

					Ft.	ins.
African Open-bill, <i>Anastomus lamelligerus</i> ,	Abu, Zeit, Sudan,					
	March 1900..	4	9			
Brahminy Kite, <i>Haliastur indus</i> ,	Harrowah, India, Dec. 1894	..	4	1		
Do. do. On Ganges, do. do.	..	4	1			

GIZA, EGYPT,  
13th December 1917.

S. S. FLOWER, CAPT.

#### No. XIV.—CAPTURING TIGERS WITH BIRD-LIME.

At page 493, Vol. XXV of our Journal, there is a note by Colonel Burton on the method of capturing tigers with hay smeared with "glue," in the days of the Emperor Akbar. He enquires whether the plan is practical.

Whether practical or not, the practice seems to have survived in the Central Provinces. In 1890-91, I was stationed at Sambalpur in the Chattisghar division of that province, and was told that the jungle people there were in the habit of getting at tigers by laying down leaves smeared with bird-lime on paths frequented by the tiger they were after. It was mostly in the hot weather they did this in the neighbourhood of water pools, but probably they did it round a kill as well.

They told me that the tiger was annoyed by the leaves sticking to his paws, and tried to rub the leaves off on his head. The leaves then stuck to the face in such numbers as to blind the tiger, which could with safety be approached and speared, while in this helpless state.

W. B. BANNERMAN,  
Surgeon-General, I.M.S.

MADRAS, 13th March 1918.

#### No. XV.—ON AN UNDESCRIBED COLOUR VARIETY OF THE SNAKE (*ZAOCYS MUCOSUS*) FROM THE CENTRAL PROVINCES.

This snake, which I am inclined to regard in the light of an albino, differs from the usual colours displayed by the species and forcibly brings to mind the variety *atriceps* of *Zamenis diadema*.

Dorsally the prevailing hue is a very pale brown, slightly darker posteriorly and on the top of the head; but paler, almost whitish anteriorly, and at first sight I took it to be an exceedingly pale coloured *Z. fasciolatus*. The under parts are white or pinkish white and practically without markings, though in some places the scales are somewhat clouded in the centre with paler margins. The line of demarcation between the pale brown of the upper parts and the white of the under parts is fairly even anteriorly but posteriorly it becomes very irregular and follows the margins of the scales. The tip of the snout from the præfrontals is intensely white and in strong contrast with the brown of the head. Several dark brown patches are disposed irregularly along the dorsum and sides of the body. Most of these patches are small, covering, sometimes part of a scale only, sometimes the complete scale, or a group of scales. The largest patch covers a group of about 21 scales. In addition to these patches of colour there are red patches also irregularly disposed, though fewer in number than the brown. In most cases the red colour is distributed over but a single scale.

Half of a ventral and a group of three subcaudals are also red.



D'Abreu, E A. 1918. "On an undescribed colour variety of the Snake (*Zaocys mucosas*) from the Central Provinces." *The journal of the Bombay Natural History Society* 25, 753–753.

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