

to bite when captured. Not being possessed of the protrusive tongue of the chameleon and being unable to run quickly on account of its clumsy form, the horned lizard cannot capture the swiftest insects, and consequently contents itself with a diet of sand-haunting beetles, whose fleetness is inferior to its own. Most interesting to relate, some species of horned lizards are remarkable as being the only members of the family (save one other genus) which produce living young, as many as twenty-four being given at a birth.

The most remarkable peculiarity connected with these lizards is their habit of ejecting jets of blood from the eyes, apparently as a means of defence.

The following letter from Mr. V. Bailey, written from California, describes the phenomenon as first observed by him:—

“I caught a horned toad (lizard) that very much surprised Dr. Fisher and myself by squirting blood from its eyes. It was on smooth ground, and not in bush or weeds. I caught it with my hand; a little jet of blood spurted from one eye, a distance of fifteen inches, and spattered on