

those of the majority of the Mygalomorphæ, and offer an interesting illustration of the general similarity in form and structure which spiders of similar habit often exhibit. The Dipluridæ, especially the genera *Ischnothele*, *Euagrus*, *Diplura*, *Melodæus*, &c., with habits very similar to those of the Agelenidæ and Podophthalmidæ, are themselves, too, exceedingly similar in general character. We have the long spinners for weaving the broad sheet of web at the entrance of the burrow, the same excessive rapidity of movement, and, what is more curious, a very similar plan of coloration on the abdomen. At first sight, to one accustomed to the habits of the Agelenidæ in Europe, *Ischnothele* and *Podophthalmus* would be at once supposed to belong to this family, so strikingly alike are they in the nature of their web and tube, their elongate form, and in the character of their movements.

The family is very poorly represented amongst the forms from Central America, viz. by two species of *Euagrus*, four of *Ischnothele*, and one of *Fufius*. That this is anything like a fair representation of the family as actually existing in that region cannot be admitted for a moment, and future collectors will be able to add numbers of species and perhaps genera to this very interesting group.

The Central-American Dipluridæ belong to two subfamilies, which may be thus characterized:—

- A. Protarsi and tarsi i. and ii. more or less scopulate. Tarsi not spinose beneath. Denticles of superior tarsal claws in a double series. Anterior spinners separated by two diameters of one of them at the base. DIPLURINÆ.
- B. Protarsi and tarsi i. and ii. not scopulate. Tarsi more or less spinose beneath. Denticles of superior tarsal claws in a single series. Anterior spinners separated at the base by at least the length of one spinner ISCHNOTHELINÆ.

Subfam. *DIPLURINÆ*.

FUFIOUS.

Fufius, E. Simon, Ann. Soc. Ent. Fr. 1888, p. 213.

This interesting genus is distributed throughout Central America and the northern regions of South America, different forms occurring in Guatemala, Bolivia, and the Lower Amazons.

Closely allied forms, possibly not congeneric with those of the Neotropical region, are found in Madagascar according to Lenz, and in Australia according to L. Koch*.

* M. Simon (Hist. Nat. Araign. éd. 2, i. p. 180) refers all these forms to the single genus *Hapalothele*, Lenz, which is based on *H. varia* (L. Koch), from Fort Bowen, described under *Ixalus* (a preoccupied name, for which *Ixamadus* has been substituted by M. Simon). Whether the Madagascan, Oceanian, and Neotropical forms are really congeneric or not I am not in a position to judge, but prefer to keep to the older distinctions offered under the generic names *Hapalothele* for those of Oceania and Madagascar, and *Fufius* for those of America.