

diminish in number and size on the caudal pedicle. *Colors*—Body and head orange, paler below; a very few irregularly scattered black spots on the body; lips brown; dorsal, anal and caudal fins with the outer half dusky; pectorals orange at the base, pale yellow on the outer margin, with a black median band, broader superiorly; gill-opening black, with an occasional milk-white spot; nasal papillæ and tips of the body spines black.

The species described above belongs to Section ii. B. of Dr. Gunthers' Catalogue, it measures ten and three-fourths inches, and was obtained in the Shoalhaven District.

ON A FRESH WATER ALGA AT WEST MAITLAND WATERWORKS.

BY T. WHITELEGGE.

Geological Survey Branch,
31st July, 1890.

The Acting Curator, Australian Museum.

Sir,—I have already forwarded to you a sample of the minute vegetable organism, which has of late spread with such alarming rapidity through the main reservoir and the settling tanks at the West Maitland Waterworks.

The engineer in charge, Mr. Nicholson, informed me that he was obliged to keep men constantly employed in removing this vegetable growth, as unless kept constantly in check it chokes the supply pipes and obstructs the percolation of water through the filter beds. The plant appears to me, upon microscopic examination, to be a variety of fresh-water Alga, but as I am quite unable to offer any suggestions as to the best means for its eradication, I ventured to forward you the samples of this Alga, in the hope perhaps that you might consider the matter of sufficient importance to have a thorough investigation made to determine (1) the nature of the Alga, and (2) the best specifics for checking or entirely preventing its growth. Mr. Nicholson, the engineer in charge of the Waterworks at West Maitland, would be pleased to furnish any details you may require with regard to the occurrence of the Alga.

The discovery of an efficient remedy for this pest would be a great public benefit.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

(Signed) T. W. E. DAVID,
Actg. Geol. Surveyor in charge.