

The first two pairs of legs are considerably the strongest, and the second pair is much longer than the fourth. The eyes of the hind central pair are almost contiguous to each other.

The *palpi* are short; the palpal bulb is large; the palpal organs are prominent, tolerably complex, with spines and corneous processes; and the digital joint has a strong, deep, black-bistre-brown, curved, tapering, but obtusely pointed, corneous process at its base on the outer side.

Hab. GUATEMALA, Saviexpúr, between Dolores and Chapallal, Cahabon (*Sarg*).

Females and immature males, and one adult male, were found by Mr. Sarg near Dolores and at Saviexpúr; females also at Cahabon. Count Keyserling thinks this species should be placed in the genus *Nephila*; but after careful consideration it seems to me not to differ generically from *Epeira*, and to lack the chief characteristics of *Nephila*.

***Epeira passiva*, sp. n.**

Adult female, length 2 lines.

The *cephalothorax* has the thoracic portion much elevated, with a long slope to the eyes and a very abrupt posterior slope; its colour, as also that of the falcēs, legs, palpi, sternum, and labium, is a bright orange-yellow, the tibiae and tarsi in some examples being slightly clouded with dusky. The cephalothorax is bisected by a dusky blackish longitudinal line, which is strongest near the hind central eyes.

The *eyes* are of moderate size, in three well, but not very widely, separated groups, forming a narrow transverse-oval figure, removed from the lower margin of the clypeus by scarcely a fore central eye's diameter. The four central eyes form a square, the hinder pair being slightly the largest; the eyes of each lateral pair are very small, contiguous to each other, and seated a little obliquely on a small tubercle.

The *legs* are rather short, tolerably strong, tapering, and armed, chiefly on the tibiae and metatarsi, with longish strong black spines. The relative length of the legs is apparently 1, 2, 4, 3, but the difference is not very great.

The *sternum* in some examples has a dusky blackish border, and the *maxillæ* and *labium* are sometimes suffused with the same hue.

The *abdomen* is of a rather elongate-oval form, somewhat bluntly pointed at its fore extremity, which projects greatly over the thorax. It is of a yellowish-brown colour above and on the sides, and of a paler hue underneath; the upperside has a long, somewhat oblong-shaped longitudinal black marking, reaching from near its fore extremity (where it is somewhat pointed) to a little above the spinners, where it is truncated. Near the fore extremity of this black marking are two rather long, slightly curved, oblique, divergent or opposed, white stripes, and behind this, towards the spinners, are one or two transverse pairs of white spots. In one or two examples the black marking is bordered with white spots or broken patches; in some others the black marking is of a dark yellow-brown, bordered and crossed transversely with black. The sides of the abdomen are marked more or less conspicuously with irregular longitudinal white and black markings; and on the underside, on each side near the spinners, is a small bright white spot. The spinners are short, compact, black, and immediately above them is a series of transverse folds of the epidermis, decreasing in size to almost a point; close above them the last three of these folds look like a sort of segmented flap or continuation of the abdominal cuticle. The genital process is very small and inconspicuous.

Hab. GUATEMALA, Cahabon, San Juan Chamelco, Tactic, on the upper road to Chichocho, Laguna de los Coheteros, Coban (*Sarg*).

Specimens in Mr. Sarg's Guatemalan collection are labelled as from Cahabon (spinning a circular web on bushes), Coban, San Juan Chamelco, and other localities above mentioned. A note of Mr. Sarg's says: "The cephalothorax burnt-sienna-red, legs the same; abdomen burnt-sienna with a large patch of sepia down the centre, the markings on this Roman ochre;" this shows how little the colour of specimens preserved in spirit can be depended upon. All the examples received are females.