

**Note on Abnormal Pigmentation of a Whiting infected by  
*Trematode* Larvæ.**

By

**Prof. F. W. Gamble, F.R.S., and G. H. Drew, B.A., Beit Memorial Fellow.**

IN one of the tanks at the Plymouth Laboratory containing pipe-fish and sticklebacks, a whiting was found recently which exhibited black specks scattered over its pigmented areas and on the conjunctiva. The spots were fairly evenly distributed and averaged  $\cdot 5$  to  $\cdot 1$  mm. in diameter. Around each black point there was a clear unpigmented area.

Preparations showed that this abnormal colouration was due to a Trematode. Each black spot contained a cyst within which the parasite lay. The influence of the parasite has drawn towards the cyst all the neighbouring chromatophores, thus explaining the dense accumulation of pigment in each spot and the area of pallor surrounding it.

The Trematode is a species of *Holostomum*, probably *H. cuticola*, v. Nordmann; for that author described a similar infection in German Cyprinoids as long ago as 1832. The points of interest are the presence of this Trematode in British waters, the reaction of the chromatophores, and the migration of pigment-cells into the conjunctiva.

January 18, 1911.