

THE ANTS OF TOBAGO ISLAND.

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During April, 1918, Prof. A. L. Treadwell of Vassar College collected such ants as he could find on the island of Tobago and sent them to me for identification. The island is situated only twenty miles northeast of Trinidad and is twenty-six miles long and seven and one-half miles broad. Though it might be expected to have a rich ant-fauna somewhat resembling that of Trinidad, Professor Treadwell succeeded in taking only the following eight species:

1. *Odontomachus hæmatoda* L. Numerous workers of the typical dark form from Spey-Side.
2. *Solenopsis geminata* Fabr. Numerous workers from Milford and Pigeon Point.
3. *Pheidole megacephala* Fabr. A few soldiers and many workers from Pigeon Point and some other localities on the island, "nesting in the sand of the seashore."
4. *Pheidole fallax* Mayr subsp. *emiliæ* Forel. A single soldier from Pigeon Point.
5. *Acromyrmex octospinosa* Reich. Two workers from Pigeon Point.
6. *Prenolepis* (*Nylanderia*) *longicornis* Latr. Several workers from Spey-Side.
7. *Camponotus* (*Myrmothrix*) *abdominalis* Fabr. Seven workers of the typical form of this variable species from Pigeon Point and St. Patrick's Cathedral, "nesting in a calabash."
8. *Camponotus* (*Myrmamblys*) *fastigiatus* Mayr. Eleven workers from Milford.

Four of these ants, namely *Odontomachus hæmatoda*, *Solenopsis geminata*, *Pheidole megacephala* and *Prenolepis longicornis*, are everywhere abundant "tramps" in the tropics of both hemispheres. The other four are common species of Trinidad and the adjacent South American continent. The introduction of *Pheidole megacephala* into so small an island as Tobago must have led to the extermination of any primitive or indigenous ant-fauna it may have possessed. The few forms taken by Professor Treadwell probably represent all or nearly all the species that are sufficiently resistant or aggressive to withstand the inroads of such a pest as *megacephala*.



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