

LXX.—*On the Habitat of Rana Blanfordii.*

By G. A. BOULENGER, F.R.S.

IN the 'Catalogue of Tailless Batrachians in the British Museum,' published in 1882, I described and figured a new frog under the name of *Rana Blanfordii*, from two specimens presented by the late Dr. Blanford in 1880 along with a collection of reptiles and batrachians, partly from Darjeeling, partly from Muscat, partly from other localities. The specimens were in a bottle with a *Bufo Andersonii*, Blgr., a toad which has since been rediscovered at Muscat; and Dr. Blanford himself informed me that all three specimens probably came from Muscat, although he was not absolutely certain of the locality. A query was therefore inserted after the indication of the habitat, which follows the description. I am now convinced that the two frogs came from Darjeeling, having received a third specimen of the same species from Capt. F. Wall, C.M.Z.S., who obtained it in the Himalayas, at Mussoorie, at an altitude of 7000 to 8000 feet. As I pointed out a short time ago in these 'Annals' (xv. 1905, p. 378), *R. Blanfordii* is closely allied to *R. Pleskei*, Gthr., from Tibet, but it has longer hind limbs and the toes are dilated into small disks at the extremity. *R. vicina*, Stol. (1872), of which a description and figure have been given by Mr. W. L. Slater in 1892 (P. Z. S. p. 342, pl. xxiv. fig. 1), is still more closely related to *R. Blanfordii*, and I should have felt inclined to unite the two except for the statement that the toes of *R. vicina* are "webbed to the extreme tips."

LXXI.—*On a small Collection of Fishes from the Kasai River (Congo).* By G. A. BOULENGER, F.R.S.

IN concluding my Address to the Zoological Section of the British Association at Cape Town in August last, I mentioned the fishes of the southern tributaries of the Congo River as among the most important desiderata in our knowledge of the freshwater fish-fauna of Africa. I was therefore delighted to hear, on my return home, that Dr. J. L. Todd and the regretted Dr. J. E. Dutton had collected some fishes for the Congo State Museum, among which was a series from Lusambo, on the Kasai River. These specimens are

now in my hands for study, and I here offer a list of the species represented in the Kasai collection:—

1. *Polypterus ornatipinnis*, Blgr.

This species was described in 1902 from a single specimen from Monsembe, presented to the British Museum by the Rev. J. H. Weeks. The specimen from Lusambo is a little larger than the type, measuring 46 centimetres. 10 dorsal spines; 63 scales along the body, 24 between the occiput and the first dorsal spine, 42 round the middle of the body.

2. *Mormyrops attenuatus*, Blgr.

A single specimen, measuring 185 mm. D. 41; A. 64. Lat. 1. 90. Depth of body 8 times in total length, length of head $5\frac{1}{2}$ times.

3. *Gnathonemus elephas*, Blgr.

4. *Hydrocyon lineatus*, Blkr.

5. *Alestes Liebrechtsii*, Blgr.

6. *Alestes Fuchsi*, Blgr.

7. *Distichodus Antonii*, Schilth.

8. *Distichodus fasciolatus*, Blgr.

9. *Distichodus sexfasciatus*, Blgr.

10. *Clarias lazera*, C. & V.

11. *Chrysichthys Duttoni*, sp. n.

Depth of body $4\frac{1}{3}$ times in total length, length of head $3\frac{2}{5}$ times. Head once and a half as long as broad, with granular rugosities above; eye one fourth length of head, nearly equalling interorbital width; snout broadly rounded, extending a little beyond lower jaw; vomero-ptyergoid teeth forming a long but very narrow band; nasal barbel $\frac{2}{3}$ diameter of eye; maxillary barbel a little longer than head, extending nearly to extremity of pectoral spine. Dorsal I 6; spine strong, serrated behind; first soft ray as long as head; adipose fin as long as deep, its base a little more than its distance from the rayed dorsal. Anal IV 7. Pectoral spine $\frac{3}{5}$ length of head, very strongly serrated behind. Caudal fin deeply notched, with rounded lobes. Caudal peduncle nearly

once and a half as long as deep. Brown above, white beneath.

Total length 130 mm. A single specimen.

Most nearly related to *C. punctatus*, Blgr., but maxillary barbels and soft rays of dorsal fin much longer.

12. *Auchenoglanis occidentalis*, C. & V.

13. *Synodontis angelicus*, Schilth.

14. *Synodontis Greshoffi*, Schilth.

15. *Paratilapia Toddi*, sp. n.

Depth of body equal to length of head, $2\frac{2}{3}$ times in total length. Eye $\frac{2}{3}$ length of snout, 4 times in length of head, exceeding a little interorbital width; maxillary extending to below anterior border of eye; teeth small, in 3 or 4 rows; 6 series of scales on the cheek. Gill-rakers short, the larger T-shaped, 13 on lower part of anterior arch. Dorsal XVI 10; spines subequal in length, $\frac{1}{3}$ length of head; longest soft rays not quite half length of head. Anal III 7. Pectoral obscurely pointed, $\frac{2}{3}$ length of head. Ventral reaching origin of anal. Caudal rounded. Caudal peduncle a little deeper than long. Scales ctenoid, $30\frac{3}{13}$; lateral lines $\frac{20}{11}$. Dark olive-brown above, whitish beneath; soft dorsal and caudal fins barred with blackish; a few large ocellar dark spots on the anal fin.

Total length 150 mm. A single specimen.

Most nearly related to *P. macrocephala*, Blgr., but scales larger, especially on the back.

16. *Pelmatochromis lateralis*, Blgr.

LXXII.—*On a Collection of Fishes from Lake Bangwelo.*

By G. A. BOULENGER, F.R.S.

It is a very great satisfaction to me to be able to fill up a second desideratum in our knowledge of the ichthyology of the Congo basin by offering a list of fishes from Lake Bangwelo. No sooner had I reported on the Kasai fishes enumerated in the preceding paper than I received from Mr. Frank H. Melland a series of fishes collected by him, with the cooperation of the Rev. Father Foulon, in Lake



Boulenger, George Albert. 1905. "On a small collection of fishes from the Kasai river (Congo)." *The Annals and magazine of natural history; zoology, botany, and geology* 16, 640–642.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/63348>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/59052>

Holding Institution

University of Toronto - Gerstein Science Information Centre

Sponsored by

University of Toronto

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: NOT_IN_COPYRIGHT

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.