

## CORRESPONDENCE.

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METLAKATLAH, B.C., Nov. 5th, 1904.

The Editor OTTAWA NATURALIST.

DEAR SIR,—Enclosed I send you an extract from a letter from Mr. Rathbun, Assistant Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, in charge of the U. S. National Museum, giving the name of some small fish sent from this locality. It occurs to me that the identifications contained therein may be of interest to some of the readers of the OTTAWA NATURALIST.

Yours truly,

(Signed) J. H. KEEN.

"The specimens which you transmitted to the National Museum, have been received and examined by one of our ichthyologists, who informs me that they are sticklebacks representing the species *Gasterosteus williamsoni microcephalus*. This species was described by Dr. Charles Girard in the Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia in 1854. The specimens which Dr. Girard studied were obtained in Four Creek, a tributary of Tule (Tulare) Lake, San Joaquin Valley, California, by Dr. A. L. Heermann, a naturalist who accompanied the surveying party of the Pacific Railroad route. The range of this particular species of stickleback is along the west coast of America from Lower California to Alaska. It is found in lakes and streams and is generally abundant.

"Sticklebacks of various species are found throughout the northern hemisphere. They are noted for their pugnacity and are interesting for their nest-building habits, a full account of which will be found in Standard Natural History, Volume III, published by S. E. Cassino Company, of Boston, Massachusetts, in 1885.

"With the fishes were found some leeches which have been identified by Dr. J. Percy Moore, of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, as representing the species *Hæmopsis lateralis* (Say)."