

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
NEW ENGLAND ZOÖLOGICAL CLUB

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SOME NEW REPTILES.

BY THOMAS BARBOUR.

DURING the last few years it has been the good fortune of the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy to acquire several remarkable collections from southern Kamerun, especially rich in rare and interesting forms of reptiles and amphibians. The material was gathered by the Rev. George Schwab, a former missionary in this region. Among the snakes, one appears undescribed and is now characterized.

The nearest ally of this new species, *Crotaphopeltis hotambæia* (Laurenti), usually has been included in the Neotropical genus *Leptodeira*; but, so far as I am aware, all the American species have the anal shield divided, while the African form mentioned above has it entire, as is also the case with this new species and with *C. degeni* (Boulenger) from Uganda. Taking this fact into consideration, with the radically different type of coloration, I feel sure that the African snakes are not congeneric with those in America. The new form may be called

***Crotaphopeltis elongata* sp. nov.**

*Type*, an adult, no. 9260 Mus. Comp. Zoölogy, from Lolodorf, southern Kamerun, collected by the Rev. George Schwab in 1912.

This species differs from *C. hotambæia* in having a smaller head, a larger eye, a larger number of both ventral and subcaudal scales and different coloration.

*Description.*—Rostral broader than deep, hardly visible from above; internasals much shorter than praefrontals, less than one half the length; frontal once and one half as long as broad, about as long as its distance from the end of the snout, shorter than the parietals; loreal square; one prae- and two postoculars; temporals 1 + 1; eight upper labials, fourth and fifth entering the orbit; first pair of infralabials in contact behind the symphysial; two pairs of large chin shields, the anterior in contact with five infralabials. Scales smooth, in seventeen rows. Ventrals, 219; anal undivided; subcaudals, 80. Blue-black above, uniform throughout, steely blue below.

Total length 112 cm.; tail 24.5 cm.

Among the great number of reptiles secured by Professor Louis Agassiz and his assistants in Brazil, during the explorations of the Thayer Expedition, is a single specimen of a curious Amphisbænoid lizard which appears to represent a genus and species hitherto unknown.

### **Aulura** gen. nov. Amphisbænidarum.

*Generic characters.*—Similar in general to *Lepidosternon*, only having the nostrils pierced in large separate nasals, instead of in the rostral, and in having a groove-like constriction about the tail just posterior to the third complete caudal annulus, which is marked by the presence of an extremely narrow intercalated annulus, the distal portion of the tail beyond this sulcus being rather more swollen than the short interspace between the groove and the vent.

Type species, *Aulura anomala* sp. nov.

### **Aulura anomala** sp. nov.

*Type*, an adult from Brazil,<sup>1</sup> no. 4660, Mus. Comp. Zoölogy, collected in 1865 by the Thayer Expedition under the leadership of Louis Agassiz.

*Description.*—Praemaxillary teeth, 1; maxillaries 4-4; mandibulars 6-6.

<sup>1</sup> Unfortunately this is one of the very few specimens in this collection for which there are no more definite data.



Snout rather prominent, smooth; rostral small; a large nasal on each side of rostral meeting behind that shield on the midcephalic line; a pair of large praefrontals separating the pair of frontals from the nasals; the contour scales extend to these shields, except for several slightly enlarged scales which might be considered occipitals. It is not impossible that some would consider the scutes here called frontals, as really parietals. Eye invisible in a medium-sized ocular; this is bounded anteriorly by the first labial (which extends upward to the praefrontal), inferiorly by the third labial, and posteriorly by the upper of the two first temporals. These two temporals are followed by three smaller ones. There are but three supralabials. The infralabials are also three, the second largest. A large median chin shield is in contact with the first and second lower labials; also a pair of large chin shields are in contact with the second and third lower labials and are separated from each other by five other shields posterior to the large median chin shield mentioned above.

One hundred and ninety-one annuli on body; three complete caudal annuli anterior to the ring-groove, and ten posterior to it. An annulus about the middle of the body contains sixteen dorsal and twenty ventral segments, the ventral segments being much larger than the dorsal. The pectoral shields consist of about sixteen scutes, four rows of four scales each, the two median rows largest. All the scales somewhat irregular in shape and position and a few partially fused together. Preanal scales, two large in median position, flanked on each side by three smaller scales.

*Color* yellowish, in spirits, somewhat darker above than below.

Among a collection of reptiles made by Dr. Glover M. Allen in British East Africa appears a small series of specimens which apparently represent a new species closely related to *Algiroides africanus* Boulenger (P. Z. S. 1906, p. 570, fig. 96) from Entebbe, Uganda. This lizard may be called

### ***Algiroides alleni* sp. nov.**

*Type*, an adult from near the "tree limit," northeast slope of Mt. Kenia, British East Africa, no. 9280, Mus. Comp. Zoölogy, taken Sept. 9, 1909, by Dr. G. M. Allen. There are four paratypes from the same locality.

This species differs from *A. africanus* in having much larger, hence fewer, gular scales than shown in Boulenger's figure; in having the collar of four

instead of six scales; in having a greater number of transverse series of ventral plates, 24 as against 18; and in having a different coloration.

In the several specimens the number of ventral transverse series varies from 24 to 28. The keels of the dorsal scales are also apparently less well developed on the average than in the one figured by Boulenger. The color is characterized by the absence in all the specimens of "the small dark brown spots on the back" and by the presence of a well-marked dark vertebral streak. Above and below the broad dark lateral bands, which are present as in Boulenger's species, there are white bounding lines extending practically from head to tail.

It gives me pleasure to name this species for Dr. Allen in recognition of his skilful collecting in many parts of the world.



Barbour, Thomas. 1914. "Some new reptiles." *Proceedings of the New England Zoo*

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