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XLVI.—Some new African Spiders.

By R. I. ПОСОК.

Fam. Aviculariidae.

Genus SCODRA, Becker.

Scodra Batesii, sp. n.

♂.—Colour of the upper and underside of cephalothorax and abdomen and of underside of legs and palpi like that of *S. brachypoda* and *griseipes*, there being a large blackish patch at the distal end of the femur, two, divided by the converging white stripes, on the patella, a single undivided median stripe on the proximal half of the tibia, one on the protarsus and on the tarsus, all these spots being of equal intensity, whereas in *S. brachypoda* and *griseipes* the protarsal and tarsal spots are much deeper than the others.

Carapace slightly longer than femur of first, slightly shorter than that of fourth leg, as long as patella + $\frac{3}{4}$ the tibia of the palp, also as tibia + tarsus of palp; slightly longer than tibia, slightly shorter than protarsus of fourth leg; as long as tibia + $\frac{1}{2}$ patella or as protarsus + $\frac{1}{2}$ tarsus of first.

Legs 4, 1, 2, 3, fourth exceeding first by more than the length of its tarsus, the fourth four times as long as the carapace, the first less than three and a half times as long; protarsus of first with its upper surface level, as in *S. brachypoda*, not depressed in its basal half, as in *S. griseipes*, but furnished below at its proximal end with a tuft of long silky hairs, as in *S. griseipes*, arising from a basal rounded tubercular excrescence, somewhat as in *S. griseipes*, except that in the latter the inferior excrescence or swelling corresponds to the superior depression.

Palpus long, slightly surpassing the tibia of the first leg and exceeding twice the length of the carapace by its tarsus; palpal spine lightly concavo-convex, as in *S. brachypoda*, but a little stouter, blunter, and separated from the bulb at the base posteriorly by a distinct notch, much like that of *S. griseipes*.

Measurements in millimetres.—Total length 31; carapace 14; palpus 31; first leg 49, second 48, third 44, fourth 56 (all from base of femur); patella + tibia of first 17.5, of fourth 20; protarsus + tarsus of first 18, of fourth 22.

Loc. Efalen, 1500–1800 feet alt., 70 miles from the Congo coast (*G. L. Bates*).

The males of *S. calceata* and *S. fumigata* are unknown to

me; but the type of this new species differs from the females, and no doubt also from the males, of these two forms at least in the coloration of the underside of the anterior legs and palpi. The points in which it differs from the males of the other known species may be summarized as follows:—

- a* First leg long, longer than the fourth, nearly four times as long as the carapace ($14\frac{1}{2} : 55$), its femur slightly longer than carapace, its patella+tibia longer than, and protarsus+tarsus about equal to, those of fourth; palpus scarcely surpassing its middle; (protarsus of first sinuous, with inferior silky tuft of hairs) *griseipes*.
- b*. First leg short, shorter than fourth, less than three and a half times as long as carapace, which slightly exceeds its femur; its patella+tibia and protarsus+tarsus less than those of fourth; palpus considerably surpassing its middle.
- a*¹. Legs strongly spotted; palpus long, slightly surpassing tibia of first leg, its patella+tibia considerably longer than carapace, which equals its tibia+tarsus; fourth leg four times as long as carapace, which is equal to its tibia and less than its protarsus; protarsus of first with basal inferior tuft of silky hairs and tubercular excrescence *Batesii*.
- b*¹. Legs weakly spotted except on protarsus and tarsus; palpus short, falling short of tip of tibia of first leg, its patella+tibia equal to its tibia+tarsus, much shorter than carapace; fourth leg much less than four times as long as carapace, which exceeds its protarsus; protarsus of first without inferior proximal silky tuft and tubercular excrescence *brachypoda*.

Genus HARPACTIRA, Auss.

Harpactira Hamiltoni, sp. n.

♂.—*Colour* greyish mouse-brown, with silky golden lustre; carapace black, clothed with golden-yellow hairs, showing a definite radial arrangement; sternum and coxæ blackish; hairs on underside of femora foxy red.

Carapace a little shorter than patella+tibia of first leg, equal to those of fourth.

Tibial apophysis of first leg not straight, but somewhat strongly bent or geniculate, its basal half on the outer side showing a deep notch; protarsus of first leg with its outer surface convex, its inner surface concave, armed distally below with a high tuberculiform prominence. Spine of palpal organ stouter and more strongly curved than that of *H. tigrina* and *curator*.

On the external side of the *mandible* the inferior row of stridulating-spines forms a single series close to the oral fringe.

Measurements in millimetres.—Total length 26; carapace 13; palpus 20; first leg 40, second 36, third 31, fourth 42; protarsus + tarsus of first 14, of fourth 17.

A female referred to this species gives the following measurements:—Total length 33; carapace 15.5; palpus 23; first leg 36, second 32, third 29, fourth 39; patella + tibia of first 14, of fourth 13; tarsus + protarsus of first 10.5, of fourth 14.5.

Loc. Vrededorf Road, Orange River Colony (*Capt. Barrett-Hamilton*).

The male of this new species differs very markedly from that of the other species known to me in the shape of the tibial apophysis of the first leg, the curvature of the protarsus, and the size of its distal tubercle beneath. The female is very like that of *H. gigas*, Poc., from the Transvaal, but is much smaller.

Mr. G. P. Staunton has also recently sent me specimens of *H. Hamiltoni* from Durban.

Fam. Dipluridæ.

Genus BRACHYTHELISCUS, nov.

Allied to *Brachythele*, Auss., but differing in having the tibia of the first leg simple, armed with strong spines, but without a spur. The tarsus of the palp is short and truncate.

Type *B. bicolor*, Poc. (Proc. Zool. Soc. 1897, p. 735) (*Brachythele*).

The type of this genus was based upon a single mutilated female example collected by Mr. H. A. Spencer at Durban. Being acquainted only with the female, I was not able to separate the species from those of the genus *Brachythele*. The discovery of the male by Mr. G. P. Staunton has, however, shown that the species differs from the typical species of *Brachythele* in the absence of a tibial spur on the first leg in the male.

In both males and females the abdomen is spotted or banded above.

The male has long and slender legs; the protarsus of the first is armed beneath with 1, 1 spines, of the second with 2, 1, 2 spines. The palpi are short, the tibia a little exceeds the patella, is inflated proximally below, and armed with two long external spines beneath and one internal. The bulb of the palpal organ is piriform, passing gradually into the spine, which is lightly curved.

Measurements in millimetres.—Total length 10; length of carapace 4.5, of first leg 15, second leg 14, third leg 13, fourth leg 18.

Genus EUAGRUS, Auss.

Euagrus caffer, sp. n.

♀.—Prevailing colour deep brown; hairy clothing silky yellowish brown; abdomen dark above and speckled with pale spots; legs with a pink dorsal rim on the distal end of the segments.

Carapace one fourth longer than wide, as long as patella + tibia of fourth leg and as patella + tibia + $\frac{1}{2}$ the protarsus of the first, a little shorter than protarsus and tarsus of fourth. *Eyes* of anterior line strongly procurved, anterior edge of medians, if anything, behind the posterior edge of the laterals, close together, medians about half their diameter from each other and from the laterals, to which they are subequal in area; posterior laterals as large as anterior laterals and subequal to them. *Tibia* of first and second *legs* armed with spiniform setæ, with at most a pair of inferior apical spines; *protarsi* armed with many strong spines; *tarsi* scarcely spined; *tarsus* of palp spined; *tibiæ* of third and fourth furnished with spiniform setæ; *protarsi* strongly and numerously spined; *tarsi* with a few spines. Anterior *spinners* separated by a space which exceeds their width; posterior *spinners* $1\frac{1}{2}$ times as long as carapace, second segment exceeding the first, the third a little shorter than the sum of the other two.

♂.—Smaller than female; *carapace* longer than patella + tibia of first leg and about as long as its protarsus + tarsus. *Palpus* short, scarcely surpassing patella of first leg, its tibia inflated below proximally, longer than the patella, armed on the inner side beneath with three long spiniform setæ; *tarsus* short, truncate, as in the *Aviculariidæ*; the palpal organ long, quite as long as the tibia, the bulb oval, piriform, gradually passing into the spine, which is stout and curved basally and very slender, filiform, and straight distally, with a slight apical curve. *Tibia* of first *leg* strongly spined internally, much thicker than the protarsus, which has 1, 2, 2 spines beneath; *tibia* of second leg a little inflated internally, armed near the middle of its length on the inner side with a large triangular process, which is itself armed anteriorly with three short, sharp, tooth-like spines; *protarsus* with a low angular spine-tipped process in the middle of its basal half beneath.

Measurements in millimetres.—♀. Total length 14; carapace 6.5; spinners 9; first leg 13.5, second 13, third 13.5, fourth 14; patella + tibia of first or fourth 5, protarsus + tarsus of first 4.5, of fourth 5.5.

♂. Carapace 4.2; first and second leg 11, third leg 11.5.

Loc. Durban (G. P. Staunton).

Mr. Staunton is particularly to be congratulated on this capture which adds a new genus to the fauna of Africa. Hitherto *Euagrus* has only been known from species collected in Central America. In general form and habits *Euagrus* resembles *Ischnothele*, of which one species has been recorded from South Africa, namely, *I. mashonica*, from Mashonaland, where it was found by Mr. J. ff. Darling (Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. (7) vii. p. 337, 1901). *Ischnothele*, however, has the labium and maxillæ cuspluate, two rows of teeth on the mandibles, and the tibia of the first leg modified in the male.

Fam. Ctenizidæ.

Genus STASIMOPUS, Sim.

Stasimopus nigellus, sp. n.

♂.—Colour jet-black, with the tarsi and distal end of the protarsi yellowish red; paler brownish beneath, the genital plate and opercula testaceous.

Carapace coarsely rugose, as in *S. insculptus*, Poc., from King William's Town, a little longer than tibia of first leg or of palpus, equal to protarsus of fourth.

Eyes of anterior line large, subequal, and subequally spaced, less than a diameter apart, scarcely at all procurved, their anterior edges in approximately the same straight line; eyes of posterior line small, subequal, widely separated, but the median nearer the lateral than to the anterior median, its inner edge almost in a line with the middle point between the anterior and lateral eyes of the front row.

Palpi long and slender, midway in length between those of *P. palpiger* and *P. insculptus*; the tarsus extending to the middle of the protarsus of the first leg, the patella overlapping that of this appendage and a little longer than it, but only about half as long as its femur, and equal to two thirds the length of the tibia; the trochanter a little longer than that of the first leg.

Legs of first and fourth pairs subequal, third subequal to palpus.

Measurements in millimetres.—Total length 9; carapace 4; palpus 11; first leg 14.5, second 13, third 10.5, fourth 15.

Loc. Vredefort Road, in the Orange River Colony (Capt. Barrett-Hamilton).

Genus MOGGRIDGEA, O. P. Cambr.

Moggridgea Stauntoni, sp. n.

♀.—Easily distinguishable from the rest of the known

South-African species of this genus* by the absence of the patches of spinules on the coxæ of the first, second, and third pairs of legs, by the restriction of the spinules on the labium to the apical half of this sclerite, and of those on the coxa of the palp to three or four irregular rows on the preaxial side of the under surface. Moreover the eyes of the anterior line are either straight by their centres or slightly procurved; the medians being from about one half to three quarters of a diameter apart and from about one and a half to nearly twice their diameter from the laterals, to which they are subequal in size, being sometimes slightly larger and sometimes slightly smaller; the distance between anterior median and anterior lateral about equal to that between anterior median and posterior lateral and much greater than that between the two laterals on each side, which about equals a diameter and a half of the anterior lateral. In *M. Dyeri*, *Abrahami*, and *Whytei* the distance between the two lateral eyes is subequal to the other distances, so that the three eyes in question are disposed as if on the angles of an equilateral triangle.

The spines on the palpi and anterior two pairs of legs are inconstant in number; on the palpi there are usually two (sometimes three) spines on the inner and outer sides of the tibia and tarsus; on the first and second leg there are usually externally 8-9 tibial and 4-5 protarsal spines, while the inner side of each of these segments is usually armed with 4 spines.

Measurements in millimetres.—Total length 15; carapace 8; patella + tibia of first leg and fourth leg 7.

Loc. Durban (*G. P. Staunton*).

Genus ACANTHODON, Guér.

Acanthodon Hamiltoni, sp. n.

♀ (subadult).—*Colour* uniformly ochraceous; ocular tubercles black.

Anterior lateral *eyes* looking forwards from the extremities of a pair of large, elongate, abruptly rising tubercles, which are as long as the depression separating these tubercles from the posterior eye-cluster; the four median eyes of the latter forming a quadrangle which is only a little wider behind than it is long; the eyes compact, subequal, the anterior and posterior on each side separated by a narrow space, the anteriors separated from each other by a space of about a diameter, the posteriors by a space which a little exceeds a diameter; posterior lateral eyes very large, each larger than the sum of the adjacent eyes of the median quadrangle, their

* For table of these see Pocock, P. Z. S. 1897, p. 734.

anterior edges slightly in advance of the anterior edges of the anterior medians, their centres a little in advance of the mid-point between the anterior and posterior medians, their posterior extremities a little in advance of the middle of the posterior medians; distance between posterior medians and posterior laterals about twice that between the posterior medians.

Labium with a single row of four cusps. *Palpus* with its tibia armed externally beneath with three long spines and about eight short spines above them; tibia of first leg armed in the same place with about six long spines and twenty short spines above them; tibia of second leg with three long setiform spines beneath and only one short spine above; spines on anterior side of patella of fourth leg arranged in two or three rows, not forming a thick cluster of about half a dozen rows, as in *A. flaveolum*.

Total length 10 millim.; carapace 5.

Loc. Vredefort Road, Orange River Colony (*Capt. Barrett-Hamilton*).

Differs from the females of the other tropical and South-African species of the genus in the large size of the posterior lateral eyes and in the proximity of the posterior median eyes.

Fam. Scytodidæ.

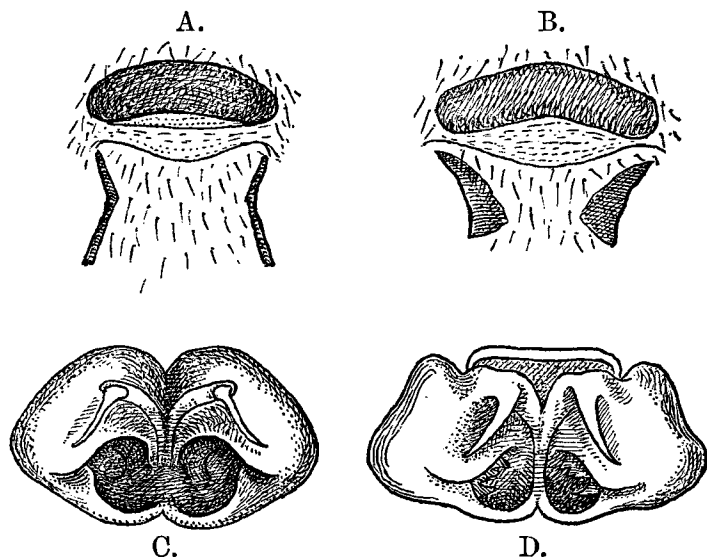
Genus SCYTODES, Latr.

Scytodes Broomi, sp. n.

♀.—*Colour.* Carapace ornamented with yellow and black bands of about equal width; an anterior black patch covers the median eyes; from the anterior lateral angles of the clypeus a black stripe extends backwards on each side of the middle line, over the lateral eyes, and stops short just past the middle of the carapace in front of the highest point of the eminence; externally to this stripe arises a second of about equal width, which runs from the antero-lateral margin of the carapace towards the summit of its highest portion, then descends abruptly to its posterior border, almost or quite meeting its fellow of the opposite side; anteriorly it touches the abbreviated admedian stripe a short distance behind the lateral eyes; the external surface of the carapace may be described as covered with a black field relieved by four large pale spots, or as being ornamented with two irregular-shaped black lines united by transverse bars.

Legs yellow and black; coxæ black in front, trochanter with an anterior black spot; femora largely blackish in

front, with a subapical black band and a more or less defined submedian band; distal end of patella and proximal end of tibia black; a subapical black ring as well as an indistinct median band; mandibles with black patch in front; palpi with femoral and tibial ring; labium with three black spots; sternum with four black patches on each side and a median black stripe; abdomen ornamented above with four rows of black spots; blackish beneath.



- A. *Scytodes Broomi*, sp. n. Ventral abdominal sclerites of female.
 B. *Scytodes Marshalli*, sp. n. Ventral abdominal sclerites of female.
 C. *Cærostris corticosa*, sp. n. Vulva.
 D. *Cærostris Darlingi*, sp. n. Vulva.

Carapace high, beset with short bristles rising from pores with elevated rims, which impart a sparsely granular appearance to the integument; clypeus lightly emarginate, about as long as the width of the anterior eyes. *Palp* with tarsus about twice as long as tibia and longer than tibia and patella. *Legs* long and slender, carapace shorter than tibia of third.

Horny plates on lower side of *abdomen* consisting of a pair of high crests, which at first run inwards from near the angles of the genital operculum, then turn backwards and slightly outwards at an obtuse angle; the area between these crests is at least as wide as long mesially and wider than long

posteriorly, where it nearly equals the width of the genital cleft. (Fig. A, p. 322.)

Measurements in millimetres.—Total length 10; carapace 5.5; length of first leg 33, third leg 21.

Loc. Garies, in Namaqualand (*Dr. R. Broom*).

Scytodes Marshalli, sp. n.

♀.—*Colour.* Fore part of carapace brownish, with two narrow black lines on each side showing through the brown, the inner passing backwards from the median eyes, the outer from the same point over the lateral eyes; posteriorly the two are more or less confluent with a broad black stripe which extends over the summit of the carapace, is broken up by three or four pale spots, and posteriorly meets its fellow of the opposite side, the two circumscribing a conspicuous cordate yellow patch on the middle of the carapace; laterally the carapace is marbled with black and yellow. On the legs the femora and tibiæ have three black bands, the proximal and submedian tibial band showing a tendency to coalesce, the patella entirely pale above, but spotted in front; sternum black, with symmetrical yellow patches; palpi with a strong and complete distal tibial stripe; abdomen marbled with black laterally and below and in the middle above its anterior and posterior extremity.

Carapace high posteriorly, hairy, and with about the same length of clypeus as in the preceding species, as long as the tibia of second leg, a little shorter than that of first, considerably longer than patella + tibia of third.

Abdomen with horny plates distinct and bordered externally by a thickened rim or crest, each of which runs obliquely inwards and backwards from near the angles of the genital cleft without any very noticeable curvature. (Fig. B, p. 322.)

Measurements in millimetres.—Total length 8; carapace 3.5; first leg 16, its tibia 4.5; tibia of second 3.8; patella + tibia of third 3; third leg 10.5.

Loc. Estcourt, Natal, 4000 feet (*G. A. K. Marshall*).

Fam. Uloboridæ.

Genus *DINOPIS*, MacLeay.

Dinopis Stauntoni, sp. n.

♀.—*Colour.* Integument uniformly blackish brown and covered with a coating of whitish-yellow hairs, which are particularly thick upon the dorsal side of the carapace and

abdomen; the underside of the trunk a little darker than the upper; the underside of the posterior bifid prominence yellowish.

Carapace of the same shape apparently as in *D. bubalus*, Sim., with an angular horn over the eyes. Femur of first and second *legs* subequal, the former basally expanded and geniculate on the inner side, to fit against the side of the head. *Abdomen* elongate, with a pair of large tubercles in front of the middle and a bifid posterior extremity.

Vulva consisting of a rounded eminence, with convex anterior and straight posterior border, impressed posteriorly with a pair of obliquely diverging pits, separated by a septum, narrow in front and broad behind.

Measurements in millimetres.—Total length 25; length of carapace 8, width 5; length of abdomen 18, width 5; second leg 43, third and fourth 22–23; femur of first 15.

Loc. Durban (*G. P. Staunton*).

This species certainly differs from *D. bubalus*, Simon, from Kilimanjaro, in the form of the vulva. This organ in *D. bubalus* is described as flat and subquadrate. Moreover, the sternum and legs are described as “*luridi*.”

This new species may prove to be the female of *D. cylindricus*, which was also captured at Durban. If the differences pointed out between the males and females of *Dinopis* in the subjoined table prove to be merely sexual, it seems probable that the synonymy of some of the African species will work out as follows:—

D. bubo, Brit. Cap., ♂, = *D. Anchietae*, Brit. Cap., ♀; from Angola.

D. cornigera, Gerst., ♂, = *D. bubalus*, Sim., ♀; from German East Africa.

D. cylindricus, Poc., ♂, = *D. Stauntoni*, Poc., ♀; from Natal.

Pending the settlement of this supposition the tropical African species of this genus seem to be separable by the following characters:—

a. ♀.—Carapace without white bands; abdomen with a large tubercle on each side near the middle.

*a*¹. Femur of first leg without anterior basal enlargement (no frontal horns)

*b*¹. Femur of first leg with a large basal enlargement.

aspectans, Poc.

- a*². Frontal horns absent *ornatus*, sp. n.*
*b*². Frontal horns present *Anchietae*, Brit. Cap.,
 and *bubalus*, Sim.
- b*. ♂.—Carapace with V-shaped cephalic stripe
 and pale stripe on lateral border; no median
 abdominal tubercles.
- a*³. Femur of first leg less than twice as long as
 carapace; palpus much shorter than cara-
 pace *cornigera*, Gerst.
- b*³. Femur of first leg about three times as long
 as carapace; palpus longer than carapace.
- a*⁴. Carapace as long as femur of palp *bubo*, Brit. Cap.
- b*⁴. Carapace as long as femur, patella, and
 tibia of palp *cylindricus*, Poc.

Genus MENNEUS, Sim.

Menneus camelus, sp. n.

♀.—*Colour*. Integument yellow, clothed with white hairs; carapace speckled with brown laterally; abdomen variegated with olive-brown stripes and patches, somewhat as in *Cærostis*; its lower surface marked with two fuscous mesially interrupted bands; sternum infusate laterally and behind, pale in the middle; labium infusate distally; maxillæ with a distal fuscous patch; mandible with a fuscous patch in front and some fuscous spots; legs mostly yellow, with black spines; the tarsi and distal end of the protarsi infusate; upperside of patella and distal end of femur of fourth leg with median black stripe.

* This new species may be diagnosed as follows:—

Dinopis ornatus, sp. n.

♀.—Of the same form of carapace and abdomen as *D. Stauntoni*, but without frontal horns, the superciliary ridge of the eyes being evenly rounded.

Carapace rather scantily covered mesially with short dark yellowish-brown hairs, brown forming a large triangular patch; many white hairs on the head and on the sides and posterior portion of the thoracic area; upperside of abdomen yellowish, covered with silvery white hair, with a large anterior black patch on each side and a dark patch behind the prominence, a white stripe descending on each side from the dorsal to the ventral surface in front of the prominence; lower surface with a pair of subcentral yellow patches.

Fula convex, not strongly chitinized, furnished posteriorly with a linguiform sclerite, which is narrowed in front, but is for the most part concealed in the epigastric fold, where on each side of it the apertures of the receptacula seminis open.

Measurements in millimetres.—Total length 29; carapace 9.5; femur of first leg 19, length of fourth leg 41.

Loc. Abyssinia.

Eyes of anterior line subequal, the medians about three diameters apart and one diameter from the posterior medians, the latter twice the diameter of the anterior medians and rather more than three diameters apart and a little more than that from the posterior laterals; the median quadrangle twice as wide behind as its anterior width and about as long as its anterior width; distance between anterior lateral and anterior median eye on each side equal to three times the distance between the two medians.

Abdomen lightly expanding towards its middle, about twice as long as wide; its upper surface just behind the middle prolonged into a long conical process, which, when distended, is as long as the carapace or at least three quarters the length of the abdomen.

Vulva consisting of a simple horny triangular plate, with transverse posterior border, the apertures of the receptacula seminis on its posterior portion within the epigastric fold.

Mandibles powerful, armed with four anterior and five posterior teeth.

Measurements in millimetres.—Total length 11; carapace 5; height of abdomen 8; length of first leg 33, fourth 16.

Loc. Durban (*G. P. Staunton*).

This is the second record of the genus *Menneus* from Africa. The only other species known from this country, *M. tetragathoides*, Simon (Bull. Soc. Zool. Fr. i. p. 218, 1876), was based upon a male from the Congo, which certainly differs from *M. camelus* in having the anterior median eyes and also the posterior median eyes about a diameter apart. The abdomen, too, is described as narrow, elongate, and parallel-sided.

Fam. Argiopidæ.

Genus CÆROSTRIS, Thor.

Cærostris corticosa, sp. n.

♀.—Closely resembling *C. sexcuspidata*, Fabr., in colour and general characters, but with the ventral surface of the abdomen dead black, no bitubercular prominence above the spinning-mamillæ, and the fringe on the posterior side of the femur of the fourth leg formed of slender undifferentiated hairs.

Vulva very different, the two processes long, slender, submembranous, separated by a space equalling the length of either, the area between them deeply grooved longitudinally; the two fossæ looking obliquely inwards and backwards, with

a relatively small thickened sclerite lodged in the infero-external angle. (Fig. C, p. 322.)

Total length 17 millim.

Loc. Estcourt, in Natal, 4000 feet (*G. A. K. Marshall*, type); Vryburg, British Bechuanaland; Port Elizabeth (*Dr. R. Broom*); Brak Kloof, Grahamstown (*Mrs. White*); Salisbury, Mashonaland (*G. A. K. Marshall*).

I formerly (*Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist.* (7) i. p. 311, 1898) referred this species to *C. Vinsonii*, Thorell, on account of the length and wide separation of the processes of the vulva. Recently, however, I have received from Mr. Quekett an example of *C. nodulosa*, Poc., from Zululand; and since the description of the vulva of *C. Vinsonii* applies more closely to this organ in *C. nodulosa* than in *C. corticosa*, I have been compelled to abandon the old supposition with regard to *C. Vinsonii*, and to give a new name to the form I at one time supposed to be that species.

Thorell's (*Eug. Resa, Araneæ*, pp. 4-9) contribution to our knowledge of the South-African forms of the genus *Cærostris* may be summarized as follows:—The species Simon, probably rightly, determines as *C. sexcuspidata*, Fabr., Thorell describes as *C. mitralis*, Vins., with two varieties, *humilis* and *turrigera*, based upon the form of the abdomen. As separate species he describes *C. Keyserlingii* and *C. Wahlbergii*, based also apparently upon the form of the abdomen. At all events, since the vulva is said to be alike in the three species, it is probable that they all belong to one and the same form, namely *C. sexcuspidata*. *C. Vinsonii*, on the other hand, is no doubt distinct. The vulva is described as follows:—“Vulva ut in iis [i. e. *mitralis*, *Wahlbergii*, and *Keyserlingii*] transversa, sed foveæ ejus duæ minores sunt, et antice plaga elevata, transversa, cornea, quæ impressione media, postice latiore notatur, est limitata; aculei duo recurvi, basi non uniti, in margine anteriore hujus plagæ longe ante foveas conspiciuntur.”

Cærostris Darlingi, sp. n.

♀.—Nearly related to *C. sexcuspidata* and *C. corticosa*, but differing from the latter in that the fringe on the posterior side of the femur consists of expanded, flattened, blade-like hairs.

Vulva somewhat like that of *C. corticosa*, but with a distinct transverse sclerite in front of the eminence bearing the stylets; the latter much thicker at the base than in *C. corticosa* and not quite so widely separated; the two foveæ have

the same aspect as in *C. corticosa*, each is occupied by an irregular membranous sclerite, and they are separated down the middle line by a strong but narrow longitudinal crest, which anteriorly bifurcates. (Fig. D, p. 322.)

Total length 20 millim.

Loc. Enkeldoorn, Mashonaland (*J. ff. Darling*).

The following table, in which a new specific character is used, may facilitate the determination of the tropical African members of this genus represented in the British Museum:—

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| a. Femur of fourth leg clothed behind with a brush of unmodified hairs | <i>corticosa</i> , sp. n. |
| b. Femur of fourth leg clothed behind with a brush of thickened, flattened, or otherwise modified hairs. | |
| a ¹ . Hairs of the brush not all alike, a few at the base of the femur much larger than the rest. | |
| a ² . The brush consisting of many long and relatively slender hairs, the larger basal hairs broad and spatulate | <i>columnifer</i> , nom. nov.* |
| b ² . The brush consisting of many very short and broad closely packed hairs, those at the base of the segment much longer and prone | <i>nodulosa</i> , Poc.† |
| b ¹ . Hairs of the brush alike or approximately alike in form, those at the base of the segment not noticeably larger than the rest. | |
| a ³ . Hairs of the brush serially set, very broad, flat, with edge near the body convex, and slender sharpened apex . . | <i>albescens</i> , Poc.‡ |
| b ³ . Hairs of brush irregularly arranged, close-set, more numerous, and much finer. | |
| a ⁴ . No basal white band on underside of tibiæ of second to fourth legs; hairs of femoral brush coarser | <i>femoralis</i> , Thor.§ |
| b ⁴ . A broad white band on the base of all the tibiæ; hairs of brush much finer. | |
| a ⁵ . Processes on vulva short, horny, and in contact in the middle line. | <i>sexcuspidata</i> , Fabr. |

* New name for *Cærostris turriger*, Poc. (P. Z. S. 1899, p. 857, pl. lvii. fig. 15), from the Benito River. The name "*turrigera*" was used by Thorell for one of the Caffrarian varieties of the species he described as *C. mitralis*, Vins. ('Eugenies Resa,' Araneæ, pp. 4-6).

† P. Z. S. 1898, p. 514, pl. xii. fig. 7.

‡ P. Z. S. 1899, p. 856, pl. lvii. fig. 16, from the Benito River, Congo.

§ Bih. Sv. Vet.-Akad. Handl. xxv. Afd. iv. no. 1, p. 63, from the Cameruns, Oct. 1900, = *C. argostictus*, Poc. (P. Z. S. 1899, p. 855, pl. lv. fig. 5, May 1901), Benito River. The femora of this species vary in colour from red to steel-blue. M. E. Simon first drew my attention to this synonymy.

- b⁵. Processes on vulva long, slender, submembranous, and widely separated in the middle line *Darlingi*, sp. n.

ÆTHRISCUS, gen. nov.

Allied to *Æthrodes*, Poc. (P. Z. S. 1899, p. 861, pl. lv. fig. 2), but differing in the following characters:—

- a. Ocular quadrangle slightly longer than wide, parallel-sided; carapace with a single large tubercle just in front of the fovea; upperside of abdomen with six pairs of tubercles in addition to those on the margin; seven pairs of tubercles along the anterior border, not including the lateral, and nine sigilla along the anterior border, as in *Aranæthra*; anterior lateral angles of abdomen subrectangular, the angular tubercle not larger or more prominent than the rest *Æthrodes*.
- b. Ocular quadrangle considerably shorter than its anterior width, which much exceeds its posterior width; carapace with one small tubercle on a level with the cephalic constriction; upperside of abdomen with only marginal or submarginal tubercles; eleven sigilla along the anterior border; a very large and prominent anterior lateral tubercle, giving an acutely angular aspect to this region of the abdomen *Æthriscus*.

Æthriscus olivaceus, sp. n.

♀.—*Colour* olive-brown; upperside of abdomen clear olive-yellow, with darker margin.

Upperside of *abdomen* flattish, smooth and shining, with its anterior border straightish, lightly sinuous, the median emargination shallow and furnished with a pair of contiguous tubercles behind the middle third of the anterior border, similar to but less prominent and less scattered than those of *Æthrodes mammosa*, the inner being close to the median sigillum, the outer being separated from the inner by a space impressed with two sigilla; the posterior border of the upper surface bearing a pair of somewhat widely separated submedian tubercles; the anterior lateral tubercle subbifid, projecting downwards and forwards; close to the posterior border immediately behind it there is also a large erect tubercle, exceeding the others of the dorsal surface in size.

Vulva exhibiting just in front of and below the generative cleft a pair of widely separated oval apertures to the receptacula seminis; in front of these its surface rises into a triangular process, the free arch of which is produced into a slender forwardly directed scape.

Width of abdomen 15 millim.; median length 7.

Loc. Benito River, Congo (*G. L. Bates*).

Fam. Heteropodidæ.

Genus SELENOPS, Latr.

Selenops Stauntoni, sp. n.

♀.—Resembling *S. parvulus*, Poc., in size, coloration, and general appearance, but differing in that the tibiæ of the first and second pairs of legs are armed beneath with five pairs of spines; sometimes also there is a small apical spine on the anterior side of the tibia of the first leg. Of the eyes of the median quadrangle the posteriors are considerably larger than the anteriors, with their inferior edges only very slightly higher than the centres of the latter.

Vulva large, recalling that of *S. Spenceri*; it may be described as a longitudinally oblong horny plate, with its anterior half marked with a pallid, heart-shaped, membranous area.

Total length 7 millim.; carapace 4.

Loc. Durban (*G. P. Staunton*).

XLVII.—*Descriptions of Two new Coleoptera of the Family Buprestidæ.* By CHAS. O. WATERHOUSE, F.E.S.

Amorphosoma distans, sp. n.

Elongatum, subparallelum, crassum; capite cupreo, punctulato, in longitudinem profunde sulcato, quadrituberculato; thorace transverso, inæquali, obscure cupreo, tuberculis fusco-cupreis instructo; elytris fere nigris, area basali pube griseo-flava ornata, fascia post medium grisea; corpore subtus obscure cupreo; metasterno abdomineque area basali albo-pubescentibus.

Long. 9 millim.

Hab. Waterberg, Transvaal, S. Africa.

The head has four round obtuse tubercles, the two on the vertex much stronger than the others. The thorax is broader than long, obscure coppery, with the raised parts much darker. The anterior part of the disk has six obtuse round tubercles (arranged thus $\cdot\cdot\cdot$), and at each posterior angle a comma-shaped elevation. Each side has two obtuse angles (with a slight sinuosity between them), so that the general form of the thorax is a transverse hexagon. The elytra are nearly black, with a shade of copper at the base. The basal half is clothed with greyish-white pubescence, which near the suture shows a slight golden lustre in certain lights. There