APPENDIX

ECOLOGICAL NOTES

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Three specimens of this interesting crab were collected by me from the bed of the river Ganga at Nagwan Ghat, Varanasi on 8th January, 1960 around 4 p.m. These were obtained along with other benthic organisms such as Ephemeroptera larvae, Polychaetes and Gastropod molluscs. The bottom biota was obtained by means of an Ekman dredge generally used in sampling the soft surface layers of both lotic and lentic waters. Five samples of each of one sq. foot area were obtained in all from a depth of about 15 feet (4.6 metres) and at a distance of about 20-25 yds. (18-22 metres) from the west bank of the river. In general this bank at this season was shallow in depth with the pale olive coloured water flowing sluggishly.

The specimens along with bottom silt, vegetative debris and other aforesaid animals were alive at the time of the collection and were of scarlet colour. The temperature of the water both at surface and at bottom was 19°C. and the air temperature 16°C. These were actively nibbling the polychaete worms and insect larvae.