

## CORRESPONDENCE.

*To the Editor of the American Naturalist:*

*Sir:*—In *The American Naturalist* June, 1903, p. 385, Mr. J. H. Powers says that the metamorphosis of *Amblystoma tigrinum* is due to nutritive causes. Be pleased to rectify that the same conclusion was published by me August, 1899, in *La Naturaleza*, Ser. ii, F. iii, p. 369. The title of my notes is as follows:

“El Ajolote sufre la metamorfosis general en la clase de los batracios, por aumento de nutrición y no por cambio de medio.”

Experiments and observations in the latter where *Amblystoma* was first observed, show that metamorphosis is very slow in artificial or natural conditions, if the animals are feeble, and very rapid in the best conditions of nutrition as in deep waters of Xochimilco, a lake that never becomes dry.

The dogmatical views on adaptation of *Amblystoma* are wrong and the paper of Mr. Powers has only attested my own published conclusions.

I am very respectfully yours,

A. L. HERRERA.

Mexico, Oct. 12, 1903.