara, 12. ii. 18. (No. 10), Lieut. Evans.

Genus *Pheidole* Westwood.
 Subgenus *Pheidole* Westwood, s. str.

P. pallidula Nyl. 15 (♂ ♂ and ♀ ♀) under clod on cultivated land, Amara. 9. ii. 18. (No. 14), Lieut. Evans.

Tribe **SOLENOPSIDINI** Forel.
 Subtribe *Monomorini* Emery.
 Genus *Monomorium* Mayr.
 Subgenus *Xeromyrmex* Emery.

M. salomonis subopacum F. Sm., var. *phoenicia* Emery. About 70 ♀ ♀ under clods of earth in cultivated ground near Amara, 10. ii. 18. (No. 7), Lieut. Evans.

Subgenus *Paraholcomyrmeæ* Emery.

M. destructor Jerd., var. *pallidus* n. var. Differs from the typical form, in that the whole body is almost entirely of a pale, but clear bright, yellow. As all the specimens are coloured exactly alike, it is as well to give a name to this variety.

About 90 ♀ ♀ under clods of earth in cultivated ground near Amara. 10. ii. 18. (No. 5), Lieut. Evans.

Subgenus *Holcomyrmeæ* Mayr.

M. evansi n. sp.

♀ Shining brownish black, with long scattered white hairs; mandibles, cheeks, tarsi, and articulations of the joints of the legs brown-yellow.

Head rectangular, finely and sparingly punctured; *clypeus* smooth and shining, furnished with two strong, sharp, projecting points; *mandibles* striate, terminal border armed with three strong teeth; *antenna* 12-jointed, club 3-jointed, shorter than the rest of the funiculus. *Thorax* very finely and sparingly punctured; sides of *mesonotum* finely granulate; *epinotum* almost impunctate. *Petiole* almost impunctate, cylindrical and long anteriorly, the *post-petiole* broad and nodiform posteriorly; *gaster* very finely punctured. Long, 4mm.

♀ *Head, thorax, petiole, and post-petiole* almost black, *mandibles, tarsi, articulations of the joints of the legs, and gaster, brown.*

Very much larger, more strongly punctured, and more hairy than ♀. *Petiole* and *post petiole* broader in proportion than in ♀. *Wings* ample, milky white, *pterostigma, costa, and subcosta, brown.* Long, 11-12mm.

♂ *Black, with long light brown hairs; tarsi, articulations of the joints of legs, and gaster, brown.*

Head subrectangular, punctate and striate; *clypeus* broad and convex; *mandibles* strong, striate, terminal border armed with two sharp teeth; *antennæ* 13-jointed, *funiculus* slightly thickened towards apex. *Thorax* high; *mesonotum* longitudinally striate, with scattered, pit-like punctures with raised edges; *præscutellum* longitudinally striate; *scutellum* shining, with scattered punctures with raised edges; *epinotum* striate and finely rugose. *Petiole* and *post petiole* broad, finely transversely striate on upper surface; *gaster* with finely scattered punctures. *Wings* as in ♀. *Long*, 9.5mm.

I have named this species in honour of Lieutenant W. Edgar Evans, who captured six winged ♀♀ and 40 ♂♂ under clods of earth in cultivated ground near Amara, 10. ii. 18. (No. 6); and five ♂♂, twelve ♀♀, and twelve ♂♂, emerging from holes in ground at Mashara Canal, near Amara, 8. iii. 18. (No. 16).

This species is allied to *M. (H.) dentigerum* Rog., from which it differs in being larger and darker in colour, the teeth of the clypeus are stronger and sharper, and the petiole and post petiole are larger and much broader, etc.

Subfamily **DOLICHODERINAE** Forel.
 Section **EUDOLICHODERINAE** Forel.
 Tribe **TAPINOMINI** Emery.
 Genus *Tapinoma* Foerster.
 Subgenus *Tapinoma* Foerster s. str.

T. melanocephalum F. Two dealated ♀♀ and 50 ♂♂ under stones in garden below Amara, 18. iii. 18. (No. 15), Lieut. Evans.

Subfamily **CAMPONOTINAE** Forel.
 Section **MESOCAMPONOTINAE** Forel.
 Tribe **PLAGIOLEPIDINI** Forel.
 Genus *Acantholepis* Forel.

A. frauenfeldi Mayr. Seven dealated ♀♀ and 38 ♂♂ under clod in garden near Amara, 13. ii. 18. (No. 12), Lieut. Evans.

Genus *Plagiolepis* Mayr.
 Subgenus *Plagiolepis* Mayr. s. str.

P. pygmaea Latr. Four ♂♂ under clod in cultivated land near Amara, 19. ii. 18. (No. 13), Lieut. Evans. ♂♂ sent to Dr. Chapman by Lieut. Buxton from Mesopotamia, attending Lycaenid larvæ.

Section **EUCAMPONOTINI** Forel.
 Tribe **PRENOLEPIDINI** Forel.
 Genus *Prenolepis* Mayr.
 Subgenus *Nylanderia* Emery.

P. longicornis Latr. Thirty ♂♂ in room in A.D.M.S. billets, Amara, 24. xi. 17. (No. 3), Lieut. Evans.

P. jaegerskjoeldi Mayr. Thirty-nine ♂♂ under clods of earth in cultivated ground near Amara, 10. ii. 18. (No. 4), Lieut. Evans.

Tribe **CAMPONOTINI** Forel.
 Genus *Camponotus* Mayr.
 Subgenus *Myrmoturba* Forel.

C. maculatus thoracicus Forel., var. *xerxes* Forel. Eight (2♂♂ and 6♀) on verandah of A.D.M.S. billets, Amara, 10. xi. 17. (No. 2), five ♂♂ under clods of earth in cultivated ground near Amara, 10. ii. 18. (No. 8), and one ♂ and fourteen (2♂♂ and 12♀) under clods in garden near Amara, 12. ii. 18. (No. 11), Lieut. Evans.

N.B.—The numbers in brackets refer to the numbers on the packets sent to me by Mr. Evans.