

## MISCELLANEA

### BATRACHIA.

#### **The tadpoles of *Nyctibatrachus pygmaeus* and *Ixalus variabilis*: a correction.**

In a recent number of the "Records of the Indian Museum" (Vol. XV, p. 21, pl. i, figs. 5, 5a) I described and figured a tadpole which I believed to be that of *Nyctibatrachus pygmaeus*. I was, however, led astray by a break in my series of specimens, and while the young frog to which I referred was undoubtedly a *Nyctibatrachus*, those tadpoles in which the characteristic structure of the mouth remained were larvae of *Ixalus variabilis*. I have been able to substantiate this fact by a recent examination of a large number of fresh specimens in the Nilgiri Hills. The posterior part of the tail in this tadpole is often quite black, while the anterior part is dull yellow more or less spotted with black. The colouration is, however, variable. The larva of *Ixalus variabilis* is the commonest Ranid tadpole in hill-streams round Coonoor and Kotagiri in April.

The true tadpole of *Nyctibatrachus*, of which I have now obtained specimens, is, curiously enough, very like that of *Rana semipalmata* (*op. cit.*, p. 20), which it resembles in having no horny teeth on its mouth-disk. I am sending my specimens, with those of a number of other species, to Dr. G. A. Boulenger for description, having been forced by stress of other work to give up all herpetological studies for the present.

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