

*stylus* brevissimus, apice obtuse emarginatus, intus stigmatosus. Cætera ignota.

*Suffrutex Capensis volubilis*; folia alterna, peltata, longe petiolata; paniculæ geminæ vel solitariae, axillares, petiolo breviores, pedunculo composite umbellato, umbellis involucratis, umbellulis bracteatis, apice flores 4 sessiles gerentibus; flores minimi, 1-bracteolati.

Its only known species, *Homocnemia Meyeriana*, is described in the 3rd vol. of the 'Contributions to Botany.'

[To be continued.]

XLII.—*Descriptions of three new Species of Fishes in the Collection of the British Museum.* By Dr. ALBERT GÜNTHER.

*Diagramma citrinellum.*

D.  $1\frac{3}{5}$ . A.  $\frac{3}{7}$ . L. lat. 84. L. transv. 13/23.

This species is evidently closely allied to *D. mediterraneum* of Guichenot; but it has fewer anal rays, differently coloured fins, and a less elevated body. The height of the body equals the length of the head, and is less than one-third of the total length (without caudal); the head is considerably longer than high, and its upper profile does not descend very abruptly. The diameter of the eye equals the length of the snout and the width of the interorbital space, and is two-sevenths of the length of the head; the maxillary extends to below the anterior margin of the orbit. Small scales advance to between the nostrils, and cover the præorbital almost entirely. Dorsal spines of moderate length and strength, the fifth, sixth, and seventh being the longest, and two-fifths of the length of the head. The posterior spinous passes gradually into the soft portion of the dorsal, without being separated from it by a notch. The second anal spine is not longer, but stronger, than the third, and is longer and stronger than any of the dorsal spines. Caudal fin truncated. Pectoral rather longer than ventral, the latter not extending to the vent. Scales ctenoid, those of the lateral line irregularly arranged. Head and body blackish ash-coloured; all the fins and the free portion of the tail bright lemon-coloured, with a greenish tinge.

A single very fine example, 11 inches long, was obtained by the Rev. R. T. Lowe, during his last sojourn in the Cape de Verde Islands.

*Therapon percoides.*

D.  $1\frac{3}{9}$ . A.  $\frac{3}{8}$ . L. lat. 39. L. transv. 7/13.

The height of the body is contained twice and a half in the total length (without caudal); the length of the head twice and



one-third. Upper surface of the head rather flat and entirely scaleless; snout of moderate length, as long as the diameter of the eye, which is two-sevenths of the length of the head, and somewhat more than the width of the interorbital space. Cleft of the mouth rather narrow; the maxillary scarcely reaching to below the anterior margin of the orbit. Præorbital much narrower posteriorly than anteriorly, with the lower edge indistinctly serrated. Scales on the cheek small, in four or five series. Præoperculum with the angle obtusely rounded, the serratures being equal along the entire edge; operculum with two points, the upper being short and obtuse, the lower spinous and rather prominent; sub- and inter-operculum entire; humeral process finely serrated.

The dorsal fin commences above the axil of the pectoral, and is composed of thirteen spines, the fourth, fifth, and sixth of which are the longest—more than half as long as the head; all the spines are of moderate strength. There is a notch between the spinous and soft portions, the twelfth spine being rather shorter than the thirteenth; the soft dorsal is rather lower than the spinous. The distance between the dorsal and caudal fins is a little less than the height of the tail below the end of the dorsal. The second spine of the anal fin is longer and much stronger than the third, and equal in length to the seventh of the dorsal fin: none of the dorsal spines equals it in strength. Caudal fin scarcely emarginate, one-fifth of the total length. Pectoral rather shorter than ventral, which terminates before reaching the vent. Scales ctenoid; the lateral line follows the curvature of the back.

Teeth in the jaws villiform; none on the palate. Pseudo-branchiæ well developed.

Back greenish, shining silvery, passing into pure white below: five black cross bands descend from the back towards the belly; they are only half as wide as the interspaces between them; the first descends from before the dorsal fin towards the axil, the second from the sixth and seventh dorsal spines, the third from the last dorsal spines, and the fourth from the hinder half of the soft dorsal; the fifth crosses the tail. Vertical fins marbled with black. Infraorbital bones with a silvery band.

Two specimens, 5 inches long, were sent by Mr. Krefft, Curator of the Sidney Museum. They were obtained from the Fitzroy River, near Rockhampton, in Queensland.

*Catopra malabarica.*

D.  $1\frac{4}{2}$ . A.  $\frac{3}{8}$ . L. lat. 26. L. transv.  $\frac{3}{9}$ .

The height of the body is contained twice and two-fifths in



the total length (without caudal), the length of the head three times; head about as high as long; snout as long as the eye, the diameter of which is two-sevenths of the length of the head, and more than the width of the interorbital space; jaws equal in length anteriorly, the maxillary extending to below the anterior margin of the orbit. Præorbital and angle of the præoperculum without serratures; opercles, throat, and isthmus entirely scaly; cheek with four series of scales. The dorsal fin commences above the end of the gill-cover, and terminates close by the caudal: its spines are of moderate strength and length, and can be received in a groove; those from the fifth to the ninth are the longest, not quite half as long as the head; the last two spines are equal in length; the soft dorsal is elevated and scaly at its base. The second and third anal spines are equal in length and strength, and scarcely longer or stronger than those of the dorsal fin; the soft anal is similar to the corresponding part of the dorsal. Caudal fin rounded, nearly one-fourth of the total length; without scales, except at the base. Pectoral rather narrow, extending as far backwards as the ventral, and shorter than the head; the ventral does not reach to the vent.

Scales with the margin entire; the upper part of the lateral line terminates below the middle of the soft dorsal, above the commencement of the lower part.

The jaws, vomer, and a narrow strip of the palatine bones are armed with bands of villiform teeth. The dentigerous plates on the roof and on the bottom of the mouth appear to have one undivided surface, no separate molar teeth being distinct: the upper is oblong, slightly tapering in front, rounded behind, and somewhat contracted in the middle; the lower is elliptical, and there is a smaller transverse plate behind the larger one.

One specimen,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches long, has been presented to the British Museum by Dr. F. Day. It was obtained within the hill-ranges of Travancore, on the Malabar coast, where the species does not appear to be very scarce.

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### BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTICE.

*Physical Geography for Schools and General Readers.*

By M. F. MAURY, LL.D. &c. 1864.

THIS is an interesting book for young people who have to learn the mutual influences of land, water, and air on the surface of the globe. The rivers, lakes, and seas conform to the shape of the ground, and their waters are taken up by the circulating air (or winds) to be again poured down as rain; and these processes, endlessly modified in different regions, and under different climates, both of zones and heights, variously affect the aspect of nature, chiefly through the





Günther, Albert C. L. G. 1864. "Descriptions of three new species of fishes in the collection of the British Museum." *The Annals and magazine of natural history; zoology, botany, and geology* 14, 374–376.

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