

margin, and clothed with grey hairs; the central pale stripe is narrow, and the thorax is gibbous above on each side at the beginning of the posterior slope. Near the fore extremity of the abdomen is a large black patch bordered with white irregular spots; the posterior slope (in one example) is black, with two or three pairs of white spots placed transversely—in another example it is dusky brown, with two longitudinal nearly parallel diffused whitish stripes from the prominences at the top to just above the spinners; the sides are either dusky or black, with two slightly oblique curved lines. The transverse lip in front of the infra-mamillary organ is present. The genital aperture is also characteristically different from that of *Uloborus signatus*.

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

ARGIOPE, Savigny.

Argiope blanda, sp. n.

Adult male, length $1\frac{3}{4}$ lines.

Cephalothorax of normal form; pale yellow in colour, clothed with short grey hairs, and with a broad longitudinal band of dark brown on each side, leaving a central band of yellow, narrowest at the occiput, broadening each way, and bifid at the anterior extremity, behind the ocular area, and a broadish marginal yellow band at the thorax.

Eyes normal; interval between the fore-centrals much greater than between each and the fore-lateral next to it.

Legs moderate in length and strength, 1, 4, 2, 3, armed with distinct, but not numerous, spines. Colour dark brown; the tarsi pale yellow-brown, and the posterior sides of the femora of the second pair yellow.

Palpi short, yellow; radial and cubital joints very short; digital joint large, brown; palpal organs highly developed, prominent, complex, with characteristic spiny processes, whose exact form can only be given by figures.

Falces rather weak; deep blackish-brown in colour, with a pale yellowish patch towards their extremity on the inner side.

Sternum black-brown, with a large, well-defined, yellow marking, trifold at its hinder extremity and very like a *fleur-de-lis* reversed.

Abdomen oval, slightly truncate before, blunt-pointed behind; whitish-yellow in colour, and furnished with a few long bristly hairs; a large brown subtriangular area occupies the posterior two-thirds of the upper-side, its lateral margins dentate, black, and with curved indentations, the anterior portion or base of the triangle being less dark-coloured than the rest. The sides of the abdomen are marked with longitudinal and oblique black lines; the underside is black (or pale, thickly marked with black) with a white margin, at the middle of which on each side is a strong, sharply defined, tooth-like dentation; sometimes (in immature specimens of both sexes) the two dentations meet in the middle and form an angular bar.

The female (immature) resembles the male, excepting that the legs have more yellow about them, and that on each side of the abdomen towards the hinder extremity is a small conical prominence, and another at the hinder extremity itself.

Hab. GUATEMALA, Santa Ana (*Sarg*).

GEA, C. L. Koch.

Gea prædicta, sp. n.

Adult male, length rather less than 2 lines.

Cephalothorax large; thorax very rounded; caput short, narrow; lateral marginal impressions at the caput strong. Colour yellow-brown, closely reticulated with dark brown, paler on the margins of the thorax. Surface clothed thinly with short grey hairs.

Eyes occupying the whole width of the fore extremity of the caput; posterior row much the longest and greatly curved, the convexity of the curve directed backwards; anterior row with a very slight curve, but similarly directed; central quadrangle longer than broad, and its anterior a little shorter than its posterior side;