

STUDIES IN AUSTRALIAN ARANEIDÆ.

No. 2.

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(Figures 26-31.)

The present paper contains descriptions of three interesting spiders, two of which were presented to the Trustees of the Australian Museum by Mr. J. J. Walker, R.N., and one by my colleague, Mr. Chas. Hedley. Those collected by the first-named gentleman are from Western Australia, and that by Mr. Hedley from Mornington Island, the largest island of the Wellesley Group, Gulf of Carpentaria.

Family ARGIOPIDÆ.

Genus *Araneus*, Walck.

(= *Epeira*, auct.)

ARANEUS EXSERTUS¹, sp. nov.

(Figs. 26, 27.)

Female: *Cephalothorax*, 3.2 mm. long, 2.6 mm. broad; *abdomen*, 6.7 mm. long, 4.2 mm. broad.

Cephalothorax longer than broad, arched, sides and caput dark brown, median area grey; the whole clothed with grey hairs.

Pars cephalica arched, terminating in front with a tubercular ocular eminence. *Pars thoracica* strongly arched, deeply furrowed at centre, radial grooves partially hidden by grey hairs. *Marginal band* broad.

Eyes.—Black. The four comprising the median group are elevated on a prominent tubercular eminence, and form a square or nearly so; of these the anterior pair are slightly the largest, and are separated from each other by a space equal to nearly twice their individual diameter; the posterior pair are separated from their anterior neighbours by a space equal to one and a half their individual diameter, and again from each

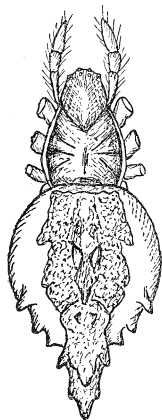


Fig. 26.
Araneus exsertus.

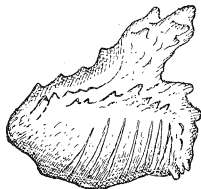


Fig. 27.
A. exsertus.
Abdomen, profile.

¹ *Exsertus*—Stretched out. So named in reference to the large abdominal tubercle.