

directed backwards, and its central pair of eyes rather further from each other than from the hind-laterals. Central quadrangle as broad as long, and its anterior side slightly longer than the posterior. Those of each lateral pair are separated from each other by the diameter of the hind-lateral eye. Fore-laterals smallest of the eight. The height of the clypeus slightly exceeds the diameter of one of the fore-central eyes.

*Legs* moderately long, not greatly differing in length, 4, 1, 2, 3, slender; claw-tuft and scopula absent; spines almost only beneath the tibiae and metatarsi of the first and second pairs, where they are arranged in pairs.

*Falces* rather long, powerful, subconical, prominent at their base in front.

*Maxillae* short, strong, broadest near their extremity, where they are truncate, rounded on the inner side, and rather inclined towards the labium.

*Labium* short, much broader than high, the sides curving to the apex, which is rather flat or truncate.

*Sternum* oval, hollow-truncate at its fore end, and slightly drawn out at its hinder end, which is truncate and only divided by a suture from the fore extremity of the coriaceous pedicle connecting the cephalothorax and abdomen. This pedicle is cylindric and of moderate length, and runs into a strong, chitinous, transversely and deeply rugulose sheath, which increases in size to the plates of the spiracles and genital aperture, with which it coalesces; just behind the posterior end of this sheath, on the upperside of the abdomen, are two strongish, curved, prominent spines, each issuing from a strongish tubercle in a transverse line just at the beginning of the abdomen, which last is short, round-oval, rather broader behind than in front; and on the fore half of the upperside is a large, convex, shining, smooth, coriaceous plate, rounded at its posterior extremity.

### **Mazax spinosa, sp. n.**

*Adult female*, rather more than 2 lines in length.

*Cephalothorax* deep yellowish-brown, thinly covered with short, grey-white, squamose hairs.

*Legs* dull orange-yellow, those of the first two pairs rather palest; femora much clouded and marked with black or black-brown; the tibiae of the fourth pair have a broad black-brown annulus towards their fore extremity, the greater part of the metatarsi of the same pair being also black-brown; the genuae of the third and fourth pairs are also much clouded with the same colour. The spines under the tibiae of the first and second pairs are in three pairs, under the metatarsi in two pairs.

*Palpi* rather long, blackish-brown, and furnished with hairs and a few spines.

*Falces* dark yellow-brown.

*Maxillae* and *labium* black-brown, whitish at their extremities.

*Sternum* deep yellow-brown.

Connecting pedicle and sheath rich deep brown.

*Abdomen* black, thinly covered with hairs, of which some are white and squamose; the coriaceous plate on the fore part of the upperside is deep brown, and has also a few white squamose hairs on it. The genital aperture is inconspicuous but of characteristic form; when quite uninjured the white squamose hairs would probably form transverse lines, of which there are still traces on the sides of the abdomen.

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

This spider is of considerable interest. Being very doubtful as to its position, I submitted it to M. Simon, who refers the species to the genus *Micaria*, of which the type is *M. fulgens*, Walck.; but as it appears to me to differ from this in every essential generic character, and to find no place elsewhere, I have formed a new genus for it. *M. spinosa* is undoubtedly closely allied to, but distinct from, *Myrmecotypus*, Cambr. (antea, p. 123, t. 18. figg. 6, 6 a-d), which M. Simon includes as synonymous with *Apochinomma*, Pavesi—whether rightly or wrongly I cannot say, as I have not seen an example of this latter; but M. Simon's description of that genus appears to differ in several important respects from *Myrmecotypus*.