

THE ANNALS

AND

MAGAZINE OF NATURAL HISTORY.

[FIFTH SERIES.]

No. 94. OCTOBER 1885.

XXIII.—*Descriptions of two new Species of Araneidea.*

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[Plate IX. A. figs. 1 & 2.]

Family Dictynidæ.

Genus DICTYNA, Sund.

Dictyna cognata, sp. nov. (Pl. IX. A. fig. 1, *a*, *b*, *c*, *d*.)

Adult male, length $1\frac{1}{2}$ line.

In general appearance and size this spider nearly resembles *Dictyna arundinacea*, Linn., to which it is closely allied. It may, however, be easily distinguished by the spur on the radial joint of the palpus. This spur is longer than in *D. arundinacea*, its length being nearly equal to the breadth of the base of the radial joint; it is also stouter, bent, placed close to the base of that joint, and bifid at its extremity. The radial is a little longer than the cubital joint, and its spur is shorter than that of *D. uncinata*, Thor., from which it also differs in the abdominal pattern. This pattern nearly resembles that of *D. arundinacea*.

The spider from which the above notes have been made was received from Holland, where it was found by Major-General A. W. M. van Hasselt, who kindly submitted it to my inspection, and has permitted me to describe it.

Family Theridiidæ.

Genus LITHYPHANTES.

Lithyphantes morsitans, sp. nov.

(Pl. IX. A. fig. 2, *a*, *b*, *c*.)

Adult female, length $2\frac{2}{3}$ lines.

Cephalothorax short, broad behind, constricted laterally at
Ann. & Mag. N. Hist. Ser. 5. Vol. xvi.

the caput; its colour is yellow-brown with a broad lateral margin and the upper part of the caput of a deep brown. The latter forms a longitudinal wedge-shaped band including the eyes and continued backwards to the thoracic junction.

The *eyes* are pearly white, the four centrals form nearly a square; those of each lateral pair are contiguous to each other, and seated slightly obliquely on a small tubercle. The height of the clypeus exceeds slightly half that of the facial space.

The *legs* are slender, not very long, and furnished with hairs and slender bristles. They are of a dark yellow-brown hue; the femora have a single pale yellow-brown annulus near their anterior extremity, and the tibiæ two pale annuli; the metatarsi and tarsi are paler than the other joints. The relative length of the legs is 1, 2, 4, 3.

Palpi short, slender, and of a dark yellow-brown colour, furnished with hairs and a few bristles.

Falces not very long, rather weak, similar in colour to the cephalothorax.

Maxillæ, *labium*, and *sternum* normal, and of a deep brown colour.

The *abdomen* is very large and globular, and projects considerably over the base of the cephalothorax. Its surface is glossy, of a black colour, sparingly furnished with hairs, and with a rather sharply dentated, longitudinal, median band on the upper side, continued in the form of a narrow simple band backwards to the spinners. This band is of a dull pale hue, tolerably distinctly edged with white; some two or three more or less distinct oblique stripes of a similar nature occupy the sides; and on the underside, between the spinners and the genital aperture, is a white spot or marking.

An example of this spider, alive, was kindly given to me by the Rev. G. Aldridge, vicar of Morden, Dorset. It had come to him by post in a small match-box from a friend in Swaziland, Africa, where it is (probably not without reason) considered venomous. I endeavoured to keep it alive, but it refused to eat, and soon died.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE IX. A. figs. 1, 2.

Fig. 1. *Dictyna cognata*, sp. n. *a*, abdomen, upperside, ♂; *b*, genital aperture, ♀; *c*, palpus, ♂; *d*, portion of palpus, ♂, in another position.

Fig. 2. *Lathypantes morsitans*, sp. n. *a*, full figure, ♀; *b*, outline ditto, in profile; *c*, natural length of spider.



Pickard-Cambridge, Octavius. 1885. "Description of two new species of Araneida." *The Annals and magazine of natural history; zoology, botany, and geology* 16, 237–238.

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