

rately elongate, the tips dilated into very small discs; sub-articular tubercles very prominent; first finger much shorter than second; three very prominent carpal tubercles; toes one-third webbed; two small but very prominent metatarsal tubercles, not larger than the subarticular tubercles, inner oval, outer round. Tibio-tarsal articulation reaching the eye; tibia four times as long as broad, a little more than half the length of head and body. Back with scattered small warts. Pale brown above, with a large dark brown marking, finely edged with white, from between the eyes to the vent, with three curved sinuses on each side, narrowest on the occiput, broadest on the sacral region; no dark lateral band; lower parts whitish, throat of male brown, darker on the chin.

From snout to vent 23 mm.

Two specimens, male and female, from Saigon, Cochinchina, taken by M. Holbé in 1887, formed part of the Lataste Collection. Examples of *M. inornata*, Blgr., and *M. achatina*, Boie, were collected by M. Holbé in the same locality.

The more extensive web between the toes, the more slender hind limb, and the absence of a dark lateral band readily distinguish this frog from *M. achatina*.

X.—*Descriptions of Four new Snakes in the Collection of the British Museum.* By G. A. BOULENGER, F.R.S.

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Cylindrophis aruensis.

Diameter of eye not quite one-third its distance from the nostril. Snout as long as the distance between the eyes. Rostral as deep as broad; nasals in contact behind the rostral; frontal as long as broad, as long as the prefrontals, little larger than the supraocular, larger than the parietal; six upper labials, third and fourth entering the eye. Scales in 24 rows; no enlarged ventrals; subcaudals 6. Reddish brown, with white transverse spots forming two alternating series on the back and cross-bars on the belly, some of which are complete, others interrupted and the two halves alternating; a pair of large white blotches on the nape; lower surface of tail white.

Total length 170 mm.

Two specimens from Aru Island, from Mr. H. Rolle's collection.

Allied to *C. boulengeri*, Roux, but frontal shield apparently smaller and 24 scales round the body instead of 20.

Zamenis hotsoni.

Snout moderately prominent, obtuse. Eye moderately large. Rostral broader than deep, the portion visible from above measuring one-fourth or one-third its distance from the frontal; internasals as long as or a little shorter than the prefrontals; frontal broader than the supraocular, once and a half to once and two-thirds as long as broad, longer than its distance from the end of the snout, shorter than the parietals; loreal as long as deep; one preocular, not reaching the frontal, with a subocular below it; two postoculars; temporals 1+2; seven upper labials, third and fourth entering the eye, fourth in contact with the anterior temporal; four lower labials in contact with the anterior chin-shields; posterior chin-shields as long as or a little longer than the anterior, separated from each other by scales. Scales smooth, with a single apical pit, in 17 rows. Ventrals not angulate laterally, 196; anal divided; subcaudals 90. Pale fawn-colour or greyish above, each scale, except the outermost, with a black central shaft; head without markings; upper lip, pre- and postoculars, outer row of scales, and lower parts yellowish white.

Two specimens, the larger measuring about 500 mm., from Shiraz, presented by Major J. E. B. Hotson to the Bombay Natural History Society. The smaller specimen is now in the British Museum.

Distinguished from *Z. gemonensis* and *Z. dahlui* by the smaller eye, from the former by the single scale-pits, from the latter by the number of rows of scales on the body and the less slender form.

Elaps omissus.

Eye a little shorter than its distance from the mouth. Snout obtusely pointed. Rostral large, nearly as deep as broad, its upper portion one-third its distance from the frontal; internasals three-fifths the length of the prefrontals; frontal twice as long as broad, as long as its distance from the end of the snout, shorter than the parietals, which are as long as their distance from the end of the snout; one pre- and two postoculars; posterior nasal narrowly separated from the

preocular, the prefrontal in contact with the third upper labial; temporals 1+1; seven upper labials, third and fourth entering the eye; four lower labials in contact with the anterior chin-shields, which are slightly shorter than the posterior. Scales in 15 rows. Ventrals 214; anal divided; subcaudals 27, the six anterior entire. Tail ending in an obtuse point. Ten triads of black annuli on the body, the central annulus broadest, its width equal to the space separating the triads, white spaces (in spirit) with black dots; on the belly, the black bars nearly as broad as the white; one triad on the tail; head black above, with a white cross-band behind the eyes, the posterior three-fifths of the frontal and the anterior two-thirds of the parietals involved in it.

Total length 365 mm.; tail 28.

A single female specimen from Venezuela, received from Dr. F. Werner in 1900.

Appears to come very near *E. gravenhorstii*, Jan, which is only known to me from the description and figure.

Leptognathus hammondi.

Body slender, strongly compressed. Eye large. Rostral nearly twice as broad as deep, not visible from above; internasals about half as long as the prefrontals; frontal as long as broad, as long as its distance from the end of the snout, much shorter than the parietals; nasal divided; no preocular, loreal and prefrontal entering the eye; two large postoculars, with a small third between them and the eye; temporals 1+1 or 1+2; eight upper labials, third and fourth or second, third, and fourth entering the eye, sixth very large; first lower labial in contact with its fellow behind the symphysial; two pairs of chin-shields, the anterior as long as broad. Scales in 15 rows, vertebrals enlarged, as long as broad on the posterior half of the body. Ventrals 210; anal entire; subcaudals 121. 15 black annuli on the body, 10 on the tail, separated by much narrower white ones; head black, with white vermiculation on the upper head-shields, on the sides of the snout, and on the chin, white on the temples and on the occiput.

Total length 410 mm.; tail 120.

A single female specimen from Guatea, Western Ecuador, altitude 2900 feet, from the collection of Mr. G. Hammond.

Near *L. gracilis*, Blgr., likewise from Western Ecuador, which it resembles in the coloration, but different in the labial and temporal scutellation and in the more enlarged

vertebral scales on the posterior part of the body. *L. articulata*, Cope, is described as having four pairs of chin-shields.

I seize this opportunity to point out that *Leptognathus copii*, Gthr., is distinct from *L. pavonina*, Schleg. It has the scales in 15 rows, as stated by Günther. The British Museum has recently acquired a second specimen, from Georgetown, British Guiana.

XI.—*Notoryctes* in North-west Australia.

By OLDFIELD THOMAS.

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IN 1910 Mr. Stockton, the Keeper of the Post Office at Wollal, on Ninety-mile beach, North-west Australia, captured a specimen of a Marsupial-mole (*Notoryctes*), an animal only previously known from Central and Southern Australia. The specimen was presented by a Mr. S. S. Pryor to the West Australian Museum at Perth, where it has been preserved till the present time.

Now, however, by the great kindness of Messrs. Alexander and Glauert of that Museum, I have been allowed to make an examination of it and to compare it with our series of the more southern *Notoryctes typhlops*.

As is not surprising, considering that its locality is nearly a thousand miles from that of *N. typhlops*, the north-western form proves to be distinct specifically, and may be described as follows:—

Notoryctes caurinus, sp. n.

Size rather less than in *N. typhlops*. General colour above approximately "pinkish cinnamon," slightly paler below. Cheeks, chin, and forearm more cinnamon-buff—in fact, the colour is very much as in Stirling's figure* of *N. typhlops*. Claws and nasal pad smaller than in the latter.

Skull rather smaller than that of *typhlops*, the reduction in size being mainly in the muzzle, which is both distinctly shorter and has a narrower nasal region, the breadth across the end of the nasals about 2·4 mm. as compared with 3·2 or

* Trans. Roy. Soc. S. Australia, 1891, pl. ii.



Boulenger, George Albert. 1920. "Descriptions fo four new snakes in the collection of the British Museum. [Zamenis hotsoni, Elaps omissus etc.]." *The Annals and magazine of natural history; zoology, botany, and geology* 6, 108–111.

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