

*Descriptions of new species of Reptiles, collected by the U. S. Exploring Expedition under the command of Capt. CHARLES WILKES, U. S. N.*

*First Part.*—Including the species from the Western coast of America.

By SPENCER F. BAIRD and CHARLES GIRARD.

**AMBLYSTOMA TENEBROSUM**, B. and G. The single specimen of this species brought home by the Expedition is five inches and a half in length, of which the tapering and most compressed tail occupies two and a quarter. The head is subelliptical, and longer than broad. The limbs are proportionally stout; the third finger is the longest. The color (as preserved in alcohol) is uniformly chestnut brown, marbled with a much deeper (nearly black) brown.

This species is related to *A. macrodactylum*, Baird, but differs from it in the structure of the hind feet, in which the fourth finger is the longest; also in the vomerine band of teeth, which, in *A. macrodactylum* forms a curve convex forwards, on the middle region of the palate, while in *A. tenebrosus*, the convexity of the same curve is directed backwards.

From Oregon.

**RANA AURORA**, B. and G. The general aspect of this species differs greatly from that of all its congeners in North America. The length of the body and head together is three inches and a half, the head forming nearly one third of this length. The head itself is pyramidal, pointed, the nostrils situated midway between the anterior rim of the eye and the tip of the snout. Eyes of medium size, inferior limbs short; fingers rather long and slender. The body is orange red, with here and there black irregular patches.

From Puget Sound.

**RANA DRAYTONII**, B. and G. This species resembles very much the preceding in its external appearance. It differs, however, in having a truncated snout, the nostrils consequently nearer to its tip than to the eyes. The eyes themselves and tympanum are proportionally larger than in *R. aurora*, the limbs more developed and the tongue much narrower. The ground color is olivaceous green, maculated with black on the upper region of the body and limbs, whilst underneath the hue is unicolor, except sometimes under the head, breast and hind legs, where the brown and white mingle in circular dots.

Specimens were collected at San Francisco, California, and on Columbia River by Mr. Drayton himself, to whom we take pleasure in dedicating this species.

**HYLA REGILLA**, B. and G. This is a species of medium size; the largest individual observed measuring one inch and a half from the nose to the posterior extremity of the body, the head itself occupying about half of this length. The hind legs are long and slender, the web extending only to half the length of the longest toe; fingers comparatively long. The general color is green above, turning to orange yellow along the sides of the head, abdomen and legs. Two oblong, brownish black spots exist on the occiput, from which two vittæ (one pair) of the same black color extend along the dorsal region; a similar band passes from the tip of the nose, across the eye and tympanum, and along the abdomen, when it is interrupted and forms a series of black and irregular small spots. In the immature state, green is the prevailing color; a few black spots being present along the whitish abdomen.

Specimens of this species were collected on Sacramento River, in Oregon and Puget Sound. Drawings from life were made on the spot by Mr. Drayton.

**BUFO BOREAS**, B. and G. Upper surface of head flat, nearly even, the orbits alone being raised above it. Snout truncated. Parotids of medium size and oblong. Tympanum comparatively small. Body tuberculous or warty. Hind feet webbed to nearly the tip of the toes. The color is brownish green above, dirty white below, with blackish brown patches spread all over. There is a dorsal, narrow and yellowish stripe, extending posteriorly from behind the eyes along the whole length of the body.

**CROTALUS LUCIFER**, B. and G. Head subcircular or elliptical, nearly one inch and a quarter in length, covered on the vertex with very small and polygonal scales, elliptical and slightly carinated on the occipital region. One large supra orbital scutella obliquely striated. Eyes proportionally small, ten large anterior orbital plates; the upper one, which is the longest, is polygonal, whilst the lower one is triangular. The rostral plate is rather small, pointed above, higher than broad and pentagonal in form. The general color is reddish brown above, deeper along the dorsal line than on the sides, yellowish beneath. For two thirds of the length there exists on the back a series of subcircular white rings lined internally with a narrow, black line. There are on the sides a series of irregular blotches which extend to the belly. The posterior third of the body is alternately semi-annulated above with black and yellow, the yellow, however, being much narrower than the black.

From Oregon and California.

**EMYS MARMORATA**, B and G. The shape of the shell seen from above is regularly elliptical, slightly concave anteriorly, with a small notch behind. It is rather depressed and provided with a slight dorsal keel. Ventral shield rounded in front, openly concave behind. The tail is very slender and tapering. The posterior nails are stouter than the anterior ones and very much arched. The color is yellowish brown marbled with black.

The largest specimen under examination measures four inches in length from the tip of the snout to the end of the tail; the shell itself being only two inches and three-eighths in length and a little over two inches in width.

From Puget Sound.

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The Committee on Dr. Hallowell's descriptions of new Reptiles, reported in favor of publication in the Proceedings.

*Descriptions of new Species of Reptiles inhabiting North America.*

BY EDWARD HALLOWELL, M. D.

**TROPIDONOTUS RHOMBIFER.**

*Sp. Char.* Head elongated, depressed, slightly swollen at the temples; a series of dark colored rhomboid spots upon the back, presenting the form of triangles, their apices posteriorly and anteriorly touching each other; a row of dark colored transverse bars upon the sides, uniting with the lateral inferior extremities of the rhomboid spots upon the back; a series of dark colored bands upon the tail; abdomen and under part of tail more or less maculated; scuta very strongly carinated; 25 rows of carinated scales; abdominal scuta 142; sub caudal 70.

*Dimensions.* Length of head  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches (Fr.); greatest breadth posteriorly 10 lines; length of body 2 ft.; of tail  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches; total length 2 ft. 8 inches.

*Habitat.* Arkansas river and its tributaries, near the northern boundary of the Creek Nation; found abundantly on the borders of streams. Dr. Woodhouse observed one with many young on one of the sand banks of the Arkansas river.

**TROPIDONOTUS TRANSVERSUS.**

*Sp. Char.* Head large, swollen at the temples, convex posteriorly, flattened between the orbits, depressed in front; a series of subquadrate dark colored blotches, thirty-six or thirty-seven in number, along the back; a transverse row of oblong bars along the sides, their upper margins alternating with the inferior margins of the dorsal blotches; scales strongly carinated, 23 rows; abdominal scuta 144; sub caudal 78.

*Dimensions.* Length of head 12 lines; greatest breadth 7; length of body 1 ft. (Fr.) 5 inches 7 lines; length of tail 6 inches; total length 2 ft.

*Habitat.* Creek boundary, found near the banks of the Arkansas and its tributaries.