

A MANITOBA LIZARD.—I have been very much interested in Seton's List of Turtles, Snakes and Batrachians of Manitoba. The following may be of interest:

On June 15, 1918, Mr. McIntosh, from the staff of the city schools here, and I made a trip to the big larch swamp about 15 miles east of Brandon. In order to prevent fire running we chose a site in a gravel pit in which to build our fire for dinner and I threw my coat on the hot sand while we were preparing the meal. When I came to look at it there was an undoubted lizard basking in the sun on top of the coat. It would be, I should say, about seven inches long, striped and somewhat bronze in color, rather darker than I have usually seen in what I took to be the same species in the East. I suppose it was *Sceloporus undulatus*, or what in Ontario we called the Swift. I wanted to secure it but we thought we would take a description first and while Mr. McIntosh was looking for his book it darted into the folds of the coat and the most diligent search failed to locate it.

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ON THE CHUB MACKEREL (*Scomber japonicus*). A specimen of this species of fish was lately received from the Canadian Fishing Company, Vancouver, B.C., by the Fisheries Branch of the Department of Naval Service, for examination; and the undergiven are a few of the features of the specimen:

The colour is black on the top of the back blending into bluish over which are a series of blackish streaks, which extend little below the lateral line, leaving the sides and all the under part of the fish silvery—the first dorsal fin is about as high as long, and has seven spines preceded by two isolated spines (although the species is described as possessing in all a first dorsal with nine spines)—the second dorsal fin is composed of rays, apparently preceded by a spine, but the character of this fin has become obscured, and the fin is followed by some five finlets—the anal fin is preceded by an isolated very small spine and composed of rays, apparently preceded by a spine, but as in the second dorsal the character in the specimen is obscured; and the anal fin is followed, as in the case of the second dorsal, with some five finlets—the maxillary bone reaches to the front of the pupil of the eye; the jaws are beset with very minute teeth. The specimen is a male, fourteen inches in length.

The following is the geographical distribution of the Chub Mackerel (which has a much wider range

than the Common Mackerel of the Atlantic) as given in my *Cheek List of the Fishes of Canada*:

Widely distributed in the Atlantic and Pacific oceans; extending as far northward as British Columbia, Labrador, and England; abounds off the coast of California, in the Mediterranean, and everywhere in Japan.

ANDREW HALKETT.

CHERT USED BY THE INDIANS AS MATERIAL FOR ARROW HEADS, ETC., FOUND IN THE OTTAWA VALLEY.—In Mr. Keele's article on "The Location of Towns and Villages in the Ottawa Valley", in the October number of this journal (p. 69), he says the "flint" used for the manufacture of arrow points, etc., found in the Ottawa valley, probably "came either from Welland county on Lake Erie or from Flint Ridge, Ohio." Chert, commonly called flint, of which most of the arrow heads, spear heads and other chipped artifacts were made by the Indians in Ontario, is known to occur in the local Black river, and Chazy formations, and it seems reasonable to suppose that the Indians would use local supplies instead of bringing chert from such a distance. Until a few months ago, however, the only known place in the Ottawa valley, where chert had probably been quarried by the Indians, was at the Narrow locks, dividing the upper and lower Rideau lakes. Here Dr. Beeman, of Perth, found "what was evidently an open-air workshop, as the shore for yards was covered with flint chippings," and the chert "could be obtained on an island but a short distance from this point."* Last fall I found a handful of scattered chert chippings imbedded in the footpath along the north bank of the Rideau river, west of the Canadian Pacific railway bridge (Prescott division). I also saw a large nodule and some seams of chert, of the same colour as the chippings, *in situ* in the outcrop of limestone at the head of the rapids on the opposite bank. I picked up a few chips of the same material on the south bank east of the bridge. Now, the presence of these chippings and the chert *in situ*, so close together, leads me to believe that the material found here was quarried by the Indians, but, the operations were probably by no means as extensive as those at the well-known quarry near Point Abino, in Welland county, Ontario.

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*Beeman, Dr. T. W., "Lanark County," Annual Archaeological Report and Canadian Institute (Session 1891), Toronto, 1892, p. 15.