

MISCELLANEA

REPTILES.

THE OCCURRENCE OF THE 'TAUKTE' LIZARD (*Gecko verticillatus*) IN CALCUTTA.—In Boulenger's volume on the Reptiles and Batrachians in the *Fauna of British India* the distribution of *Gecko verticillatus* is given as "Eastern Bengal to Southern China and the Malay Archipelago," while Anderson, in his account of the Reptiles of Upper Burma and Yunnan, says that it is found in the neighbourhood of Calcutta. It has taken me two years to obtain definite confirmation of the latter record by obtaining a specimen, although Rai Bahadur R. B. Sanyal, the Superintendent of the Calcutta Zoological Gardens, tells me that it is not uncommon in certain large and shady trees in these gardens, in which several specimens have recently been captured for exhibition to the public. My own specimen was taken by my assistant, Mr. C. Vaillant, in another part of the suburbs. The species differs very greatly in its habits in different localities; for while in Bangkok and in some parts of Burma it is common inside even brick dwelling-houses, in the northern part of the Malay Peninsula it is practically confined to the trunks of palm trees in the village groves, and in Calcutta it is extremely shy and wary, hiding itself in the densest foliage. In Singapore, from which several specimens are recorded, the species appears to have been introduced accidentally, probably on ships, as it does not occur in the southern part of the Malay Peninsula, and it is very possible that its occurrence in Calcutta is equally fortuitous.

N. ANNANDALE.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF *Kachuga sylhetensis*.—This tortoise appears to have been recorded hitherto only from Assam, but a specimen was brought me last winter at Rajshahi, a place situated in the new province of Eastern Bengal and Assam but lying almost due north of Calcutta. This extends the known range of *K. sylhetensis* considerably further to the west.

N. ANNANDALE.

BATRACHIA.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF *Bufo andersoni*.—This toad appears to occur over the whole of northern peninsular India as well as in Arabia, although the localities given by Boulenger, *viz.*, Agra, Rajputana and Sind, are all towards the north-west, in which it is most abundant. I recently took a specimen at Rajshahi in Eastern Bengal and there is another in the Indian Museum (quite