

Butler, A. G. 1879. On Arachnida from the Mascarene Islands and Madagascar. Proc. zool. Soc. Lond. 1879: 733-734.

PYRESTHESIS, n. gen. (*Thomisidæ*)<sup>1</sup>.

Apparently nearest to *Loxobates*, Thorell.

Length of cephalothorax rather greater than the width behind, and half as wide again as, the caput; dorsal surface to a little beyond the middle nearly flat, slightly sloping forwards, behind the middle abruptly sloping backwards; height just behind the middle equal to width at widest part; eyes occupying the whole anterior portion of the caput, oculiferous tubercles only indicated by little connecting ridges between the eyes; eyes arranged in two arched series, the anterior lateral eyes being the largest and the posterior lateral the smallest; central eyes forming a nearly perfect quadrangle; front margin of caput rounded, unarmed; external margin of falces with a smooth longitudinal ridge; legs very slightly compressed, nearly cylindrical, short, with a few scattered bristles but no distinct spines; abdomen globular, very slightly longer than broad, very slightly convex below.

Type *P. cambridgii*.

*Pyresthesis laevis* (Keyserling, 1877)

9. PYRESTHESIS CAMBRIDGII, n. sp. (Plate LVIII. figs. 6, 6a, 6b, 6c.)

♀. Cephalothorax black, tibiae banded with yellow; coxæ olivaceous; abdomen above yellow, with scarlet border; the yellow area crossed by three transverse broad black bands, the first and second of which are connected in the centre by a short longitudinal band, and the second and third at their extremities; the first of these bands is arched, and the two others are slightly angulated and clavate at their extremities; a fourth very abbreviate and disconnected transverse band followed by a rounded black spot upon the posterior area; under surface dark olivaceous.

Cephalothorax smooth, with scattered hairs upon the caput, the central oculiferous tubercle indicated by a slight swelling of the sur-

<sup>1</sup> The Rev. O. P. Cambridge, to whom I sent a sketch of this Spider, writes that it "would seem to be near *Syurma*, Simon; but the thoracic region is apparently too much elevated for that genus."

face and by indications of connecting ridges between the eyes, posterior pair of eyes slightly wider apart than the anterior pair, of about equal size; lateral eyes placed obliquely, the anterior eyes fully twice the size of the central ones and four times as large as the posterior lateral ones; pectoral shield cordiform; falces smooth, with wavy external margins and hairy internal surfaces; maxillæ long, in-arched, smooth; abdomen rounded, slightly pointed behind, and almost flat below. Legs very short, their relative length 2, 1, 4, 3; the anterior pair as follows—femur 2 millimetres, tibia including knee-joint  $2\frac{1}{2}$ , tarsi 2; second pair—femur  $2\frac{1}{3}$ , tibia  $2\frac{1}{3}$ , tarsi 2; third pair—femur  $1\frac{1}{2}$ , tibia  $1\frac{1}{2}$ , tarsi  $1\frac{1}{2}$ ; fourth pair—femur 2, tibia  $1\frac{2}{3}$ , tarsi  $1\frac{1}{2}$ ; the legs entire therefore being—first pair  $6\frac{1}{2}$  millimetres, second  $6\frac{2}{3}$ , third  $4\frac{1}{2}$ , fourth  $5\frac{1}{6}$ . Length of cephalothorax and abdomen together 8 millimetres, of abdomen alone  $5\frac{1}{2}$ .

Antananarivo (*Kingdon*).

