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XXXIX.—Descriptions of three new snakes discovered by Mr. G. L. Bates in south Cameroon

G.A. Boulenger F.R.S.

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row of teeth divides after the tenth into two branches, an outer of two and an inner of three denticles. Lower finger of mandible provided with two teeth of large size, the first of which is preceded by three or four small denticles, the two large teeth being separated from one another by three teeth, of which the median one is minute; posterior enlarged tooth followed by three small teeth (fig. 1).

Abdomen. Ventral surface of fourth abdominal segment furnished posteriorly with a fringe of nineteen long setæ.

Palp. Tarsus and metatarsus of palp provided with a few long hairs; thorns absent.

Size. The female is of much larger size than the male, which has appendages of greater length.

Measurements in mm. Length of mandible (finger incl.) 7, of palp 21·5, of first leg 16·75, of second leg 13·75, of third leg 18, of fourth leg 24·5, of cephalic plate 3·5; total length 24; breadth of mandible (at base) 3, of cephalic plate 6.

Hab. Fourteen males and five females of this species were collected by Captain H. J. Walton, I.M.S., at Gyantse, Tibet, in the year 1904.

Remarks. Allied to *K. nasuta*, from which it apparently differs in the disposition and size of the teeth of the mandibular fingers, in the slenderness of the terminal portion of the flagellum, and in the absence of the tooth which is situated antero-dorsally towards the inner side of the upper finger of the mandible in *K. nasuta*. The female differs from that of *persica*, which is the only other species of this genus in which this sex is known, in that the ventral surface of the fourth abdominal segment is provided with nineteen long setæ on the hinder edge. It is necessary to state that I have not been able to examine specimens of the two species mentioned above.

XXXIX.—*Descriptions of Three new Snakes discovered by Mr. G. L. Bates in South Cameroon.* By G. A. BOULENGER, F.R.S.

Dasypeltis macrops.

Eye larger than in *D. scabra*. Rostral nearly twice as broad as deep, just visible from above; internasals as long as or a little shorter than the præfrontals; frontal a little longer

than broad, longer than its distance from the end of the snout, as long as or a little shorter than the parietals; one præ- and two postoculars; two superposed temporals, followed by keeled scales; seven upper labials, third and fourth entering the eye; a pair of large chin-shields, followed by a smaller pair or by the first ventral shield. Scales in 20 to 23 rows, the smaller oblique lateral scales with serrated keel reduced to two or three series. Ventrals 237-239; anal entire; subcaudals 79. Olive above, with very indistinct yellowish cross-bars on the back; upper surface of head with black vermiculations; belly plumbeous grey or olive-grey, more or less speckled with blackish.

Total length 900 mm.

Two specimens, ♂ (Sc. 20; V. 239; C. 79) and ♀ (Sc. 23; V. 237; C. ?), from Efulen.

The larger size of the eye, combined with the low number of scales and the coloration, induces me to regard this snake as specifically distinct from any of the numerous forms of *Dasypeltis* hitherto described. In the larger (♀) specimen (900 mm.) the head measures 25 mm. and the eye 4; in the smaller (♂) specimen (765 mm.) the head measures 18 mm. and the eye 4. In adult specimens of *D. scabra* the eye measures only 3 mm.

Dipsadoboa isolepis.

Rostral a little broader than deep, just visible from above; internasals a little broader than long, half as long as the præfrontals; frontal a little longer than broad, as long as its distance from the end of the snout, shorter than the parietals; loreal deeper than long; one præocular, forming a suture with the frontal; two postoculars; temporals 1+2; eight upper labials, third, fourth, and fifth entering the eye; six lower labials in contact with the anterior chin-shields, which are longer than the posterior. Scales in 19 rows, not oblique, vertebrals scarcely enlarged. Ventrals 199; anal entire; subcaudals 56. Blackish grey above and under the tail; upper lip and lower surface of head and body yellowish white.

Total length 435 mm.; tail 70.

A single female specimen from Efulen.

This species connects the genera *Dipsadoboa* and *Leptodira*.

Aparallactus Batesii.

Diameter of eye greater than its distance from the oral margin. Rostral a little broader than deep, the portion

visible from above nearly half as long as its distance from the frontal; internasals much shorter than the præfrontals; frontal once and a half as long as broad, longer than its distance from the end of the snout, shorter than the parietals; nasal divided, in contact with the præocular; two post-oculars, lower very small, upper in contact with the fifth and sixth upper labials; a single temporal; seven upper labials, third and fourth entering the eye, sixth largest and forming a long suture with the parietal; first lower labial in contact with its fellow behind the symphysial; two pairs of chin-shields, posterior longer. Scales in 15 rows. Ventrals 145; anal entire; subcaudals 48. Snout and upper parts of body blackish, upper lip and back of head yellowish, lower parts yellowish white.

Total length 235 mm.; tail 40.

A single female specimen from the forest 5 miles inland of Kribi.

XL. — *The Synonymy and Generic Position of certain Species of Muscidæ (sens. lat.) in the Collection of the British Museum, described by the late Francis Walker.* By ERNEST E. AUSTEN.

ALTHOUGH nothing in the shape of general interest can be claimed for the following notes, it is hoped that they may at any rate prove useful to compilers of catalogues who wish to avoid a long list of unidentified Walkerian species, chiefly at the end of the genus *Tachina*. Even with the types before him the present writer has often found it a matter of great difficulty to assign Walker's species of Muscidæ to their proper genera, owing to the fact that the species are almost invariably based upon single specimens, usually in very poor condition. It would have taken far too long to correct the manifold inaccuracies and imperfections of the original descriptions, and in the majority of cases no attempt has been made to do so. As proving that Walker described the *specimen*, and not the species, the characters of which he was generally incapable of grasping, it may be mentioned that he is responsible for no fewer than eleven synonyms of the well-known *Eutachina rustica*, Mg., the description in every case being based upon a single specimen.

The present paper contains but a first instalment of notes upon Walker's species of Muscidæ, since it is hoped to deal with other species in a similar manner at a later date.