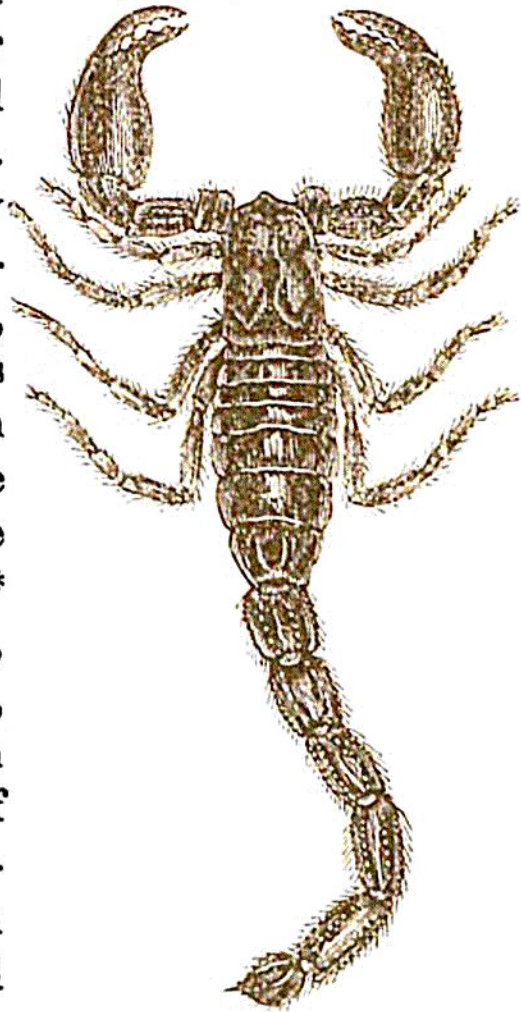


and one on each side. The form of the abdomen and its tube are very remarkable. This spider was found in a small island near Port Jackson, in an irregular web attached to the shrubs.

2. The *Pedipalps*, forming the *second* Order of Arachnidans, will not detain us long. The principal animals belonging to it are the *scorpions*, which are not only remarkable for the powerful organs by which

Fig. 92.



Scorpion.

they are enabled to seize their prey, but also for their jointed tail, terminating in a deadly sting. Their aspect alone, when they are moving with their open forceps advanced before their head, and their tail turned over it, is enough to create no little alarm in the beholder; and if he were told that one genus of the tribe goes by the name of *man-killer*,\* and should read in Aristotle, that though some were harmless, the sting of others was fatal both to man and beast,† the degree of his alarm would not be diminished. But though the venom of these creatures, when provoked and put upon self-defence, may sometimes prove fatal to man and the higher animals, yet this is not the main purpose for which their Creator has given them such means of annoyance. Their food consists of various beetles and other insects, arachnidans, and wood-

\* *Androctonus*.

† *Hist. Animal. l. viii. c. 39. Comp. N. D. D'Hist. Nat. xxx. 431.*