

lip with a strong continuous fold. Sc. 28-29  $\frac{4\frac{1}{2}}{12}$ ,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -2 between upper lateral line and base of soft dorsal. L. lat. 18-20 + 10. D. XV 9-10. A. VI-VII 7-8. Dorsal commencing behind axil of pectoral, the spines rather weak, the last  $2\frac{1}{2}$ - $2\frac{3}{4}$  times in the length of head and not longer than the last of the anal; soft dorsal and anal pointed; pectoral about  $\frac{3}{4}$  the length of head; ventral extending beyond origin of anal; caudal weakly emarginate; caudal peduncle as long as deep. Brownish, with small light blue spots on the head and one at the base of each scale on the body; a dark blotch on the lateral line below the 13th-15th dorsal spines.

Total length 100 mm.

Two specimens from Santo Domingo de Guzman, Mexico, collected by Dr. A. C. Buller.

*Heros aureus*, Gthr., is distinguished by the deeper body (depth  $2\frac{1}{4}$ - $2\frac{1}{3}$  in the total length), smaller scales ( $33\frac{6}{13}$ ), and longer dorsal spines (the last  $\frac{1}{2}$  the length of head).

XXXI.—*Descriptions of Holocentrum osculum, Poey, and of a new Fish of the Genus Centropomus.* By C. TATE REGAN, B.A.

AMONGST the fishes collected by Dr. R. Bowdler Sharpe in the West Indies are several examples of a *Holocentrum* which I have no doubt is the little-known *H. osculum* of Poey, and as such I describe it below. I also take the opportunity to describe a new *Centropomus* from the West Indies.

*Holocentrum osculum.*

*Holocentrum osculum*, Poey, *Memorias*, ii. p. 156 (1860).

*Holocentrum perlatum*, Poey, t. c. p. 157.

Depth of body  $3$ - $3\frac{2}{5}$  times in the total length (without caudal) and nearly equal to the length of head (opercular spine included). Snout equal in length to the interorbital width,  $\frac{2}{3}$ - $\frac{2}{3}$  the diameter of eye, which is 3 times in the length of head. Maxillary extending to below anterior edge of pupil, the width of its distal extremity  $\frac{2}{5}$  the diameter of eye. Opercular spine strong, with 1 or 2 more or less distinct much shorter spines below; præopercular spine extending back far beyond the subopercular margin; præorbital strongly serrated and with an anterior downwardly directed spine. 15-16 gill-rakers on the lower part of anterior arch.



Sc. 53-57,  $\frac{4}{8}$ . D. XI, I 14-15, the fourth, fifth and sixth spines the longest, about  $\frac{1}{2}$  the length of head, the soft fin elevated and pointed, extending beyond the base of caudal when laid back. A. IV 10-11, the third spine the strongest and longest,  $\frac{3}{5}$ - $\frac{2}{3}$  the length of head. Pectoral about  $\frac{2}{3}$  the length of head. Upper lobe of caudal the longest. Caudal peduncle  $2\frac{2}{3}$ -3 times as long as deep. Purplish, with bronze longitudinal stripes between the series of scales; fins pale.

Total length 210 mm.

Eight examples from St. Thomas and St. Croix; (the species originally recorded from Cuba).

This species is closely allied to *H. sogo*, Bl. (*H. longipinne*, C. & V.), from which it differs notably in the smaller mouth, more slender caudal peduncle, and the shape of the spinous dorsal fin.

*Centropomus argenteus*, sp. n.

*Centropomus parallelus* (part.), Bouleng, Cat. Fish. i. p. 369 (1895).

Depth of body  $3\frac{2}{3}$ -4 times in the total length, length of head (excluding the subopercular flap)  $2\frac{3}{4}$  times. Snout much longer than the eye, the diameter of which is about  $4\frac{2}{3}$  times in the length of head, and equal to its distance from the posterior edge of præoperculum. Maxillary extending to below middle of eye; lower jaw strongly projecting. Subopercular flap extending to below origin of dorsal. Cheeks and opercles scaly. Præorbital and supraclavicle serrated; præoperculum serrated, with stronger spines at the angle, anterior ridge with two spines. 7-9 gill-rakers and 4-6 rudiments on lower part of anterior arch. 67-70 scales in a longitudinal series, 8 or 9 in a transverse series from origin of second dorsal to lateral line. D. VIII, I 10, originating behind the axil of pectoral, the third and fourth spines the longest, about  $\frac{1}{2}$  the length of head. A. III, 6, second anal spine stronger and a little longer than the third, as long as or a little longer than the caudal peduncle,  $\frac{3}{5}$ - $\frac{5}{7}$  the length of head. Pectoral  $\frac{3}{5}$  the length of head. Ventrals inserted well behind pectorals, extending back a little beyond the vent, which is situated at  $\frac{2}{3}$  the distance from base of ventral spine to origin of anal. Silvery, back darker; lateral line not blackish; spinous dorsal slightly dusky, fins otherwise pale.

Total length 135 mm.

Three specimens, two from Barbadoes (presented by Mr. F. G. Beckford in 1872) and one from British Guiana.

*C. parallelus* is easily distinguished by the shorter snout,



larger eye (diameter 4 times in length of head, equal to length of snout, and considerably greater than the distance from posterior edge of præoperculum in specimens of this size), the smaller scales (75–90 <sup>10–11</sup>), and the much more anterior vent.

*C. argenteus* is quite as closely allied to *C. ensiferus*, Poey, which has larger scales (50–60) and a longer pectoral, and also differs in many other characters. There can be no doubt as to the identity of *C. mexicanus*, Bocourt, with *C. parallelus*. The British Museum possesses several examples from Mexico, in some of which the lateral line is more or less pigmented. *C. constantinus*, Jord. & Everm., appears to me to be at least very closely allied to *C. undecimalis*, Bl., a species with which they do not compare it.

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XXXII.—*Descriptions of Two new Genera of Frogs of the Family Ranidæ from Cameroon.* By G. A. BOULENGER, F.R.S.

NYCTIBATES.

Pupil vertical. Tongue cordiform, free and notched behind. Vomerine teeth. Tympanum distinct. Fingers free, toes webbed. Outer metatarsals bound together. Omosternum and sternum cartilaginous. Terminal phalanges simple, obtuse.

Closely related to *Trichobatrachus*, Blgr.

*Nyctibates corrugatus.*

Vomerine teeth in two small rounded groups between the large choanæ. Head large, as long as broad; snout as long as the orbit, obliquely truncate and slanting forwards from the nostrils to the mouth; canthus rostralis strong; loreal region concave; nostril equally distant from the eye and from the end of the snout; eye large; interorbital space as broad as the upper eyelid; tympanum three fifths the diameter of the eye. Limbs rather slender; tips of fingers and toes slightly swollen; first finger a little longer than second; toes half-webbed; subarticular tubercles strong; a small, oval, inner metatarsal tubercle. The tibio-tarsal articulation reaches the eye. Upper parts with small granular asperities; back with fine oblique folds converging posteriorly, forming more



Regan, C. Tate. 1904. "Descriptions of *Holocentrum osculum* Poey, and of a new fish of the genus *Centropomus*." *The Annals and magazine of natural history; zoology, botany, and geology* 13, 259–261.

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