

BIOLOGIA CENTRALI-AMERICANA.

ZOOLOGIA.

Class ARACHNIDA.

Order SCORPIONES.

Key to the Families of Central-American Scorpions.

- a.* Legs furnished with a single pedal spur on the anterior side of the arthrodistal membrane connecting the tarsus and protarsus. Sternum pentagonal; the two halves of the genital operculum united in the female SCORPIONIDÆ.
- a*¹. No subaculear tooth on caudal vesicle Subfam. ISCHNURINÆ.
- b*¹. A distinct subaculear tooth on the caudal vesicle Subfam. DIPLOCENTRINÆ.
- b.* Legs with a pair of pedal spurs between the tarsus and protarsus; the two halves of the genital operculum separated in both sexes.
- a*². Sternum with parallel or subparallel sides, pentagonal; the pedal spurs simple, unbranched; immovable finger of mandible without an inferior tooth VÆJOVIDÆ.
- b*². Sternum triangular, with anteriorly converging sides; anterior pedal spur bifid; immovable finger of mandible with one inferior tooth BUTHIDÆ.

Fam. SCORPIONIDÆ.

Subfam. ISCHNURINÆ.

OPISTHACANTHUS.

Opisthacanthus, Peters, MB. Ak. Wiss. Berlin, 1861, p. 511; Thorell, Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. (4) xvii. p. 11 (1876); Pocock, Journ. Linn. Soc., Zool. xxiv. p. 397 (1893); Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. (6) xvii. p. 312 (1896); Kraepelin, Jahrb. Hamb. Wiss. Anst. xi. p. 118 (1894) (part.); Das Tierr., Scorpiones et Pedipalpi, p. 146 (1899).

Opisthocentrus, Pocock, Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. (6) xii. p. 316 (1893).

Carapace deeply excised anteriorly, longitudinally sulcate throughout; ocular tubercle subcentral; three lateral eyes on each side. *Tail* thin, compressed, rather short. *Chelæ* robust, the brachium armed at the base in front with a large tooth-like prominence; upperside of the hand divided by a strong crest into two areas, the external of which is nearly vertical and meets the internal horizontal area at an obtuse or a right angle, the vertical area separated by a strong keel from the underhand, which is completely