Peckham, G. W. & E. G. Peckham. 1892. Ant-like spiders of the family Attidae. Occ. Pap. nat. Hist. Soc. Wiscons. 2(1): 24-25.

Myrmarachne augusta (Peckham & Peckham, 1892)

SALTICUS AUGUSTUS N. SP.

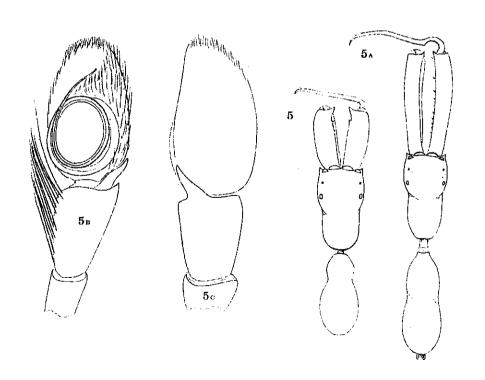
- Pl. I., Fig. 5, male; 5a, variety of male having long falces; 5b and 5c, male palpus.
 - 3. Total length, 6 mm.; falces, max., 3 mm.; min., 2.4 mm.

Cephalothorax: Length, 2.5 mm.; width, 1.2 mm. Legs, 4132; femur I enlarged.

1st leg longer than 2d by tarsus and metatarsus.

4th leg longer than 3d by tarsus and metatarsus.

Palpus not palette-shaped, as is usual in Salticus.



Cephalothorax moderately high, with a marked constriction behind dorsal eyes. Cephalic part a little higher than thoracic. Quadrangle of eyes one-quarter wider than long, a little wider behind than in front, occupying a little more than one-third of Anterior eyes in a row which is somewhat cephalothorax. curved downward, subtouching; middle a little more than twice as large as lateral eyes. Clypeus one-fifth as high as middle Second row plainly nearer first than third row. in one variety long, slender and rounded, in the other shorter and wider and more triangular in transverse section; in both varieties they are horizontal and parallel. Lip longer than wide. Coxe I separated by less than width of lip. Sternum long, very narrow, contracted at both ends. Pedicle long. Abdomen cylindrical, with constriction in anterior third. Tibia of palpus nearly as long as tarsus.

We have a long and a short variety of this species; in the short, the fang of the falx is nearly straight; in the long it has a bend at the insertion and a curve in the middle; the teeth, also, are different. The difference shown in the drawing between the abdomens of the two varieties is probably caused by a contraction of the smaller one in alcohol.

Color. Cephalothorax black, with a white band at the constriction and some white hairs around the eyes. Abdomen glossy black, especially the posterior portion, with a white band at the constriction. Legs light brown, excepting the femoral joints, which are dark. Falces, palpi and under surface, dark brown.

Habitat. Madagascar.

We have three males of this genus from Madagascar—simplex, augustus and electricus. Of these, simplex is much the largest and heaviest. Augustus has the tibia of the palpus nearly as long as the tarsus, while the other two species have it only about one-third as long.