

STUDIES IN AUSTRALIAN ARANEIDÆ.

No. 1.

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(Figs. 5 and 6.).

ERIODON OCCATORIUM, *Walck.*

Mr. H. R. Hogg, M.A., in his monographic list of the "Spiders of the Sub-order Mygalomorphæ,"¹ when dealing with this species, reviews briefly the history of the type and other specimens in Europe,² from which it would appear that Walckenaer's specimen (type) came, in all probability from Port Jackson, N.S.W. Later, M. H. Lucas obtained a specimen from "les environs de Melbourne," and this was purchased by the Paris Museum in 1859.

In his paper, Mr. Hogg points out that Walckenaer "gives two drawings of the eyes, in one of which the front middle pair are quite small, about three diameters apart; in the other somewhat larger, one-and-a-half diameters apart. In the former, also, the rear side eyes are nearer together than the front side, and in the other drawing both distances are the same. The first is from above, the second from in front." Walckenaer described this species as *Missulena occatoria*.³

Lucas, in a paper dealing with the genus, says⁴ that the front middle eyes of *occatorium* are close together, and gives a figure in which they are delineated as small, and about a diameter apart; he was able to compare his specimen with the type, so, as Mr. Hogg remarks, "his identification should be correct." Lucas gave the measurements as 20 mm. long, but does not say whether the palces are included or not. According to the author of "Spiders of the Sub-order Mygalomorphæ"⁵ there are in the British Museum two female specimens from the Hunter River, N. S. W., and West Australia, labelled *E. occatorium*; these are old and dried, different from one another, and do not agree with Lucas's description. In order to assist the student, Hogg

¹ Hogg—Proc. Zool. Soc., 1901, p. 218 *et seq.*

² Hogg—*loc. cit.*, pp. 220-221.

³ Walckenaer—Tableau des Araneides, 1805, p. 8, pl. ii., figs. 11-14; *id.*, Ins. Apt., 1837, i, p. 252.

⁴ Lucas—Ann. Soc. Ent. Fr. (4), v., 1865, p. 309, pl. 8; also, Hogg—Proc. Zool. Soc., 1901, p. 221.

⁵ Hogg—*loc. cit.*, p. 221.