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TITLE.

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BIOLOGIA
CENTRALI-AMERICANA,

ARACHNIDA – ARANEIDEA.

Vol. I.

BY

The Rev. OCTAVIUS PICKARD-CAMBRIDGE, M.A., F.R.S., &c.

1889-1902.

INTRODUCTION.

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INTRODUCTION.

In dealing with the Central-American Araneidea, the subject was divided (see footnote to page 1) into two parts: I. to include descriptions and figures of those species considered to be new to science, taken according to my own convenience and other circumstances; and II. a Systematic List of all the species known to occur within the region, with their geographical distribution. So far as this arrangement has been carried out, the present volume contains the species worked out by myself, according to the two appended Lists: (I.) a Systematic List of the new Species described and figured, numbering 417; and (ii.) a List of those Species identified by myself as already known, numbering 139. The volume contains 309 pages of letter press and thirty-nine coloured plates, the drawings for which have been prepared by Mr. A. T. Hollick, and transferred to stone by Mr. E. Wilson.

OCTAVIUS PICKARD-CAMBRIDGE.

August, 1902.

SYSTEMATIC * LIST OF SPIDERS ¹

DESCRIBED AND FIGURED.

* The order of the species, within their several genera, is not intended in all cases to be systematic.

¹ Volume I includes only new species descriptions, and the four new salticids described in this volume are listed in this section.

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SYSTEMATIC LIST OF SPIDERS.

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Fam. SALTICIDAE.			
<i>Simonella decipiens</i> , ♂ ♀	163	XIX.	15, 16
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LIST OF SPECIES IDENTIFIED.

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LIST OF SPECIES IDENTIFIED *.

* Unless otherwise stated, these are all represented in the collections obtained by the Editors from Mexico or Central America.

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LIST OF SPECIES IDENTIFIED.

Fam. SALTICIDAE

Simonella americana, Peckh.

LIST OF SPECIES IDENTIFIED.

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Lyssomanes gemineus, Peckh.*Salticus centralis*, Peckh.*Plexippus puerperus*, Hentz.*Plexippus mimicus*, C. L. Koch.*Bavia ornata*, Peckh.*Jotus lividus*, Peckh.*Jotus opimus*, Peckh.*Pensacola signata*, Peckh.*Cytea concinna*, Peckh.*Martella petasii*, Peckh. (in Coll. O. P.-C.).*Rudea geniculata*, Peckh.*Amycus longipalpus*, Peckh.*Amycus benignus*, Peckh.*Erica eugenia*, Peckh.*Pardessus gratiosus* (C. L. Koch).*Ashtabula zonaria*, Peckh.*Cyrba taeniola*, Hentz.*Phidippus howardii*, Peckh. (in Coll. O. P.-C.).*Escantsia parvula*, Peckh. (in Coll. O. P.-C.).*Cyrene delecta*, Peckh. (in Coll. O. P.-C.).*Euophrys albipalpus*, Tacz.

BIOLOGIA CENTRALI-AMERICANA.

ZOOLOGIA.

Class ARACHNIDA.

Order ARANEIDEA.

DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW SPECIES*.

* [In treating of the "Araneidea" we propose to pursue a somewhat different course of arrangement from that adopted in other portions of this work, where a systematic sequence has been followed in most cases. We divide this subject, with the author's approval, into two parts: the first to contain descriptions of the many new species contained in our collections and also the Plates accompanying them; the second to include a systematic arrangement of all the species known to occur within the region under investigation, together with what is known of their geographical distribution. As a full explanation of the figures is issued on a separate page accompanying each Plate, it is not repeated in this portion of the work.—Edd.]

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SYNAEMA.—COCCORCHESTES.

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COCCORCHESTES, Thorell.

Coccorchestes scarabaeoides, sp. n. (Tab. XV. figg. 8, 8a–f, ♂, 8g, ♀)

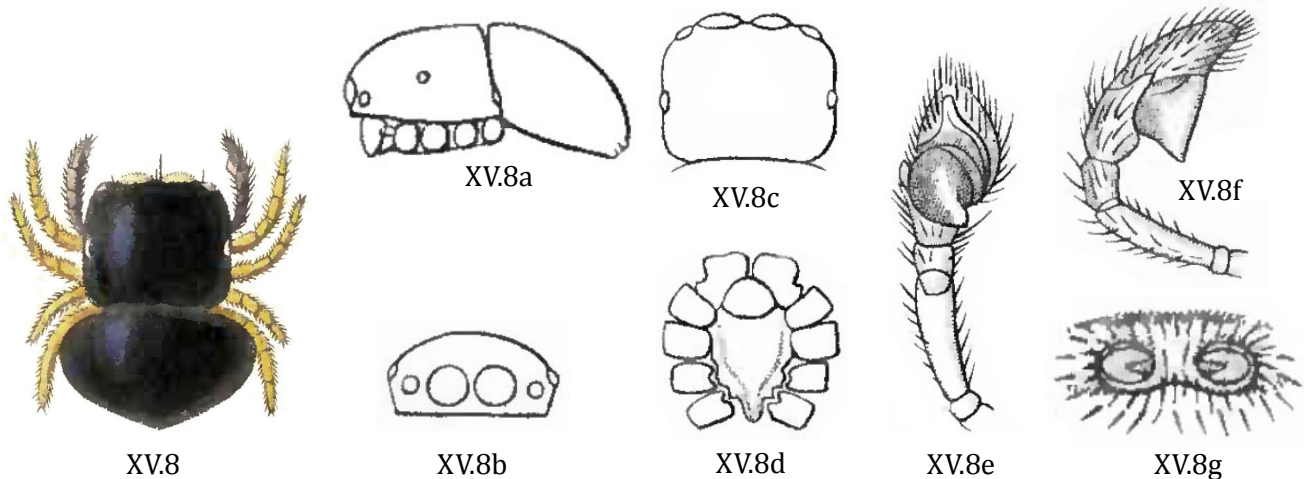


Plate XXV Fig. 8. *Coccorchestes scarabaeoides*, ♂: 8a, profile; 8b, eyes* from in front; 8c, upperside of caput and eyes*; 8d, maxillae, labium, and sternum; 8e, 8f, palpus in two positions; 8g, genital aperture of ♀.

*The minute eye on each side of the intermediate row, in figures 8b and 8c of *Coccorchestes scarabaeoides*, is accidentally omitted.

Adult male, length $\frac{1}{18}$ of an inch, or $\frac{2}{3}$ of a line; *adult female*, length scarcely 1 line.

Cephalothorax nearly quadrate, slightly broader than long, of a uniform convexity above, with none of the ordinary grooves or indentations; hinder slope nearly vertical. Colour black; the surface shining,

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thickly impressed with minute punctures, and thinly clothed with short fine hairs. Looked at in profile, the cephalothorax slopes forward in a uniform curved line from the hinder slope to the eyes.

Eyes very unequal in size, forming a transverse quadrangle on the whole upper surface of the caput, the width of the quadrangle nearly **equalling** double its length (from back to front). The fore-central pair of enormous (comparative) size, almost contiguous; those of the second row nearer to the fore-laterals than to the hind-laterals and very minute.

Legs short, strong, bright orange-yellow, except the femora, which are tinged with brown, furnished with hair and destitute of spines. Their relative length is very difficult to note, 4, 3, 1, 2 or 4, 1, 3, 2, but they appear to differ very little.

Palpi short, dark yellowish-brown, the digital joint furnished with pale greyish hairs; cubital and radial joints very short, but of about equal length; the latter is the strongest and has a small pointed apophysis at its extremity on the outer side. Digital joint rather small, of narrow-oval form; palpal organs simple, but well developed and rather prominent.

Falces rather small, straight, vertical, almost concealed beneath the clypeus, and of a dark brown hue.

Maxillae short, broad at the extremities; colour brown, paler at the extremities.

Labium short, pointed at the apex, brown, the apex paler.

Sternum small, oval, deep black-brown.

Abdomen covered on the upperside with a large, nearly circular, convex, shield-like coriaceous epidermis, of a shining deep steel-blue colour, slightly purple in some lights; impressed with very minute scattered punctures and clothed thinly with very short fine hairs. It is somewhat curvitruncate before, and fits up close over the hinder slope of the cephalothorax, so as to continue the upper convexity of the latter with an even and opposite curve in an unbroken line to the posterior extremity, looking like a single piece. The underside is brown and rugose, with yellowish markings. The spinners are short, compact, of a brownish hue; concealed beneath the upper covering of the abdomen, until turned upside down.

The female resembles the male in form, colours, and general characters.

Hab. Panama, Bugaba (*Champion*).

This curious little Salticid might well be mistaken for a minute beetle or hemipteron. It would be interesting to know whether it has any powers of leaping; the almost uniform length of the legs gives an idea that it is not a jumper.

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*RHANE**, Thorell (fam. Salticidae).

Rhane munda, sp. n. (Tab. XIX. figg. 17, 17a–b, ♀)

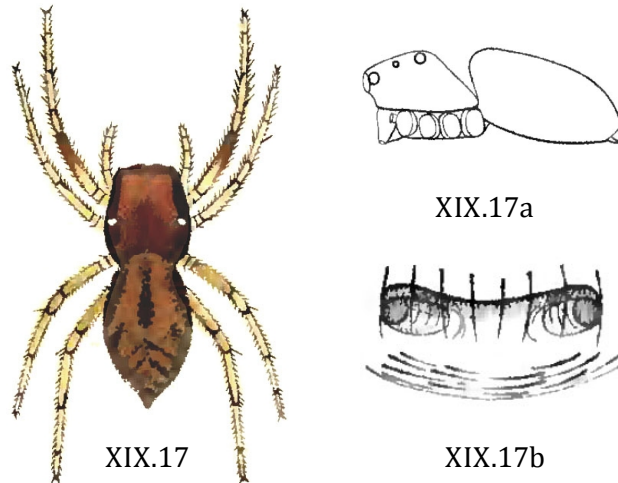


Plate XIX. Fig. 17. *Rhane munda*, ♀: 17a, profile; 17b, genital aperture.

Adult female, length 2 lines; length of cephalothorax $\frac{3}{4}$ of a line.

Cephalothorax distinctly longer than broad, and broadest at the hinder part of the ocular area, which is distinctly broader than long; the posterior slope begins at the hinder row of eyes and declines at the same pitch as the ocular area slopes forwards to the anterior row; looked at in profile, the cephalothorax therefore forms an isosceles triangle, whose obtuse-angled vertex is made by the two slopes. The cephalothorax is dark reddish-brown in colour, thinly clothed with whitish, adpressed, somewhat scale-like hairs, and a few slender prominent bristly hairs on the ocular area.

The *eyes* of the posterior row form a slightly longer line than those of the anterior row, and the second (or intermediate) row is a little the shortest, and rather nearer to the anterior than to the posterior row. The central eyes of the anterior row are double (or more) the size of the laterals, and the clypeus is obsolete. The eyes of the anterior row form a curved line looked at from above and behind, so that a line drawn close behind the centrals would just pass in front of and touch the laterals. The eyes of the posterior row are about two-thirds of the size of the fore-laterals.

The *legs* are short, moderately strong, 4, 1, 2, 3; the femora of the first pair much incrassated. They are of a pale yellow colour; longitudinally marked on the inner side with a more or less well-defined blackish stripe, and also with a blackish macula or incomplete annulus at the extremity of each joint; the femora of the first pair are also strongly tinged with red-brown on the outer side. The legs are thinly clothed with hairs, and armed with a few spines. The latter are beneath the tibiae and metatarsi—tibiae I. three pairs (in two longitudinal rows); metatarsi I. two pairs (in two rows), sometimes an extra spine; tibiae II. two spines in a longitudinal row; metatarsi II. two pairs. Beneath the terminal tarsal claws is a very slight claw-tuft.

Falces small, rather projecting, and of a yellow-brown hue.

Palpi short, slender, yellow.

Maxillae and *labium* similar in colour to the falces.

Sternum narrow-oval, black-brown.

Abdomen oval, obtuse in front, of a darkish brown colour, thinly clothed with short pale hairs, and striped

with pale brownish-yellow. Two longitudinal stripes run along the whole length on the upperside, one on each side of the median line, leaving a brown central stripe a little tapering towards the spinners; on each side, near the posterior extremity, the yellow stripe emits two or three oblique lateral lines of the same colour, these also often combining with some other similar oblique lateral lines; each side of the abdomen has also a slightly oblique yellowish stripe, beginning at the fore extremity and running backwards and downwards, followed by another shorter but more oblique stripe. In some examples the brown colour of the abdomen is broken up into short lines and spots, which give it a much more spotted appearance; in these cases the ground-colour might be described as brownish-yellow and the markings dark brown. The genital aperture is of simple but characteristic form.

Hab. Mexico, Teapa in Tabasco (*H. H. Smith*).

***COCCORCHESTES*, Thorell.**

***Coccorchestes adjacens*, sp. n. (Tab. XX. fig. 4, 4a–c, ♂; two figures labeled 4a, none 4d)**

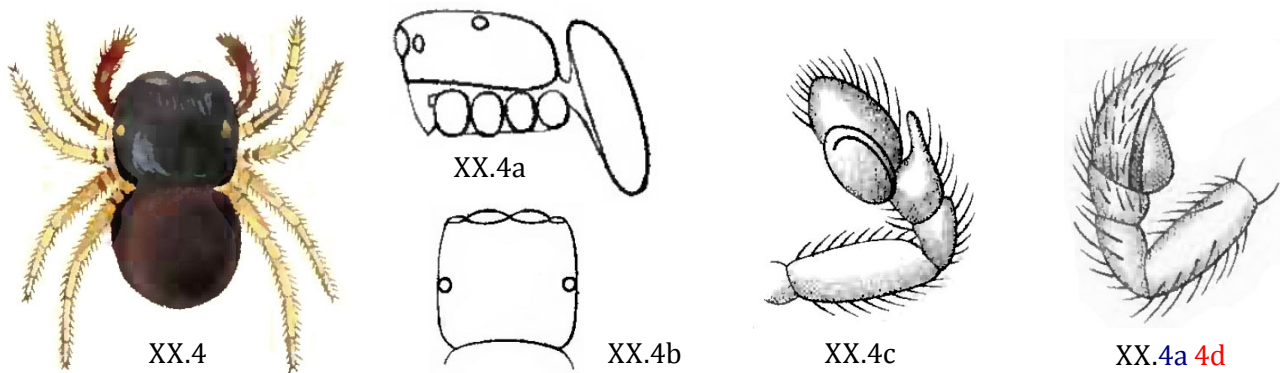


Plate XX. Fig. 4. *Coccorchestes adjacens*, ♂: 4a, profile; 4b, cephalothorax from above and behind; 4c and 4d, palpus in different positions.

Adult male, length a little less than $\frac{2}{3}$ of a line, or $\frac{1}{20}$ of an inch.

In general form and appearance this spider very closely resembles *Coccorchestes scarabaeoides*, Cambr. (*antèa*, p. 121, t. 15. fig. 8). It is, however, smaller, and the cephalothorax is less convex above, and a little narrower in proportion from the front to the line of the hinder slope; the surface also is covered more thickly and evenly with larger pock-marks, and its colour is dark brown and not glossy as in *C. scarabaeoides*, nor has it any trace of the purple reflections often conspicuous in that species. The sides of the caput also have the marginal line, when looked at from above, straighter. The anterior row of eyes is

* The generic name *Rhane* was substituted by Dr. Thorell for *Rhanis*, C. L. Koch, the latter being preoccupied in Coleoptera.

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less curved, and the ocular area is rather narrower, *i. e.* the area included by the two lines of the fore, lateral, and posterior eyes. In *C. scarabaeoides* this line of the posterior eyes comes nearer the line of the hinder slope than that of the fore-lateral eyes, while in the present spider it appears to be exactly halfway between them. The colour of the legs is pale yellow. The palpi have the radial joint shorter than the cubital, and the apophysis at its termination on the outer side is stronger and longer in proportion than in *C. scarabaeoides*. The palpal organs also differ; in the present species they are surrounded by a strongish coiled filiform spine. The upper covering of the abdomen is punctured and black with purple reflections, but not nearly so rich and glossy as in the other species mentioned.

Hab. Mexico, Teapa in Tabasco (*H. H. Smith*).

This very minute Salticid spider is also nearly allied to *C. cupreus*, Sim., as described by G. W. Peckham ('Occasional Papers of the Nat. Hist. Soc. of Wisconsin,' vol. ii. no. 3, p. 169); but Mr. Peckham describes the latter spider as "purple on the thorax," "and brown on the abdomen," whereas these colours in the present spider are exactly reversed. If this is true of M. Simon's type, this disposes of M. Simon's conjecture that my *C. scarabaeoides* and his *C. cupreus* are identical. At any rate, I feel tolerably certain that the present spider is distinct from, though nearly allied to, *C. scarabaeoides*, Cambr.

SIMONELLA, Peckham.

Simonella decipiens, sp. n. (Tab. XIX. figg. 15, 15a–c, ♂; 16, 16a–b, ♀)

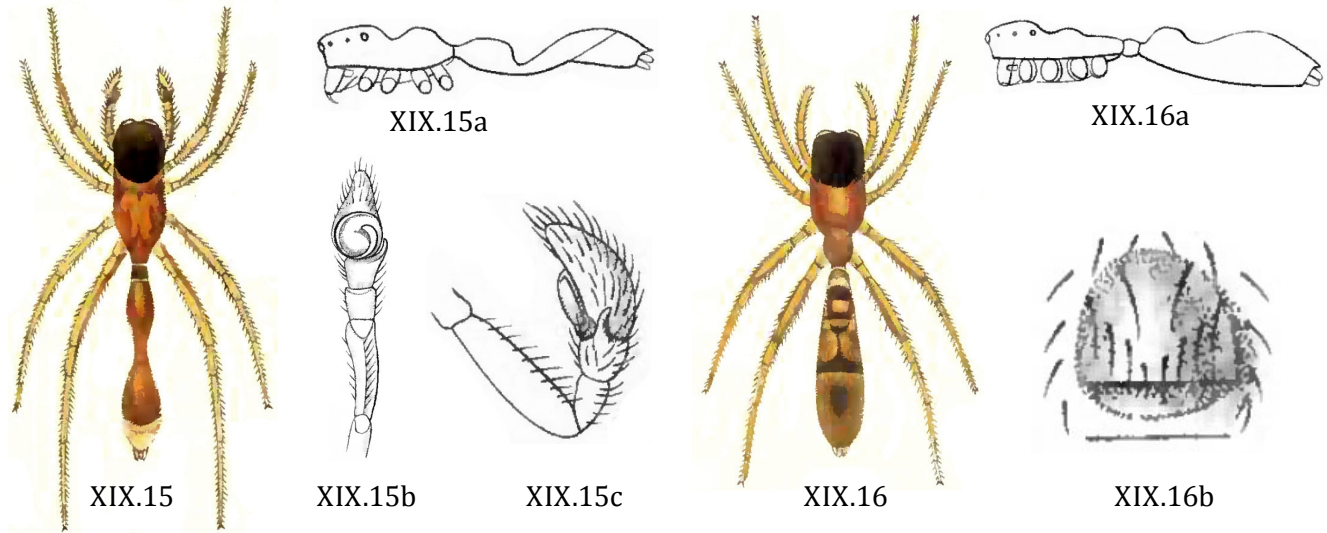


Plate XIX. Fig. 15. *Simonella decipiens*, ♂: 15a, profile; 15b and 15c, palpus in two positions. Fig. 16. *Simonella decipiens*, ♀: 16a, profile; 16b, genital aperture.

Adult male, length $2\frac{1}{2}$ lines; *adult female*, length very nearly 3 lines.

The male is entirely of a dull orange-yellow-brown colour, except the posterior extremity of the abdomen, which is pale yellowish; the caput is black, the limits of this colour being well defined and not encroaching at all on the thorax; between the caput and thorax is a very strong transverse constriction, and a slighter one near the abdomen. The legs are slender, and not very long, 4, 3, 2, 1; the tibiae of the first pair have a black longitudinal line on the inner side. The fore part of the abdomen is connected with the hinder part by a long narrow constricted neck, which enlarges to an oval-shaped hinder extremity. The fore part, as well as the greater part of the hinder extremity, is covered with a kind of chitinous skin. The whole spider's form is thus very narrow, elongate, nodose, and more than usually formiciform. The abdomen of the male has no markings on it, but on that of the female there are several transverse patches on the upperside; the two on the anterior part are dusky yellow-brown, one just behind the constriction is narrow but blackish, well defined, and with a prominent point at the middle of its fore margin, and behind this is another dusky patch narrowing to a point near the spinners. The posterior constriction of the cephalothorax of the female is stronger than that in the male, but that of the abdomen is in the female but slight, the form of this part in that sex being elongate-oval with a slight constriction near the middle, and the upperside of its anterior extremity is covered by a smooth chitinous patch. The palpi of the male are short; the cubital is rather shorter than the radial joint, which has a number of strong hairs on its inner side, and a short obtusely pointed apophysis at its extremity on the outer side; they are yellow-brown in colour, the digital joint darkest, and its length is more than equal to the radial and cubital joints together; the palpal organs are simple, with a black filiform spine round their inner side close to the margin of the joint.

Hab. Mexico, Teapa in Tabasco (*H. H. Smith*).

This spider is nearly allied to *S. americana*, Peckh., but is even more ant-like in its general appearance, and differs in colours and markings, the black caput being better defined, and the male being without any markings on the abdomen.

To show the close resemblance of this spider to an insect of the hymenopterous

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order, Mr. H. H. Smith enclosed with it a specimen of an ant beaten from the same bushes on which the spiders were found. No other connection than that of this resemblance appears to have been noted.

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