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BY

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out seeing, however, the necessity of subdividing it according to the method of John Edward Gray, for we perceive no material difference between his diagnoses of *Lacerta* and *Teira*, except in the number of the rows of abdominal scutellae, which, so far, is but a relative and not an absolute character. As to the palatine teeth, we are not informed as to whether their presence or absence can be of any assistance in the classification of the present group.

LACERTA MADERENSIS, Fitz.

(Plate XXIV, figs. 1-8.)

SPEC. CHAR.—No palatine teeth. Abdominal scutellae six-rowed. Necklace composed of eleven or thirteen smooth scales, with even edge. Temporal scales smooth. Caudal scales obscurely keeled anteriorly, more conspicuously so posteriorly. About twenty pores under each thigh, constituting a very close series, interrupted upon the interfemoral region.

SYN.—*Lacerta maderensis*, FITZ. Neue Class. Rept. 1826, 51.

Lacerta dugesii, MILN. EDW. Ann. Sc. Nat. XVI, 1829, 84, Pl. VI, fig. 2.—DUM. & BIBR. Erpét. gén. V, 1839, 236.

Teira punctata, GRAY, Ann. Nat. Hist. I, 1838, 286; & Catal. Lizz. Brit. Mus. 1845, 33.

OBSERV.—We have a complete series of specimens of various ages before us, all agreeing well in their structure. The color is liable to some variations, the extremes of which are observed in the very young and the old; it is more or less faded in the specimens preserved in alcohol. Judging of it from a colored sketch made from life in September, 1838, the middle region of the back is dark greenish-brown, densely spotted with black. A narrow reddish-brown vitta separates the dorsal from the lateral region, which is very dark, almost black, speckled with white. The upper surface of the head, limbs, and tail is olivaceous-brown, also spotted with black, and speckled with white. The inferior regions are of a uniform greenish hue, with occasional black dots under the chin and thighs.

LOC.—Island of Madeira, where it is reported to be common.

Plate XXIV, fig. 1, represents *Lacerta maderensis*, size of life.

Fig. 2, is a view of the upper surface of the head;

Fig. 3, a profile of the same; and,

Fig. 4, a view from beneath.

Fig. 5, exhibits the left hand from above;

Fig. 6, the same hand from beneath.

Fig. 7, is a group of dorsal scales.

Fig. 8, is intended to show the abdominal scutellae.

Figs. 2-8 are somewhat magnified.

SUBFAM. PLEODONTES.

The teeth are compact throughout, and firmly adhering to the jaw bones. All the representatives of this group belong to the New, or Western World.

SYN.—*Pleodontes*, DUM. & BIBR. *Erpét. gén.* V, 1839, 16 & 40.

Teiidae, GRAY, *Ann. Nat. Hist.* I, 1838, 276; &, *Catal. Lizz. Brit. Mus.* 1845, 14.

OBSERV.—The "Autosaures pléodontes," subdivided into "Compressicaudes," which have a compressed tail, crested above; and "Strongylures," whose tail is rounded, conical, or better cyclotetragonal. The species recorded below belongs to the latter subdivision.

GENUS TEIUS, MERR.

GEN. CHAR.—Tongue long and protractile, sheathing at the base, covered with rhomboid papillae, subdivided upon its extremity into two slender, smooth threads. No palatine teeth. Premaxillary teeth slightly flattened, exhibiting two or three notches at their summit. Anterior maxillary teeth hooked; the rest being erect, compressed, tricuspid in the young, and tuberculous in the old. Nostrils lateral, situated between two plates, and approximating closely the first labial. Eyelids extant. Tympanum near the external edge of the auricular aperture. Two or three cross-folds under the neck. Back covered with small, angular, not imbricated, scales, disposed upon transverse series. Abdominal scutellae flat, smooth, quadrilateral,