52. On New and Rare Reptiles from South America. By
JOAN B. PROCTER, F.Z.S., F.L.S., Curator of Reptiles
to the Society, formerly in charge of the Reptile
Collections in the British Museum (Natural History).

[Received November 12, 1923: Read November 20, 1923.]

(Text-figures 1 & 2.)

The British Museum has recently acquired two interesting collections of Reptiles and Batrachians from South America. The first was made by Mr. A. C. McDougall in Trinidad, on the River Mamore, Bolivia, and presented in 1922. It includes a very interesting new snake of the genus *Oxybelis* which I have named *boulengeri* after Mr. G. A. Boulenger, who has given me so much help and encouragement in my work during the past seven years. The second is a large collection from Marajo Island, at the mouth of the Amazon. This was made by Herr W. Ehrhardt, and it includes many rarities and a new species of *Amphisbæna* which I have much pleasure in naming *mitchelli* after Dr. P. Chalmers Mitchell.

Complete lists of the species collected are appended for their geographical interest, but for the sake of brevity, notes on the more common species are omitted.

I.—*The McDougall Collection from Bolivia.*

ECAUDATA.

BUFONIDÆ.

1. BUFO GRANULOSUS Spix.

LACERTILIA.

TEIIDÆ.

2. PANTODACTYLUS SCHREIBERSII Wiegman.

IGUANIDÆ.

3. POLYCHRUS MARMORATUS L.

OPHIDIA.

GLAUCONIIDÆ.

4. GLAUCONIA ALBIFRONS Wagl.

ILYSIIDÆ.

5. ILYSIA SCYTALE L.

COLUBRINÆ.

6. HELICOPS POLYLEPIS Gthr.

One half-grown specimen is beautifully marked; the white spots on the dark brown ventrals form a paired series, and the throat has a transverse white band as well as the usual spots.

The throat of this specimen is puffed out in a similar manner to that of an angry *Dispholidus* or *Spilotes*.

7. HERPETODRYAS CARINATUS L.

8. LIOPHIS PÆCIOLOGYRUS Wied.

9. RHADINÆA COBELLA L.

10. XENODON MERREMI Wagl.

DIPSADOMORPHINÆ.

11. LEPTODIRA ANNULATA L.

12. OXYRHOPUS PETOLARIUS L.

13. O. BITORQUATUS Gthr.

14. O. CORONATUS Schneid.

15. OXYBELIS BOULENGERI, sp. n.

Habit very slender; eye large.

Snout twice as long as eye, tapering, truncated at tip. Rostral broader than deep, scarcely visible from above; internasals slightly shorter than prefrontals; frontal long, elegantly shaped, three times as long as broad, as long as the parietals, as broad as the supraoculars; loreal small, elongate, three to four times as long as deep; præocular large, widely separated from the frontal. Eye large, diameter three times its distance from lip, going five and a half times into total head-length; two or three postoculars (differing on the two sides); temporals 1+2; six upper labials, the fourth very large and surrounding the lower third of the eye-rim; four lower labials in contact with the anterior chin-shields, which are much shorter than the posterior pair. Scales smooth, in 17 rows; ventrals deeply rounded, 102 in number; anal divided; subcaudals in 190 pairs.

Body olive above, with two darker narrow lateral streaks on the fifth scale-row of each side, fading into bright green on the third and fourth and cream-colour on the first and outer edge of ventrals. A broad bright dark green band occupying the true ventral surface with a median pale green streak. Tail olive-green above and below, with a cream lateral stripe which fades into pale green and disappears on the posterior half.

Head brown-olive above, bright green on the sides; a dark

brown-olive streak from snout-tip, through eye, continuing down neck as the lateral streak; lips and chin pale yellow-green.

Type-specimen a half-grown male collected in Trinidad, River Mamore, Bolivia.

Text-figure 1.

Orybelis boulengeri, sp. n.

Head: a. dorsal view; b. ventral view; c. lateral view.

This charming snake is allied to *O. argenteus* Daud., which it resembles in the proportions of the snout and in the fourth upper labial alone entering the eye-rim. It differs in many characters, however, which are best shown by tabulation.

<i>O. argenteus.</i>	<i>O. boulengeri</i> , sp. n.
<i>Eye</i> : moderate, 7 times in total head-length.	large, $5\frac{1}{2}$ times in total head-length.
<i>Frontal</i> : 3 times as long as broad.	4 times as long as broad.
<i>Anal</i> : entire.	divided.
<i>Throat</i> : with regular punctations.	immaculate.
<i>Coloration</i> : upper surface light brown; ventrals cream, with 2 wide green lateral and a slender median streak.	upper surface olive; ventrals dark bright green with pale median streak.

ELAPINÆ.

16. ELAPS SPIXII Wagl.

One female measuring about 3 feet.

So far as I am aware this rare *Elaps* has not previously been recorded from Bolivia. When the British Museum Catalogue was published the collection only contained three small specimens, in which the eye was larger in proportion, measuring two-thirds its distance from the mouth. In fully adult specimens the diameter of the eye is only half its distance from the mouth.

AMBLYCEPHALIDÆ.

17. LEPTOGNATHUS CATESBYI Sentz.

II.—*The Ehrhardt Collection from Marajo Island, at the mouth of the Amazon.*

BATRACHIA ECAUDATA.

CYSTIGNATHIDÆ.

1. PALUDICOLA SIGNIFERA Gir.
2. LEPTODACTYLUS PENTADACTYLUS L.
3. L. MYSTACINUS Burmeister.
4. L. TYPHONIUS Daud.

BUFONIDÆ.

5. BUFO GRANULOSUS Gthr.

5 specimens ♂ ♀.

One male has lost the right hand, and the nuptial excrescences are enormously developed on the inner side of the wrist stump, so much so that they form a protuberant mass which is obviously as useful for holding the female as a normal hand.

HYLIDÆ.

6. HYLTA TAURINA Fitz.
7. H. VENULOSA Laur.
8. H. RUBRA Daud.
9. PHYLLOMEDUSA HYPOCHONDRIALIS Daud.

LACERTILIA.

GECKONIDÆ.

10. GONATODES HUMERALIS Guich.
11. THECADACTYLUS RAPICAUDUS Houtt.
12. HEMIDACTYLUS MABOUIA Moreau.

IGUANIDÆ.

13. ANOLIS ORTONII Cope.
 14. POLYCHRUS MARMORATUS L.
 15. OPHRYOESSA SUPERCILIOSA L.
 16. UROCENTRON AZUREUM L.
- Five specimens of this rare lizard, all brilliantly marked.
17. IGUANA TUBERCULATA Laur.
 18. AMEIVA SURINAMENSIS Laur.
- A magnificent series of specimens.

AMPHISBÆNIDÆ.

19. *COPHIAS FLAVESCENS* Bonn.

One adult female of this extremely rare species. It agrees in every particular with the specimens already in the British Museum, and with the description in the Catalogue of Lizards, vol. iii. p. 418.

20. *AMPHISBÆNA ALBA* L.21. *AMPHISBÆNA MITCHELLI*, sp. n.

Habit as in *A. vermicularis*.

Snout obtusely pointed, rather prominent. Rostral small, as deep as broad, scarcely visible from above; nasals large, forming a suture behind the rostral, which is slightly longer than the one between the præfrontals; frontal suture longer than the præfrontal suture; two pairs of small parietals. Eye distinct through the ocular; no præocular; postocular large, pentagonal; a single triangular anterior temporal; three large and one small upper labial on each side, third in contact with ocular and postocular. Symphysial tetragonal followed by a large heptagonal median chin-shield; two large posterior chin-shields in contact

Text-figure 2.

Amphibæna mitchelli, sp. n.

Head: a. dorsal view; b. ventral view; c. lateral view.
d. Anal region: ventral view.

with second and third sublabials, separated from each other by 4 small shields. Body slender, composed of 213 annuli; 14 segments above and 14 below the lateral grooves, which are well-defined. Each segment above about twice as long as broad; median ventrals twice as broad as long; a vertebral groove. Tail composed of 30 annuli. Anal 4 segments wide, the two median enlarged; 2 præanal pores.

Upper surface a soft brown, each segment light-edged. Snout and lower surfaces écreu.

Described from a single adult from Marajo Island, mouth of the Amazon.

This very distinct species may at once be recognized by its relatively long nasal suture, large anterior temporal, and single pair of præanal pores. It does not seem to be very closely related to any other species.

SCINCIDÆ.

22. *MABUIA AURATA* Schneid.

OPHIDIA.

TYPHLOPIDÆ.

23. *TYPHLOPS RETICULATUS* L.

COLUBRINÆ.

24. *HELICOPS LEOPARDINUS* Schleg.

The British Museum has only received one specimen of this rare snake since 1869.

25. *DRYMOBIUS BODDAERTI* f. t. Sentz.

26. *COLUBER CORAIS* Boie.

27. *HERPETODRYAS CARINATUS* L., var. E (*FLAVOLINEATUS* Jan).

28. *LEPTOPHIS LIOCERCUS* Wied.

29. *LIOPHIS PÆCIOLOGYRUS* Wied.

30. *L. REGINÆ* L.

Five hgr. and yg.

These specimens are brown on the upper surfaces, salmon-pink blotched with black beneath, and strikingly similar to *Rhadinea cobella* in general coloration.

DIPSADOMORPHINÆ.

31. *HIMANTODES CENCHOA* L.

32. *OXYRHOPUS TRIGEMINUS* D. & B.

Two males.

The markings in this species are widely variable; the middle black band of each set of three may be much broader than the outer two, and rounded like a high lozenge-shaped spot. The paired white rings may be very narrow indeed, or equal to the black ones in width.

33. *PHILODRYAS VIRIDISSIMUS* L.

34. *OXYBELIS FULGIDUS* Daud.

35. *O. ACUMINATUS* Wied.

36. *HOMALOCRANIUM MELANOCEPHALUM* L.

ELAPINÆ.

37. ELAPS SPIXII Wagl.

One ♂, similar to the specimen already noted in the McDougall collection. Both these specimens have very much swollen cheeks, and minute eyes half or less than half their distance from the mouth in diameter.

38. ELAPS MARCGRAVII Wied.

The white band across the præfrontals and 2nd and 3rd labials is well marked; eleven sets of annuli on the body, the white rings being $\frac{1}{3}$ the width of the black ones.

Procter, Joan B. 1923. "On new and rare reptiles from South America."
Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London 1923, 1061–1068.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/97650>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/69835>

Holding Institution

Smithsonian Libraries

Sponsored by

Biodiversity Heritage Library

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: Public domain. The BHL considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection.

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.