

From the above it would appear that this change of shape takes place in larvae, obtained during December at about the 9 p.c. stage but in the 14 p.c. stage in those existing during the month of February.

Another point that seems worthy of note is the season at which these larvae were obtained. Both Brooks and Yatsu obtained their specimens during the month of August and, according to the latter observer, in Japan the breeding season extends from July to the end of August, and at no other period of the year are larvae to be found. The occurrence of larvae during the winter months in the plankton off the Burma coast may be due to either a local peculiarity or possibly to the existence of two breeding seasons during the year, one in the summer months July and August, and a second from December to February, but in either case I attribute the delay in the formation and protrusion of the peduncle and the change in shape of the shell to the less favourable time of year at which the development was taking place.

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REPTILES.

Notes on the distribution of some Indian and Burmese Lizards :—

1. DISTRIBUTION OF *Liolepis* IN THE INDIAN EMPIRE.—The large and conspicuous lizard *Liolepis belliana*, Gray, is a characteristic feature of sandy tracts in Tenasserim and has been stated to occur in South Canara. Careful inquiries have convinced me, however, that it does not occur anywhere west of the Bay of Bengal. It is very unfortunate that many of the older records of the occurrence of both reptiles and other animals in the Madras Presidency are equally unreliable. This is owing to two causes :—(i) A considerable number of Burmese specimens have, in at least one instance, been mixed with collections from S. India and all have been attributed to the latter. This has been pointed out by Major F. Wall as regards certain snakes, and it is undoubtedly the case also as regards *Liolepis belliana*. It is a particularly unfortunate occurrence, because there is an actual affinity between the faunas of the mountains of S. India and the countries east of the Bay of Bengal which such mistakes tend to obscure. (ii) In a large number of cases specimens have found their way into public collections labelled *not* with the name of the locality in which they were originally found but with that of the locality of the institution from which they were sent to specialists or museums in Europe. Certain missionary colleges are largely responsible for such mistakes, and old records of such localities as Trichinopoly are worth less, unless they have been recently corroborated.

2. THE DISTRIBUTION OF *Mabuia bibronii* (GRAY).—This very distinct little skink is stated, vaguely, in the "Fauna" to occur in the "Carnatic," but the real interest in its distribution

lies in the fact that it appears to be entirely a maritime species. It is common on sand-dunes by the sea on the Indian shore of the Gulf of Manaar and occurs on the coast of Ceylon. It is common on the shore at Madras and I recently took a specimen in a little banyan-grove on a sand-hill close to the sea on the Orissa coast a few miles north of Puri. I have never seen the species more than a few hundred yards above high-tide mark. A diligent search on the shore at Trivandrum and at other places on the Travancore coast failed to reveal a specimen and I can find no record of the occurrence of the species anywhere in the Malabar zone.

3. A SPECIMEN OF *Gymnodactylus peguensis*, BLGR.—This lizard was originally described from two specimens taken by the late Signor Fea at Palon (*Ann. Mus. Genova*, 2nd ser., vol. xiii, p. 314, pl. vii, fig. 2, 1893) and has since been recorded from Lower Siam (Laidlaw, *Proc. Zool. Soc. London*, 1901, p. 304). Until recently it was not represented in the collection of the Indian Museum, but we have now received a fine specimen from Mr. C. G. Rogers, who took it under a stone in the East Yoma Forest Reserve on the west side of the Pegu Yomas (Thyetmyo district) on Oct. 31st or Nov. 1st at an altitude of about 1,000 feet. Mr. Rogers describes the coloration as being "chocolate brown; spots olive green." In spirit the ground colour is greyish and the spots dark brown. The markings are much more conspicuous than is ever the case with *G. rubidus*, with which Boulenger compares the species.

N. ANNANDALE.
