

Scorpions, but the Araneidæ were comparatively abundant; one magnificent yellow species (of which both the female and the very small male were captured) extends its net among the tamarisk shrubs, where dwells also a small *Epeira*.¹

“The poverty of animal life on the beach was disappointing, but one or two forms were of some interest. A small *Blennius* and a *Mugil* are common in the shore-pools, and are used by the boys as bait to catch the Sand-crabs (*Remipes*). These hide in the sand with nothing but their heads peeping out, but as soon as one of the little fish is thrown down they jump out to obtain it, and fall a prey to the juvenile sportsmen. The crab carries its ova with it, and in several I saw the large black eyes of an embryo which would probably develop into a zoea. Walking along the beach one observes holes of different sizes which are made by another interesting Crustacean (*Ocypoda ippeus*), which may now and then be seen running along like a piece of paper blown by a strong wind. We found it no light task to dig each separate crab out of its hole, but the fishermen, who use them for bait, obviate the difficulty by digging a large hole in the evening and placing a dead animal in it, and on returning in the morning they readily capture a large number of crabs. This species is also found in Egypt and Syria; its eyes are situated, not at the summit, but at one side of their pedicles, which are terminated by a tuft of brown hairs, these, however, are wanting in young specimens. Milne-Edwards had remarked a finely polished plate, fringed with hairs, between the fourth and fifth ambulatory legs, which he regarded as an arrangement for avoiding friction. Fritz Müller, however, who observed the animal in Brazil, has shown that it is a covering for the orifice of the branchial cavity, so that the crab can open or close it at will, and thus retain water or air; but notwithstanding this provision, it can live only a comparatively short time when deprived either of air or of water. The hairs which fringe the smooth plate are curious, and appear to belong to the so-called ‘Riechhaare’ (olfactory hairs) of Hensen.² A brown Sea-Urchin, and an *Aplysia*, with *Grapsus*, *Palæmon*, and *Pagurus* were also obtained. A fragment of amber was picked up on the beach in my presence, and Moseley found there a large Eunicid.

¹ The Rev. O. P. Cambridge gives the following notes on the Spiders from the Cape Verde Islands:—

“St. Iago.—*Argiope clarkii*, Bl. (also abundant from St. Vincent), *Artema convexa*, Bl., *Hersilia caudata*, Sav., *Marpessa nigrolimbata*, Cambr., and *Sparassus* sp.?, *Trochosa* sp.? (both young and probably indeterminable), *Cyrtophora opuntia*, Duf. St. Vincent.—Fourteen species of which I can as yet only certainly determine three; *Gnaphosa exornata*, C. L. Koch. *Argiope clarkii*, Bl., *Artema convexa*, Bl. Of the rest one is a very handsome, and, I think, new species of *Pasithea*, four are Drassidæ (*Drassus* and *Trachelus*), two Thomisidæ (*Misumena* and *Thanatus*), one *Epeira*, one Salticida (I think an *Icius* or *Marpessa*), and two *Tarantula*. There are also a *Dysdera* and several Drassids indeterminable from immaturity. There is no departure in the above collection from the South European type excepting in *Hersilia*, which connects them with the more tropical forms. *Hersilia* is found abundantly in Egypt and Bombay, where there are also other species of the same genus; a closely allied genus occurs in Algiers and Egypt. I should observe that *Marpessa nigrolimbata*, Cambr., is identified by Dr. T. Thorell, and probably rightly, with *Icius dissimilis*, C. L. Koch, and several other more recently described species (Studi sui Ragni Maltesi e Papuani, *Ann. Mus. Civ. di Genova*, tom. xvii, p. 461). It appears to be almost cosmopolitan, having been recorded from St. Helena, Java and Amboina, St. Thomas, W. I., Columbia, Brazil, Argentine Republic, and West Africa; I have received it also from the Isle of Wight.”

² Facts for Darwin, p. 34.