

the *Fauna of British India*, that he had seen but two specimens, one sent him by Mr. R. M. Dixon from Bor Ghat, Bombay, and another collected by Signor Fea at Rangoon.

C. A. PAIVA.

#### CRUSTACEA.

A PREOCCUPIED SPECIFIC NAME IN *Macrothrix*.—In reference to a species described in his recent paper (*Rec. Ind. Mus.*, I, p. 25, June, 1907) on Indian Freshwater Entomostraca, Mr. R. Gurney writes under date June 7th, 1907, as follows: "I find that I have used in my last paper a name already used, viz. *Macrothrix tenuicornis*. Kurz used it many years ago for *M. rosea*. If possible, will you change the name of my species to *Macrothrix odiosa*." Unfortunately the letter arrived after the paper had been issued, but *Macrothrix odiosa* should stand as a correction.

#### MOLLUSCA.

AN ENEMY OF CERTAIN PEARL OYSTERS IN THE PERSIAN GULF.—A number of specimens of Pearl Oysters from the Persian Gulf have recently been sent to the Indian Museum for identification; they belong to the three species mentioned by Evans in the *Proc. Roy. Phys. Soc. Edinburgh* for 1892, namely, *Avicula macroptera* (local name *zanni*), *Meleagrina vulgaris* (local name *muhar*), and *M. margaritifera* (local name *sadifi*), the last representing Jamieson's var. *persica*. Nearly all the shells of *A. macroptera* and a few of those of *M. margaritifera* had been injured by the burrows of a mussel, which Mr. H. B. Preston has identified as *Lithodomus malaccanus*, Reeve. The burrows in the shells were not vertical, but nearly horizontal; they were cylindrical, rounded at the end and not much longer than the mussel. Their diameter was, however, sufficiently great to have injured the inner layers of the pearl shell in many instances and to have caused the deposit of irregular masses of dark nacre on the internal surface. The outer layer was generally more or less broken above the burrows and in such places had almost invariably been attacked by the boring sponge *Clione*. The mussel itself had in some cases been attacked by another borer, which had made comparatively large circular holes in one of its valves. *Lithodomus malaccanus* is not mentioned by Herdman among the enemies of the Ceylon Pearl Oyster, although it is known to occur in the Gulf of Manaar; it is recorded doubtfully by Melvill in his list of the shells of the Persian Gulf.

N. ANNANDALE.

THE DISTRIBUTION IN INDIA OF THE AFRICAN SNAIL *Achatina fulica*, FÉR.—It is well known that this gigantic snail, introduced from Mauritius, is common in the gardens of Calcutta and the neighbourhood. As it is said to be spreading to other parts of India, I should be very glad of specimens from any part of the country not in the immediate neighbourhood of Calcutta. The species is easily