DR. J. E. GRAY ON AFRICAN LIZARDS.

[Feb. 9,

I received the specimen above-described from Mr. Gould. There is in the British Museum an imperfect skin of the same species, which was presented by Capt. Speke as coming from Unyamuezi. Capt. Speke's specimen is not so brightly coloured, and the vertebral streak is not so broad and distinct.

AULACODUS SWINDERNIANUS.

Hab. The delta of the Zambesi, on the Sand-Islands.

The flesh is much praised; said to be very similar to the Cavies of South America (Dr. Kirk).

Dr. Kirk has sent to the Museum two foetal specimens of this animal with their membranes.

9. Notes on some New Lizards from South-Eastern Africa, with the Descriptions of several New Species. By Dr. J. E. Gray, F.R.S., etc.

(Plate IX.)

Dr. John Kirk has most kindly sent to the British Museum a series of Lizards, Snakes, Insects, and other animals collected during the Zambesi expedition, under H. M. Consul the Rev. Dr. Livingstone. As the series of Lizards contains some species which do not appear to have been previously inserted in the 'Systematic Catalogue,' I forward an account of them to the Society.

GERRHOSAURUS ROBUSTUS, Peters, Monatsb. 1854, p. 618.

Hab. Tette (Peters; Dr. Kirk).

Dr. Peters gives the word *Caaiia* as the name of this Lizard; but, Dr. Kirk informs me, that word simply means "I do not know," which was probably what the native said when he asked him what they called it.

Common near Tette. The native told Dr Kirk that it entered fowl-houses and killed the fowls, and that it bit very hard.

This species agrees in general appearance with the Lizard figured in Dr. Andrew Smith's 'Illustrations of the Zoology of South Africa,' under the name of *Gerrhosaurus bibronii*; but the head of the Tette specimen is dark brown like the body, and is spotted with white; while in Dr. Smith's species the head is figured as uniform redbrown.

TEIRA ORNATA, n. s.

Blackish brown above (in spirits), with three narrow continuous streaks from the occiput to the base of the tail; head with small symmetrically curved white lines; sides of the head and body with numerous erect, more or less sinuous, white cross bands; chin and beneath white; tail pale reddish brown; ventral shields six-rowed; the throat with a slight fold of a single series of rather larger flat

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scales; under the ears, scales small, granular, smooth; of the tail elongate, keeled.

Hab. South-Eastern Africa (Dr. Kirk).

LYGODACTYLUS, n. g.

Toes free, all clawed, slender, and subcylindrical, with a series of small scales beneath at the base rather dilated ovate, and with two series of regular transverse plates, separated by a central groove beneath, at the end; the thumb (of the hind foot, at least) large. Head, body, and tail covered with uniform granular scales. Tail cylindrical, tapering; front of the vent granular. Labial shields large, in form equal, smaller behind, with a large shield in front of the chin.

This genus agrees with *Thecadactylus* in the form of the plate beneath the toes; but the toes are freer, and the bases of the toes are slender and subcylindrical. It differs from *Œdura* and *Strophura* in the plates under the toes being of a uniform size, and closely imbricate.

LYGODACTYLUS STRIGATUS, Sp. nov.

Grey brown (in spirits) above; crown vermiculated and marbled with black; chin and beneath white, with a black streak commencing from the nostril and continued, enclosing the eye, on the side of the neck and front of the body; tail pale brown; scales on the back very minute, of the crown rather larger; upper labial shields narrow; the lower labial shields 7.7, the four in front of each side larger, becoming gradually smaller; chin-shield six-sided, with two or three smaller shields on each side behind it.

Hab. South-Eastern Africa (Dr. Kirk).

Body and head $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch long; tail 1 inch.

HOMODACTYLUS, n. g.

The toes free, broad, depressed, rather broader and rounded at the ends; thumb broad like the toes; all granular at the base, and with a single series of broad transverse plates beneath the dilated end, and without any free compressed terminal joints or claws. Back with large tubercles. Tail with rings of large tubercular scales. No preanal nor femoral pores.

This genus is like *Phelsuma* in the form of the toes; but the thumb is dilated at the end like the toes; the back is tubercular, and the tail ringed and tubercular.

In the latter character it resembles *Tarentola*, which has the same habit of living in houses; but it has no compressed joints on the middle toes of the hands and feet.

HOMODACTYLUS TURNERI, sp. nov. (Pl. IX. fig. 2.)

Pale brown; head blackish, tubercular; back with sixteen longitudinal series of large oblong, more or less keeled, black brown tubercles, with a central series of much smaller similar tubercles down the