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## A NEW NAME FOR THE GREAT CRESTED ANOLIS OF JAMAICA.

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HERPETOLOGICAL writers have shown a curious unanimity in misnaming the large crested Anolis of Jamaica *Anolis edwardsii*, Merrem.

Merrem, in 1820 (*Syst. Amph.*, p. 45), gave the name *Anolis edwardsii* to a lizard figured by Edwards as "the Blew Lizard from the Island of Nevis," and never mentioned Jamaica as its habitat. Merrem knew nothing of the species beyond Edwards's description and figure, upon which, consequently, the specific name rests.

Edwards, in his *Gleanings of Natural History*, Vol. I, p. 74,<sup>1</sup> describes, and on Pl. 245 figures "immediately from nature, and of the size of life," an Anolis which "was brought from the island of Nevis, in the West Indies, by a young gentleman who came to London for education," and who presented it to him "preserved in spirits." After alluding to the digital expansion of this lizard as its most particular feature, he says: "It hath a small ridge down its back, which extends to the tail, where it becomes jagged or toothed."<sup>2</sup> We do not expect to find in a drawing of 1753 all the minute details which would enable us to identify with certainty a lizard of this extremely difficult genus, but Edwards's figure shows very well the above-described features, namely, a nearly smooth dorsal fold continued as a toothed crest on the tail. This alone is sufficient to show that he did not have before him the Jamaican large crested Anolis, the very character of which is the "dorso-

<sup>1</sup> This volume, in the edition of 1805 at least, is erroneously indicated on the title-page as "Volume V."

<sup>2</sup> "Il y a une petite élévation sur le dos, en forme de sillon, qui règne tout du long jusqu'à la queue, où elle devient dentelée" (French rendition in the parallel column).

nuchal crest of triangular scales," or, in other words, a crest on the back precisely like that of the tail, and not at all like the dermal fold so characteristic of another group of Anoles. Add to this that Edwards's figure is life size, and yet only about one-half that of the Jamaican species, and that the latter, or any species of the same group, does not occur on Nevis, nor in fact on any of the Caribbean Islands, while another species of the group with the dorsal fold is known to live on Nevis, and the conclusion is inevitable that the great crested Anolis of Jamaica has been wrongly named *A. edwardsii*.

As it has received no other name, a new one has to be provided, and I propose to call it *Anolis garmani*, in recognition of Mr. S. Garman's important studies of West Indian Anoles. I may add that the species is briefly mentioned by Sloane (*Nat. Hist. Jamaica*, Part II, 1725, p. 333) as *Lacertus major e viridi cinereus, dorso crista breviori donato*, and figured on Pl. 273, Fig. 2. This has usually been referred to *Anolis equestris*, from Cuba, but is plainly the Jamaican species. It is certain that true *A. equestris* does not occur in Jamaica.