

ART. XXVI.—Description of a New Species of *Argiope*, from
Fiji.

By A. T. URQUHART.

[Read before the Auckland Institute, 14th October, 1889.]

Fam. EPEIRIDÆ.

Gen. *Argiope*, Sav. et Aud.

Argiope leuco-picta, sp. nov.

Female.—Ceph.-th., long, 8; broad, 7; facial index, 2.5. Abd., long, 14; broad, 9. Legs, 1, 2, 4, 3 = 36, 33, 30, 21 mm.

Cephalothorax olive-brown, tinted with slate-colour, margined by an interrupted yellowish band; ocular area reddish-brown; fairly clothed with silky, white, adpressed hairs; length equals the tibial joint of a leg of 1st pair; pars cephalica somewhat aplanate, sides moderately rounded, lateral index 1.8mm.; eye-eminence projects forwards; pars thoracica depressedly convex, sides well rounded; fovea somewhat circular, large and moderately deep; radial and caput striæ well defined; profile-contour rises rather abruptly from thoracic junction, dips into median fovea, slopes forwards across the cephalic part with a slight curve; depth of *clypeus* equals diameter and a half of a fore-central eye.

Eyes on small black rings; posterior row slightly recurved; median pair separated by an interval exceeding their diameter and one-half, about twice that distance from fore-centrals, perceptibly more than their space from lateral eyes of same row; anterior row strongly recurved, centrals perceptibly larger than hind pair, placed slightly nearer to one another; their space from lateral eyes, which are rather smaller than posterior centrals, posited obliquely on a common tubercle, three-fourths their breadth from one another.

Legs yellowish olive-brown, femora clouded and irregularly annulated with a greenish dark chocolate-brown; patellæ suffused with a dark tinge; tibiæ and metatarsi have three broad, not well-defined, annuli of the normal colour; legs strong, each femur is equal in length to the patella and tibia, and the two latter articles equal the metatarsus and tarsus; superior tarsal claws—1st pair rather coarse, 6 teeth increasing in length and strength, 3 basal close; free end bent, enlarged near base; inferior claw stronger than superior, rather sharply bent, apex curved outwards; first tooth long.

Palpi brownish-yellow, broken brown annuli; length 9.5; humeral joint in length is equal to the cubital and radial

together; two latter articles equal to digital joint; armature sparse fine hairs, numerous bristles, especially on penultimate and terminal joints; palpal claw 8 teeth, 2 basal small, 6 open teeth; free end bent forwards, base enlarged.

Falces brownish-yellow, base suffused with olive-green, apex light-brown; vertical, somewhat conical, project at base in front; length 3mm., breadth exceeds one-half length.

Maxilla dark chocolate-brown, apices yellowish on inner side; spathulate, rather longer than broad, directed towards each other.

Labium dark chocolate-brown, yellowish apex; rather broader than long, roundly pointed, moderately everted.

Sternum dark chocolate-brown; central mark yellowish, undulating, acuminate; cordate; eminences opposite coxæ well developed.

Abdomen oviform, about as deep as broad, slightly convex above, projects forwards and upwards over base of cephalothorax; displays a tubercular eminence in front; from the somewhat pointed prominence at posterior end the abdomen dips abruptly inwards to spinners; lateral margins corrugated; humeral processes moderately developed, rounded, directed upwards and outwards, placed rather close together and somewhat forward; the integument, with the exception of a large stone-coloured somewhat circular patch on fore-part, extending backwards to base of humeral processes, has a soft velvety appearance, is of a rich-brown colour, clouded with a deeper hue (appears nearly black to the unaided eye); the darker portions sparsely clothed with erect black hairs, and the stone-coloured pattern with silky, white, adpressed hairs; dorsal field elongate-oval, moderately constricted in centre, defined by a series of spots; basal half enclosed by six spots; anterior pair rather large, lunulate, partially encircle humeral processes on outer side; four hind spots much smaller, somewhat similar in form; posterior half bordered by more or less connected dots; on fore-half is a pincer-shaped figure, formed by two short parallel lines extending from anterior pair of impressed spots to stone-coloured area, between them is a pale spot; diverging backwards from near the latter are two lines thickening and curving inwardly above the second pair of impressed spots; six dots occur between the latter spot and posterior end of the oval field, four form a quadrilateral figure at the constriction, two midway between them and posterior end of dorsal field; on lateral margins are two interrupted lines, following the contour of the median area—upper defined by a series of somewhat elongated dots, second row chiefly formed by three moderately-curved marks; few interrupted oblique lines converge towards spinners; sides and ventral surface olive-green tinge; shield bordered by a broken, undulating, stone-coloured

line; eight dots form a double row in centre. *Corpus vulvæ* reddish-brown, yellow spot at either end; more than twice as broad as long; centrally prolonged into a short, obtuse projection; lateral margins curve inwardly, terminate in somewhat oval shallow concavities; a moderately broad septum intersects two shallow pyriform foveæ.

This handsome species, which is, as far as I am able to ascertain, new to science, was kindly communicated to me by P. Goyen, Esq., of Dunedin.

ART. XXVII.—On Two Species of Aranea new to Science, from the Jenolan Caves, New South Wales.

By A. T. URQUHART.

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Plate XVI.

Fam. THERIDIIDÆ.

Gen. *Linyphia*, Latr.

Linyphia weburdi, sp. nov. Plate XVI., fig. 2.

Female.—Ceph.-th., long, 1. Abd., long, 1.2. Legs, 1, 4-2, 3.

Cephalothorax fulvous, radii faint-black; few black bristle-like hairs; areolate; oval, lateral constriction at caput slight; pars cephalica convex, somewhat squarely truncated; pars thoracica convex, fovea large, oval; striæ faint; profile-contour slopes backwards, with a slight double arch, at a moderate angle, to thoracic junction; *clypeus* convex, directed forwards, depth exceeds one-half facial space.

Eyes pearl-grey, posited on dark rings; of tolerable and nearly equal size, except the fore-centrals, which are much the smallest of the eight; posterior row procurved, median pair perceptibly the largest, separated from each other by an interval visibly exceeding an eye's diameter; more than that space from laterals of same row; anterior row slightly recurved; centrals placed about their diameter apart; separated from side-eyes by an interval scarcely equalling their space; laterals seated obliquely, about their radius from one another, on moderate tubercular eminences.

Legs yellowish-amber colour; long, slender, of nearly equal length; first pair, 5mm.; hairs black, fine; bristles sparse; femoral joints of two first pairs armed with spines; patellæ have one long spine; strongish long spines on tibiæ; single spine on metatarsi.