

Article XI.—ARACHNIDA FROM THE BAHAMAS.

By NATHAN BANKS.

Dr. W. M. Wheeler has transmitted to me for determination and report a collection of Arachnida made by him in the Bahamas in the early summer of 1904. Very little has been published on the spider fauna of these islands, indeed the only article of importance is by Mr. F. O. P. Cambridge¹ in which are recorded nine species; only three of which were taken by Dr. Wheeler. The six others are *Lyroscelus bonhotei*, a new genus and species of Theraphosidæ; *Filistata hibernalis* Htz., *Heteropoda venatoria* Linn., *Uloborus geniculatus* Oliv., *U. americanus* Walck., and *Alcimosphenus licinus* Simon. All, except the *Lyroscelus*, are known from various parts of the West Indies.

In this collection are eighteen spiders, and seven other arachnids. Three species are described as new, and two others may be new, but the specimens are not mature. Nearly all of the species have been recorded from the West Indies, Mexico, and the Southern United States. Indeed all of the web-building species occur in the United States, while most of the other forms are confined to more southern regions.

However, too few forms are as yet recorded to make many generalizations; not one attid has yet been taken where one would expect this family to be well represented. The material, and types, form part of the collection of the American Museum of Natural History.

ARANEIDA.

THERAPHOSIDÆ.

***Acanthopelma maculata* sp. nova.**

Cephalothorax and legs brownish yellow; eyes on a black spot; mandibles rather more reddish brown; sternum brownish yellow; abdomen gray beneath, spinnerets yellowish, dorsum brown, paler on sides, with three rows of pale yellow spots, median of six and the lateral of five each, a brush of dense, blackish hair at base of the abdomen. Cephalothorax about one third longer than broad, and about once and one half as broad in middle as in front, groove straight, transverse. Head but little elevated; eyes as figured; back of eye region is a median row of five or six erect bristles; mandibles quite large and heavy. Leg short and stout, especially the tarsi and metatarsi of legs I and

¹ On a collection of spiders from the Bahama Islands, made by J. L. Bonhote, Esq.; with characters of a new genus and species of Mygalomorphæ. Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist., (7) vol. VII, pp. 322-332, 1 pl., 1901.

II, all thickly clothed with hair, above on patellæ, tibïæ, and metatarsi I and

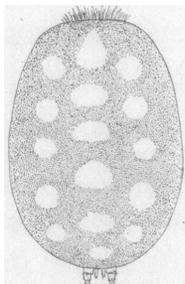


Fig. 1.—*Acanthopelma maculata* sp. nov., abdomen.

Length 12 mm.

From Magnolia Key, Andros Island, 25 May. 1

It agrees well with Cambridge's description of the genus, and appears related to the one species, *A. rufescens*, in color, but has three rows of spots on the abdomen instead of the two in that species.

Ischnothele guyanensis *Walck.* — From S. W. Andros Island, 15 May. Widely distributed in the West Indies and northern South America.

Ischnocolus hirsutus *Ausserer.* — Specimens from West Bay, New Providence, 29 May, and Ft. Charlotte, Nassau, N. P., 25 June. Some authors consider that this is the immature state of some other genus. Known from Cuba previously.

SCYTODIDÆ.

Scytodes longipes *Lucas.* — Two specimens from Mangrove Key, Andros Island, 12 June, and 25 May. Quite common in tropical America.

CLUBIONIDÆ.

Anyphæna velox *Becker.* — Immature specimens from West Bay, New Providence, 22 May. Known from Florida, and several of the West Indian Islands.

Wulfilia ventralis sp. nova.

Pale yellowish, the tibïæ darker on middle and at tips, and hind metatarsi also darker on middle and tips, elongate dark marks at tips of femora and on base of patellæ, palpi with two narrow dark lines above, on venter there is a transverse black arcuate band over the ventral rima, with the ends acutely



Fig. 2.—*Acanthopelma maculata* sp. nov., eyes.

II erect and bristly; no spines on leg I, except one at tip of tibia and one at tip of metatarsus, leg II with only one at tip of tibia, and one on base and one on tip of metatarsus; legs III and IV with three slender spines above at tip of femora, these tibïæ and metatarsi with numerous spines; tarsi scopulate, metatarsi partially so, the tarsal scopula divided by rows of stiff bristles and some spines interspersed, more numerous on the hind pairs; leg IV about as long as body; no trace of a third claw to tarsi. Sternum as long as broad, with erect black bristles; inferior spinnerets as long as hind tarsi, basal joint longest, then second, the third very short.

prolonged forward, the whole mark somewhat in the form of a W. Posterior eyes large, in a straight row, A. M. E. very small, not one fourth as large as A. S. E. Legs very long and slender; spines very slender, tibiae I and II with two pairs beneath, metatarsi I and II with one long pair at base, and II with a shorter median pair; tibiae III and IV with a pair at base and at middle, and one above on base; all patellae with one at tip above. Abdomen elongate, pointed behind; rima at about one half way from genital fold to spinnerets.

Length 6 mm.

One specimen from Mangrove Key, Andros Island, 25 May.

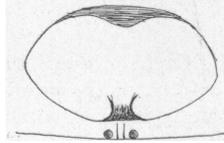


Fig. 3.—*Wulfila ventralis* sp. nov., vulva.

THERIDIIDÆ.

Theridium rufipes Linn.—One female from Ft. Charlotte, near Nassau, New Providence, 25 June. A cosmotropical spider.

Theridium studiosum Hentz.—One female from Queen's Staircase, Nassau, New Providence, 31 May. In the Southern United States, south to Brazil.

Lathrodictus mactans Fabr.—Several specimens from Mangrove Key, Andros Island, 6 June; and Queen's Staircase, Nassau, New Providence, 31 May. Common in temperate and tropical America.

Dipoena crassiventris Keys.—One small female from Ft. Charlotte, near Nassau, New Providence, 25 June. Recorded from Georgia and Florida.

EPEIRIDÆ.

Nephila clavipes Linn.—Several immature specimens from Menendez Sisal Plantations, Stanley, New Providence, 26 June. Known from tropical and subtropical America.

Leucauge argyra Walck.—One female from Mangrove Key, Andros Island, 25 May. Common in tropical America.

Epeira labyrinthica Hentz.—One male from Ft. Charlotte, near Nassau, New Providence, 25 June. Inhabits nearly all North and South America.

Epeira wittfeldæ McCook.—An immature female, probably this species, from Dog Key, N. of Andros Island, 13 May. Known from various parts of Florida.

Gasteracantha cancriformis Linn.—Two females from Menendez Sisal Plantations, Stanley, New Providence, 26 June. Common in tropical and subtropical America.

CTENIDÆ.

Ctenus sp.

Cephalothorax blackish, a broad pale median stripe, slightly narrowed in front of the groove, and tapering behind; abdomen blackish above, indistinctly marked with pale, an outline of a spear-mark on base; sternum, legs, and venter pale, tibiæ and metatarsi rather darker; mandibles with two black stripes in front, narrowly separated above, indistinct below. Female with tibia I and II with 4—4 spines, male with 5—5 spines; metatarsi I and II with 3—3 spines. A male one moult from adult shows the bulb of the palpus tipped with a long black style curved inward and downward, but it may change position in next moult. Length 9 mm.

Immature specimens from Ft. Charlotte, near Nassau, 25 June, and West Bay, N. P., 29 May. A heavier and darker species than *C. punctulatus*.

Anahita sp.

Cephalothorax blackish in middle, pale on sides, a triangular pale area behind eyes and followed by a narrow pale median stripe, a broad black spot on clypeus surrounding A. M. E. and a vertical mark under each P. S. E., mandibles with a broad black stripe in front. Legs banded; abdomen dark above, pale beneath, with some small black dots. Certainly only two claws to tarsi, and prominent claw-tufts; eyes as figured for *A. fauna* by Simon.

One immature specimen from West Bay, N. P., 29 May.

SPARASSIDÆ.

Selenops aissus *Walck.*—From Mangrove Key, Andros Island, 25 May. Known from southern Florida, and various parts of the West Indies.

SCORPIONIDA.

CENTRURIDÆ.

Centrurus vittatus *Pal. de Beauv.*—From Dog Key, N. of Andros Island, 13 May. Known from various parts of tropical America.

Isometrus maculatus *Linn.*—One specimen from Little Golding Key, Andros Island, 19 June. A cosmotropical species.

SCORPIONIDÆ.

Diplocentrus lesueuri *Gerv.*—From South Side of Bight, Andros Island, 18 May. Described from Cuba, and known also from southern Florida.

PHRYNIDA.

Admetus whitei *Gerv.*—One from High Key, Andros Island, 2 June. Known from several places in Mexico and the West Indies.

Hemiphrynus viridiceps *Poc.* — Several specimens from Mangrove Key, Andros Island, 12 June; from West Bay, New Providence, 29 May; and from South Side of South Bight, Andros Island, 18 May. Recorded from several of the West Indian islands.

PHALANGIDA.

***Erginus castaneus* sp. nova.**

Body above rich brown, a transverse whitish spot above coxæ II, and a narrow whitish band on margin of scutum, just behind the pair of large tubercles; sometimes one or both of these markings lacking. Mandibles dark above on basal joint, elsewhere pale; palpi pale, sometimes faintly mottled on outer side, and dark on underside of the last joint; legs more or less blackish, but the trochanters and bases of femora pale yellowish, also pale on tarsi, on tips of tibiæ, and on bases of metatarsi. Venter reddish brown.

Body one and one half times as long as broad, moderately convex in middle, widest in front of coxæ IV, tapering each way, anterior margin one third of greatest width. Anterior part of dorsum with a few granules outwardly behind eyes;

beyond coxæ III the dorsum is transversely granulate; a pair of larger, rounded granules in middle of the first band, and a pair of spine-like ones near margin, or in the third band; each segment beyond with a row of granules. Coxæ granulate, more distinct on anterior margin of I, posterior margin of III, and general surface of IV. The ventral segments each with a row of small granules. Femora, patellæ, and tibiæ of the legs are roughened. The male has femur IV with a row of seven to nine compressed teeth above near tip, the highest one not the diameter of the segment; two rows of shorter teeth below and on inner side. Basal segment of mandibles granulate above. Femur of palpus with a row of teeth below on outer edge, tibia strongly flattened and margined on both edges, tarsus with a claw one half its length. Leg IV longest and largest, trochanter, femur, and patella I no longer than femur IV; metatarsi of all legs show false articulations; tarsi I and III with 6 joints, II with 13 joints, IV with 7 joints. Length 4.6 mm.

Specimens from Key No. 5, South Side of South Bight, Andros Island, 23 May; Fish Hawk Key, Andros Island, 19 May; and West Bay, New Providence, 29 May. An immature Phalangid of this or an allied species from Ft. Charlotte, Nassau, New Providence, 25 June.

Liobunum sp. — An immature specimen, quite probably of a new species, from Mangrove Key, Andros Island, 25 May.

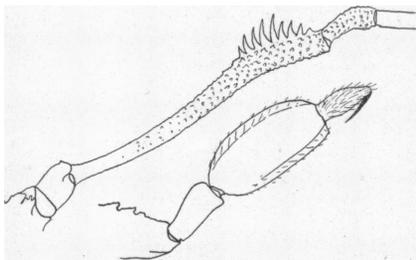


Fig. 4.—*Erginus castaneus*, sp. nov., femur IV, and palpus.

