

XVII.—DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SNAKE
FROM NEPAL

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Oligodon erythrogaster, sp. nov.

Nasal undivided; portion of rostral seen from above nearly as long as its distance from the frontal; suture between the internasals shorter than that between the præfrontals; frontal much longer than its distance from the end of the snout, a little shorter than the parietals; no loreal, præfrontal in contact with the second upper labial; one præ- and two postoculars; temporals 2 + 2; six upper labials, third and fourth entering the eye; four lower labials in contact with the anterior chin shields; posterior chin shields two-thirds the length of the anterior. Scales in 17 rows. Ventrals 186; anal divided; subcaudals 45 (end of tail injured). Back pale brown, sides grey; two dark brown streaks, enclosing a yellowish vertebral streak, meeting on the tail, the prolongation extending to between the eyes; a dark streak and three narrow black lines on each side; a \wedge -shaped dark brown band across the snout, passing through the eye; a broad dark brown oblique band on each side of the head, from the supraocular to the throat; belly vermilion red in the middle, white on the sides, with two regular series of semicircular black spots, confluent into two stripes posteriorly.

A single specimen from Nagarkote, Nepal, altitude 6,000 feet, presented to the Indian Museum by Major J Manners Smith, V.C., C.I.E., No. 15850, Reptiles, Indian Museum Register.

A very distinct species, allied to *O. venustus*, Jerd., but well distinguished by its undivided nasal, its longer tail, and the remarkable coloration.