

MISCELLANEA

REPTILES AND BATRACHIA.

A COLOUR VARIETY OF *Typhlops braminus*.—A peculiar *Typhlops* was brought to me some months ago by one of the Museum servants, who had caught it in Calcutta. Thinking that it probably represented a new species, I sent it to Mr. G. A. Boulenger for description. He tells me, however, that he believes it to be *T. braminus*. The whole of the body is of a bright bluish grey, which in life was almost blue, the head and the tip of the tail being white. A similar specimen was recently sent to the Museum from Sirsiah, Mozufferpore, Bihar, by Mrs. Bergtheil, but has unfortunately been mislaid.

N. ANNANDALE.

REPTILES AND A BATRACHIAN FROM AN ISLAND IN THE CHILKA LAKE, ORISSA.—In August, 1907, the Museum Collector, Mr. R. A. Hodgart, spent a week on Gopkuda Island, which lies about a mile and a half from the shore in the Chilka Lake, a large, shallow lagoon recently (from a geological point of view) separated from the Bay of Bengal on the coast of Orissa. The lake is not completely shut off from the sea, for a narrow channel still persists; during the rains the water is rendered brackish by the large amount of fresh water brought into it by the small streams that terminate in the lake, but during winter it becomes much saltier. The following reptiles and frog were obtained on Gopkuda Island by Mr. R. A. Hodgart :—

1. *Emyda vittata*, Peters.

Three half-grown specimens from the shores of the island. As I have already pointed out (*Journ. Asiat. Soc. Bengal*, 1906, p. 203), this form is no more than a race of *E. granosa*, Schoepff, the typical form of which apparently replaces it in the valleys of the Ganges and the Indus. Two of the three specimens have an irregular reticulation of narrow dark lines on their carapace—a common feature of the form—and all have longitudinal dark lines on the head and neck.

2. *Hemidactylus frenatus*, D. and B.

A single male with two longitudinal rows of pink spots on the ventral surface of the tail. The species occurs all over Bengal.

3. *Hemidactylus brookii*, Gray.

A single male with fourteen præanal pores—not an unusual number—on either side.

4. *Calotes versicolor* (Daud.).

One young specimen.

5. *Varanus nebulosus* (Gray).

One small specimen.

6. *Typhlops acutus* (D. and B.).

One small specimen.

7. *Cerberus rhynchops* (Schneid.).

A specimen was caught off the island holding a small horse-mackerel (*Caranx ire*) by the belly in its jaws.

8. *Rhacophorus maculatus* (Gray).

A single specimen, taken on the wall of a house.

N. ANNANDALE.

