

goons, which are as already stated on the north-east, north or north-west sides of the lagoon.

According to Dana\* the waves with the rising tide dashing over the windward side of the reef, tends to keep open a leeward channel for the passage of the water. This is evidently not the case in the Laccadives, as the channels are generally on the weather side, but the position varies considerably without any apparent reason.

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*On a new species of Flying Lizard from Assam.*—By A. ALCOCK, M.B.,  
C.M.Z.S., Superintendent of the Indian Museum.

With Plate III.

[Received 15th October—Read 7th November.]

*Draco norvillii*, n. sp.

Nostril nearly vertical. Tympanum scaly and hidden. The wing-membranes with three broad scarlet bands : the lateral gular folds scarlet beneath.

Head one-fourteenth to one-fifteenth of the total length. Snout hardly longer than the diameter of the orbit.

Nostrils tubular : pierced at an angle of about  $17^{\circ}$  from the vertical.

Tympanum scaly and hidden. A scaly knob at the posterior angle of the orbit. Upper head-scales unequal, keeled : nine upper labials.

Gular appendage of the male a little longer than the head, broadly foliaceous, and covered with large thin scales : much resembling that of *D. blanfordii*. Nuchal fold just distinguishable. Dorsal scales small, smooth, unequal ; not, or not much, larger than the keeled ventrals. In the lateral series of enlarged scales there are not more than ten on either side, and these are very irregularly disposed, and have, most of them, tag-like keels. The forelimb stretched forward reaches beyond the tip of the snout by almost the length of the hand. The adpressed hind-limb reaches to the axilla.

Colours in spirit on the dorsal aspect : lichenous-mottled ; with shades of dull metallic blue predominating on the crown of the head and on the posterior thoracic region ; and with shades of dull purplish brown, with well defined black spots, on nape, neck, shoulders, and anterior thoracic region : wing-membranes beautifully reticulated mottled and speckled at base, and traversed by three dull red cross-bands, which are darkest near the edge. Of these cross-bands the most anterior extends

\* *Corals and Coral islands*, James Dana, page 211.



from the edge to about the middle of the wing, where it is lost in an indistinct bifurcation : the most posterior extends from the angle of the wing, along its posterior border, right up to the groin, first bifurcating : while the middle one, which also ends in a bifurcation, is in extent, intermediate between the other two.

Median gular fold light lemon-yellow ; lateral gular folds dull scarlet beneath.

The dull red bands on the wing membranes, and on the under-surface of the gular side-folds are described as scarlet in life.

|                    |     |           |
|--------------------|-----|-----------|
| Total length       | ... | 11.75 in. |
| Length of tail     | ... | 7.5 „     |
| Length of head     | ... | .8 „      |
| Span of wings      | ... | 4.1 „     |
| Length of forelimb | ... | 2.0 „     |
| Length of hindlimb | ... | 2.35 „    |

In accord with Mr. Boulenger's Synopsis of the Genus *Draco* (Catalogue of the Lizards in the British Museum, second edition, 1885, pp. 253–255), this fine species would be placed with *D. quinquefasciatus* in the second section of the genus as follows:—

Section 1. Nostril lateral, directed outwards : 17 species.

Section 2. Nostril pierced vertically, directed upwards:—

A. Tympanum naked (*D. hæmatopogon*, *D. melanopogon*, *D. blanfordii*, *D. dussumieri*, *D. tæniopterus*, *D. obscurus*).

B. Tympanum scaly (*D. quinquefasciatus*, *D. norvillii*).

Its place among the *Indian* species of the genus is shown in the following table, modified from Mr. Boulenger's Synopsis in the *Fauna of British India, Reptilia and Amphibia*, p. 112:—

A. Nostrils lateral : tympanum scaly.....*D. maculatus*.

B. Nostrils vertical:—

1. Tympanum naked .....*D. blanfordii*,  
*D. dussumieri*, *D. tæniopterus*.

2. Tympanum scaly and hidden ..... *D. norvillii*.

A single specimen was taken by Dr. F. H. Norvill of Doom Dooma, Upper Assam, to whom I have much pleasure in dedicating the species.







Alcock, A. 1896. "On a New Species of Flying Lizard from Assam." *The journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal* 64(I), 14–15.

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