

No. XXVI.—NOTES ON A COLLECTION OF SNAKES FROM  
SHEMBAGANUR, PALNI HILLS.

(Circa 6,500 feet).

I am indebted to the Revd. L. Anglade, S. H. College, Shembaganur, for the privilege of examining a small collection of snakes collected locally, some of which are specially interesting.

Family—UROPELTIDAE.

*Silybura pulneyensis*, Beddome.

One typical but rather shrivelled ♀. Ventrals 182? Subcaudals 8? I notice in this species the tip of the tail is invariably white, as it is in *maculata* and some others.

*Silybura nigra*, Beddome.

This would appear to be the commonest species in the Palni Hills. Five specimens in all were included. ♀ Ventrals 179. Subcaudals 7. ♀ 324 mm. ( $12\frac{3}{4}$  inches) long. Ventrals 185. Subcaudals 6 on the right side, 7 on the left. ♀ Ventrals 178. Subcaudals 7. ♀ Ventrals 178. Subcaudals 6 on the left side, 7 on the right. ♀ 237 mm. ( $9\frac{3}{8}$  inches). Ventrals 176. Subcaudals 5 on the right side, 6 on the left. This proved to be gravid, and contained four eggs in the oviducts, measuring  $21 \times 8$  mm. These contained small embryos about 25 mm. long (1 inch). The size of the eggs, and the condition of the embryos lead me to think that this species is ovoviparous. Unfortunately the date of capture is not on record. The tip of the tail in all is black.

*Platyplectrurus madurensis*, Beddome.

Four specimens of this little known species were received. ♀ 260 mm. ( $10\frac{1}{4}$  inches). Ventrals 171. Subcaudals 11. This contained two eggs  $25 \times 6$  mm. long, with small embryos about 25 mm. long within. ♀ 311 mm. ( $12\frac{1}{4}$  inches). Ventrals 171. Subcaudals 12. This was captured on the 1st of April 1907, having just laid five eggs. The eggs measure 25 to 28 mm.  $\times$  10 mm., and contain small embryos about 25 mm. in length. The eyes in the embryos are conspicuous. The heart and neighbouring viscera are still extra-abdominal. ♀. Ventrals 175. Subcaudals 10. ♂ 117 mm. ( $4\frac{3}{8}$  inches.) Ventrals 168? Subcaudals 15. This appears to be a hatchling. There is no record of the date of capture.

Family—COLUBRIDAE.

*Amphiesma stolata*, (Linné).

One quite typical.

*Xylophis perroteti*.

Two examples.

*Oligodon venustus*, Jerdon.

One ♀ specimen. Ventrals 161. Subcaudals 31.

*Chrysopelea ornata* (Shaw).

A young specimen 317 mm. ( $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches), appears to be a hatchling. Date of capture not on record.

BANGALORE,  
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