Andaman group by Mr. B. B. Osmaston, who presented them to the Museum. On account of their peculiar coloration they were sent for examination to Mr. Boulenger, who agreed that they belonged to this species. The dorsal surface was of a rich chocolate-brown when the specimens were fresh, and the limbs were profusely banded.

Rana nigrovittata, Blyth.

Several specimens from the neighbourhood of Moulmein, near the coast of the Amherst District.

Ixalus cinerascens, Stoliczka.

A specimen from the Dawna Hills which agrees well with the type. There are several specimens in our collection taken by Stoliczka, one of them being the type.

Ixalus annandalei, Boulenger.

A specimen from Kurseong [*Annandale*], July 1908.

A very abundant species round Kurseong (altitude 4—5,000 feet), where it is known to Europeans as the "coppersmith frog," from its peculiar metallic and monotonous croak, which continues all day in dull weather. It often sits in tea-bushes, one individual answering another in a neighbouring bush.

Bufo stomaticus, Lütken.

A specimen from Kurseong [*Hodgart*], and another from Damukdia on the Ganges (E. Bengal). This species is not uncommon at an altitude of 5,000 feet in the Darjiling district. If it is really distinct from *Bufo andersoni*, the ranges of the two overlap.

Megalophrys parva, Boulenger.

Numerous tadpoles of a *Megalophrys* were obtained in a jungle stream in the Dawna Hills at an altitude of about 3,000 feet. They agreed with examples of the larva of *M montana* from the Malay Peninsula, except in colour. Mr. Boulenger, who has examined specimens, believes them to belong to the species he has just redescribed under the above name (*Proc. Zool. Soc. London*, 1908).

N. ANNANDALE.

BREEDING HABITS OF *Tylototriton verrucosus*.—In order to obtain further information regarding the breeding habits of this newt I visited Kurseong in the Darjiling hills at the beginning of last July. In every small pond or large puddle of rain water the females were abundant, but I did not see a single male. Numerous eggs were found lying on the bottom of the pools, sometimes singly and sometimes joined together in pairs as described in my former note (*Rec. Ind. Mus.*, vol. i, p. 278); occasionally they were attached lightly to blades of grass. As early as the first week in

July the eggs contained embryos ready or nearly ready to break loose as free larvæ, which already have external rudiments of fore limbs. The exact stage at which the larvæ emerge seems to differ slightly in different individuals.

As regards Mr. Hodgart's statement that the newts are able to draw blood by means of their tails from the hand of a captor, I can only say that I failed to observe anything of the kind. The tail is to some extent prehensile, and is curled round the finger when the animal is held in the hand. In the living female the ridge at the base of the tail is soft, only becoming hard when the animal is dead and has been preserved in formalin.

N. ANNANDALE.

FISH.

THE OCCURRENCE OF *Rhinodon typicus* AT THE HEAD OF THE BAY OF BENGAL.—A specimen of this rare basking shark was recently caught by Captain Gorr of the Pilot's Ridge light vessel at the mouth of the River Hooghly, and presented to the Museum by Mr. W L. Allnut.

The measurements of the freshly caught fish were as follows:—

	Feet.	Inches.
"Length from nose to tip of tail ..	14	0
Round the head	8	6
,, ,, stomach	9	6
Across the nose	4	0
,, ,, mouth	3	6 "

The specimen was harpooned at the surface, over 26½ fathoms of water (Lat. 20° 51′ 30″ N., Long. 87° 52′ 0″ E.), on March 23rd.

The colour of the skin was dark bluish grey with large, irregular paler blotches. The teeth were very small and numerous, each consisting of a single recurved cusp. They were arranged in a band on the upper and lower jaw, each band extending nearly to the angles of the mouth. Each band contains about 350 rows of teeth, each row consisting of about 10 teeth, making about 7,000 in all.

Although the shark has been recorded from Ceylon and Java, this appears to be the first time it has been met with in the upper parts of the Bay of Bengal.

R. E. LLOYD, *Capt., I.M.S.*

SPONGES.

NOTE ON *Ephydatia meyeni* (CARTER).—On page 272, vol. i of these "Records," it is stated that the presence of vesicular cells in the parenchyma is a recognized character distinguishing *Ephydatia fluviatilis* from *E. mülleri*, and the conclusion is drawn that *E. meyeni*, Carter, is a variety of the former species. This is a serious error, as exactly the contrary is the case. The note was printed during my absence from India, and a printer's error or *lapsus calami* crept in whereby "*fluviatilis*" was printed for "*mülleri*." The