

female of Emerton's *E. parvula*, and with many examples in our collection. The striking variety, in which the abdomen presents a large shield-shaped brown patch in the centre, characteristic also of *E. scutigera*, O. P.-Cambr., occurs amongst Keyserling's examples. The abdomen varies very much in colour.

Emerton was the first author who assigned a male to the species, in connection with any recognizable characters, and his figure of the palpus proves that the examples thus named by him are identical also with those which I find in the collection of Keyserling, who, however, did not characterize them when he described *E. parvula*. Several males exhibiting similar marks of distinction occur in our Central-American material in company with females which I refer to *E. anastera*.

It is evidently a very abundant species. H. H. Smith remarks:—"Swarms on low growth in the cacao-plantations and in shady woods everywhere; frequently a hundred or more may be seen in the space of a square yard, under and on the top of the leaves. They were found spinning a perpendicular, geometrical, orb-web of 5-7 inches in diameter."

4. *Eustala bifida*, sp. n. (Tab. XLVIII. figg. 9, 9 *a-c*, ♂; 10, 10 *a-c*, ♀.)

Type ♂, gynetype ♀, in coll. Godman & Salvin. Total length, ♂ 6, ♀ 10 millim.

♂. Colour similar to that of the ♀ (see below). Palpus: the tarsal hook is dilate, but in a less bilobate form than in *E. guttata*; the clavis has no cavity at its base on the inner side, merely a small, elongate apophysis, which bears a few hairs at its apex; the conductor is short, broadly rounded at its apex, and studded with setæ; the uncus is much dilated at its base, the point coming out from beneath the more or less transverse basal portion; the embolus is broad, spatuliform at its apex, and the apical sclerite of the bulb is only moderately setose or cuspluate.

♀. Colour very variable: carapace dull orange, mottled with brown; legs dull orange, the apical half of the femora brown, the other segments mottled and annulated with brown; sternum brown, with a large yellow central patch; abdomen dull yellow-white, with a large brown dentate central folium, the sides mottled with brown, the ventral area brown, with a white central elongate blotch. Central quadrangle of eyes as wide behind as, or slightly wider (in the male slightly narrower) than, in front. Abdomen bifid behind, exhibiting two conical tubercles. Vulva characteristic, the scapus being short, broad dorsally, and attenuate apically; the horseshoe-shaped portion broad and widely open anteriorly, the orifices marked by very prominent, shining, black tubercles, two and a half diameters apart, the area being deeply and broadly furrowed longitudinally in the middle. Viewed laterally, the tubercles are much more prominent than in the other species here described.

Hab. COSTA RICA, San José (*Tristan*).

This form appears to be quite distinct, and it can be distinguished from the other species of the genus by its large size, the shape of the uncus of the palpus in the male, and by that of the vulva in the female. *E. conchlea*, McCook, from California and Florida, seems to be an allied species; it is a large form, and has one tubercle on the apex of the abdomen. The female of *E. clavispinia* is also bituberculate at the apex of the abdomen, but it can readily be distinguished by the nature of the spines and the form of the vulva.