

- b*⁸. Abdomen with six or eight spines.
- a*⁹. Abdomen with six spines, sometimes also with a pair of very minute spinules at the base of the posterior dorsal spine, behind. Sternum not markedly convex. *sagittata*, Walck.
- b*⁹. Abdomen with eight spines. Sternum very convex. *gladiola*, Walck.
- ii. Abdomen without a pair of anterior marginal spines.
- a*¹⁰. Abdomen not itself apically bifid.
- a*¹¹. Apex of abdomen with a single pair of longer or shorter spines, a single stout one at each angle.
- a*¹². Two abdominal spines only. *bimucronata*, O. P.-Cambr.
- b*¹². Four to six abdominal spines.
- a*¹³. Four abdominal spines only. *catenulata*, sp. n.
- b*¹³. Six abdominal spines. *obtusospina*, Keyserl.
- b*¹¹. Apex of abdomen bearing two pairs of comparatively very short spines.
- a*¹⁴. Upper posterior spine always larger than the lower. . . *patruelis*, C. L. Koch.
- b*¹⁴. Upper posterior spine not larger than the lower. . . *mitrata*, Hentz.
- b*¹⁰. Abdomen itself apically bifid. *furcula*, O. P.-Cambr.

NOTE.—The males and females of *M. fericula* are not fully mature, and their characters do not therefore appear in the Table. *M. mitrata*, Hentz (♂), is not known to me.

1. *Micrathena gracilis*. (Tab. L. figg. 3, 3 *a-d*, ♀; Tab. LI. figg. 16, 16 *a*, ♂.)

Epeira gracilis, Walck. Tabl. des Aran. p. 65 (♀) ¹.

Plectana gracilis, Walck. Ins. Apt. ii. p. 193 (♀) ²; Abbot, Georgian Spiders, nos. 47, 48 (♀) ³.

Acrosoma gracile, McCook, Amer. Spid. iii. p. 212, t. 21. figg. 1-3 (♀), 4, 4 *a-c* (♂) ⁴.

Acrosoma matronale, C. L. Koch, Die Arachn. xi. p. 68, t. 176. fig. 887 (♀) ⁵.

Micrathena matronalis, E. Simon, Hist. Nat. Araign. édit. 2, i. p. 852, fig. 102 (♀) ⁶.

Epeira rugosa, Hentz, Journ. Bost. Soc. Nat. Hist. vi. p. 21, t. 3. figg. 10, 10 *a* (♀), 10 *b* (♂) ⁷;

Spid. U.S. (ed. Burgess) p. 124, t. 14. figg. 10, 10 *a* (♀), 10 *b* (♂) ⁸.

Acrosoma rugosa, Emerton, Trans. Conn. Acad. Sci. vi. p. 326, t. 38. fig. 10 (♀) ⁹; Banks, Proc.

Calif. Acad. Sci. (3) i. p. 250 ¹⁰.

Type, ♀, = fig. 47, Abbot's Georg. Spiders, North America. Total length 10 millim.

♀. Carapace deeply indented between the cephalic and thoracic areas. Central quadrangle of eyes slightly wider behind, central posterior eyes less than one diameter apart, central anteriors about half a diameter apart, laterals almost in contact. Clypeus equal to two diameters of the anterior central eyes. Femora of legs densely granulose with setigerous tubercles; patellæ feebly dilate behind. Sternum with a slight convex boss opposite the coxæ of legs i., ii., iii., produced posteriorly to form a conical convexity, which does not lie *between* the coxæ iv., but terminates in front of them, although the sternal chitin is continued on to the pedicle. Fang-groove with four teeth above, three below.

Abdomen broad oval-triangular (seen from above), very deep, owing to the developed tube containing the spinners (seen in profile); the integument is closely punctured throughout with minute pits; the dorsal margin has five subequal, similar, stout spines, which are basally broad on each side, the third having a conspicuous basal dilatation behind; the vulval scapus is narrow and elongate, having a large apical cavity on each side.

♂. Carapace elongate, narrowed behind, cephalic region globular, margins punctured, central fovea and three lateral foveæ punctiform.