

OCTOBER 6.

The President, SAMUEL G. DIXON, M.D., in the Chair.

Twenty-six persons present.

The Curators, Secretaries and Librarian reported on the work of the Academy since the last meeting.

The deaths of Joseph P. Lesley, June 2, and Charles A. Blake, June 24, members; Carl Gegenbauer, June 18, and Augustus R. Grote, September 8, correspondents, were announced.

*Note on Crotalus scutulatus Kenn.*—MR. A. E. BROWN stated that in a review of the species of North American snakes, published in 1901 by the Academy, he had considered *Crotalus scutulatus* Kenn. to be a synonym of *C. atrox* B. and G. Lately the receipt of a living example from Pecos, Texas, had convinced him that they are distinct. *C. scutulatus* has the scales on the upper surface of the head larger than in most Nearctic rattlesnakes, there being but two scales between the supraorbitals in front, and three behind. Two or three rows below the suborbitals. The rostral is triangular, sharply emarginate and acuminate above. Twenty-three rows of scales. The specimen is curiously intermediate in plan of markings between *C. atrox* and *C. confluentus*. It has the strongly contrasted black tail-bands of the former, while elsewhere the dorsal spots are much like those of *C. confluentus* in shape, in width of separation and in turning to cross-bands on the hinder half of the body. The oblique dark streak below the eye is intermediate both in breadth and direction, and on top of the head the only distinct marking is a black blotch on the prefrontals, the well-defined pattern of *C. confluentus* being absent.

Kennicott and Cope both regarded this species as nearer to *atrox* than appears to be true. It is abundantly distinct and there is no need for a trinomial. *C. atrox* sometimes presents enlarged head scales, but never the dorsal spots turning to cross-bars posteriorly. *C. confluentus*, on the other hand, is wholly different in its markings on head and tail. In its head scales the present species departs from both in the direction of *C. molossus*, from which it is otherwise most unlike.

*C. scutulatus* is known from northern Mexico, Arizona, and in Texas only from Pecos and, as reported by Mr. Boulenger, from Duval county. It is therefore Sonoran, and does not appear to enter the Austro-riparian.

The following were accepted for publication:



1903. "October 6." *Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia* 55, 625–625.

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