

DESCRIPTIONS OF TWO NEW SNAKES FROM UPPER BURMA.

(With a Plate.)

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(Read before the Bombay Natural History Society on March 1905.)

A small series of Reptiles collected in the neighbourhood of Mogok, Upper Burma, by my friend Mr. Herbert Hampton, and presented by him to the British Museum, contains besides examples of little known species, such as *Acanthosaura kakhienensis*, Anders. (*Caloes fecæ*, Blgr.), *Dinodon septentrionalis*, Gthr., and *Amblycephalus andersonii*, Blgr., two snakes which are evidently new to Science, and of which I have much pleasure in sending descriptions to the Bombay Natural History Society.

OLIGODON HERBERTI. (Pl. fig. 1).

Nasal undivided ; portion of rostral seen from above nearly or quite as long as its distance from the frontal ; no internasals, the rostral wedged in between the nasals and in contact with the præfrontals ; frontal longer than its distance from the end of the snout, shorter than the parietals ; no loreal, the præfrontal in contact with the second labial ; one præ and one postocular ; temporals 1 + 2 ; six upper labials, third and fourth entering the eye ; three or four lower labials in contact with the anterior chin-shields, which are longer than the posterior. Scales in 13 rows. Ventrals 189-190 ; anal divided ; subcaudals 37-40. Dark grey above, with four dark brown longitudinal bands, the median pair separated by a yellowish brown vertebral stripe, which, anteriorly, may be broken up into elongate, hexagonal, black-edged spots ; an oblique yellowish streak on each side of the nape, converging towards its fellow on the occiput ; head dark brown, with two yellow spots on the sides, one in front of the eye, the other behind ; orange-red below, almost every other ventral shield with a black square spot at the outer end.

Total length 560 millimetres ; tail 80.

Two specimens, male (v. 190 ; c. 40), and female (v. 189 ; c. 37).

This very well characterized species differs from all those with which I am acquainted in having only 13 rows of scales, a character ascribed to the insufficiently described *O. dorsale*, Berthold, in which the anal is single. *O. brevicauda*, Gthr., is the only other species known to lack the internasal shields.

AMBLYCEPHALUS HAMPTONI.

(Pl. fig. 2).

Rostral a little broader than deep ; internasals three-fifths the length of the præfrontals, which enter the eye ; frontal slightly longer than broad, longer than its distance from the end of the snout, two-thirds the length of the parietals ; supraocular about half the width of the frontal ; loreal nearly twice as deep as long ; two præoculars and one postocular, the latter produced to below the eye, which is thus excluded from the labials by a narrow rim ; temporals short, 1 + 2 ; seven or eight upper labials, last longest ; three pairs of large chin-shields. Scales in 15 rows, dorsals feebly keeled. Ventrals 202 ; anal entire ; subcaudals 96. Body strongly compressed. Pale brown above, with numerous blackish bars interrupted on the middle of the back ; two black longitudinal streaks on the back of the head and nape ; sides of head and lower parts yellow ; a few black dots on the belly and under the tail.

Total length 555 millimetres ; tail 150.

A single male specimen.

This species appears to be most nearly related to the imperfectly described *A. modestus*, Theob., from Pegu.

EXPLANATION OF THE PLATE.

Fig. 1. *Oligodon herberti*, upper, lower, and side views of head and anterior part of body, and enlarged upper and side views of head.

Fig. 2. *Amblycephalus hamptoni*, upper view of head and anterior part of body, and enlarged upper, lower, and side views of head.



1905. "Descriptions of two new snakes from Upper Burma." *The journal of the Bombay Natural History Society* 16, 235–236.

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