LIV.—*Descriptions of new Batrachians in the British Museum.* By G. A. BOULENGER, F.R.S.*Bufo fissipes.*

Crown without bony ridges; snout short, prominent, obliquely truncate; interorbital space as broad as the upper eyelid; tympanum quite hidden, eustachian tubes indistinct. Fingers rather slender, first and second equal; toes rather slender, with a mere rudiment of web; subarticular tubercles single; two moderate oval metatarsal tubercles; no tarsal fold. The tarso-metatarsal articulation reaches beyond the tip of the snout. Upper parts with scattered, very prominent, smooth tubercles; parotoid glands moderately prominent, rather narrow, a little shorter than the head, diverging behind. Dark brown above, with yellowish spots; upper surface of snout and anterior half of forehead and upper eyelid yellowish; limbs with oblique yellowish cross-bars; sides black; belly yellowish, marbled with blackish.

From snout to vent 40 millim.

A single female specimen from Santo Domingo, Carabaya, S.E. Peru, 6000 feet, collected by Mr. G. Ockenden.

Eupemphix Gadovii.

Snout obliquely truncate, strongly projecting beyond the mouth; canthus rostralis obtuse; loreal region nearly vertical; interorbital space broader than the upper eyelid; tympanum hidden. Fingers rather short, obtuse, first shorter than second; toes short, obtuse, free; subarticular tubercles moderate; inner metatarsal tubercle rather large, oval, prominent, outer round and flat; no tarsal tubercle. The tarso-metatarsal articulation reaches the shoulder. Skin smooth. Blackish brown above, with a silvery-white vertebral line and a broad, wavy, whitish band on each side from the end of the snout to the groin; lower parts white, dotted or marbled with whitish.

From snout to vent 11 millim.

Three specimens of this minute form were obtained at San Mateo del Mar, near Tehuantepec, by Dr. and Mrs. Gadow during a recent trip to Mexico.

Hylodes Beatae.

Tongue oval, entire. Vomerine teeth in two oblique series behind the level of the choanæ. Snout pointed, projecting

beyond the mouth; canthus rostralis distinct; loreal region slightly concave; nostril near the end of the snout; interorbital space a little broader than the upper eyelid; tympanum very distinct, as large as the eye. Fingers and toes slender, with small terminal disks and very strong subarticular tubercles; first and second fingers equal; a very indistinct rudiment of web between the toes; two metatarsal tubercles, inner oval, outer smaller and round. Tibio-tarsal articulation reaching the tip of the snout or a little beyond. Small granular warts on the back, rest of body smooth. Dark brown above; a light bar across the interorbital region; a white, black-edged streak on the upper lip; limbs with dark, light-edged cross-bars; lower parts white, more or less speckled with brown. Male with two vocal sacs, indicated externally by a fold on each side of the throat.

From snout to vent 25 millim.

Two specimens, found by Dr. and Mrs. Gadow among dense shrub at La Perla, near Orizaba, at an altitude of 6000 feet.

Closely allied to *H. plicatus*, Gthr.

Hylodes granulosus.

Tongue nearly round, very indistinctly nicked behind. Vomerine teeth in two short transverse series behind the level of the choanæ. Snout rounded, scarcely projecting beyond the mouth, with obtuse canthus; loreal region concave; nostril near the end of the snout; interorbital space not quite so broad as the upper eyelid; tympanum distinct, half the diameter of the eye. Fingers and toes very slender, the tips dilated into very small disks; first finger extending beyond second; toes quite free, with very prominent subarticular tubercles; two metatarsal tubercles. Tibio-tarsal articulation reaching the tip of the snout. Upper parts granulate with small warts, lower parts smooth. Pinkish brown above, with darker markings; a)-(shaped dark marking on the occiput and the anterior part of the back, the lateral branches extending to the upper eyelid; sides of head with dark and light bars, radiating from the eyes; limbs with rather indistinct dark cross-bars; throat brown, dotted with whitish; belly whitish, speckled with brown.

From snout to vent 28 millim.

A single specimen from Santo Domingo, Carabaya, S.E. Peru, 6000 feet, collected by Mr. Ockenden.

Hylodes platydactylus.

Tongue nearly round, feebly nicked behind. Vomerine teeth in two small oblique groups behind the level of the choanæ. Snout rounded, scarcely projecting beyond the mouth, with obtuse canthus; loreal region concave; nostril near the end of the snout; interorbital region as broad as the upper eyelid; tympanum distinct, half the diameter of the eye. Fingers and toes moderately elongate, with large subtriangular terminal disks; first finger not extending so far as second; toes quite free, with moderately developed subarticular tubercles; two metatarsal tubercles, inner oval, outer round and very small. Tibio-tarsal articulation reaching between the eye and the tip of the snout. Upper parts nearly smooth; belly and lower surface of thighs granular. Brownish or greyish olive above, with symmetrical darker markings; a dark bar between the eyes, a **W**-shaped band behind the eyes and across the nape, oblique bands on the sides of the head and body and across the limbs; sometimes a yellowish vertebral band; lower parts whitish.

From snout to vent 32 millim.

Several specimens from Santo Domingo, Carabaya, S.E. Peru, 6000 feet, collected by Mr. Ockenden.

Atelopus oxyrhynchus.

Habit rather slender. Head longer than broad, its length contained twice to twice and a half in the length of the trunk, quite flat above, with vertical sides; snout pointed and strongly projecting; nostril midway between the end of the snout and the eye; interorbital space much broader than the upper eyelid. Fore limb long, slender in the female; fingers moderate, depressed, slightly swollen at the tips, first very short and broad, but well developed; carpal and subarticular tubercles indistinct; toes rather short, much depressed, about half webbed; metatarsal and subarticular tubercles indistinct. The tibio-tarsal articulation reaches the posterior border of the eye, or between the eye and the shoulder. Large smooth warts on the sides and posterior part of the body and on the limbs; belly granular or areolate. Coloration very variable. Some specimens uniform lemon-yellow, with or without a blotch of vermilion-red on the belly; others yellow above and orange-red below; others olive or olive-brown above, more or less spotted with dark brown and with a dark lateral streak extending to the end of the snout, lemon-yellow beneath, with

or without brown spots. Male with an internal subgular vocal sac.

From snout to vent 50 millim.

Numerous specimens from Venezuela (Rio Albirregas, Culata, Sierra Nevada de Merida), at altitudes of 10,000 to 11,000 feet, collected by Sr. Briceño.

Atelopus erythropus.

Habit rather slender. Head as long as broad, its length contained twice in the length of the trunk; snout as long as the eye, truncate, projecting beyond the mouth, concave above and on the sides; nostril a little nearer the end of the snout than the eye; interorbital space as broad as the upper eyelid. Fore limb long and slender; fingers moderate, depressed, slightly swollen at the tips, first very short; carpal and subarticular tubercles indistinct; toes rather short, three fourths webbed, inner very indistinct; metatarsal and subarticular tubercles indistinct. The tibio-tarsal articulation reaches the anterior border of the eye. Upper parts minutely granulate, lower smooth. Brown above, white beneath; lower surface of thighs and of feet vermilion.

From snout to vent 20 millim.

A single specimen from Santo Domingo, Carabaya, S.E. Peru, 6000 feet, collected by Mr. Ockenden.

Rana Budgetti.

Vomerine teeth in two transverse or slightly oblique series between the anterior borders of the choanæ. Head moderate, not much depressed; snout obtusely acuminate, as long as the orbit, projecting beyond the lower jaw; canthus rostralis obtuse; nostril a little nearer the eye than the end of the snout, followed by a rather deep concavity of the loreal region; interorbital space narrower than the upper eyelid; tympanum very distinct, as large as the eye. Fingers extremely short, blunt, first and second equal. Toes short, blunt, barely half webbed; subarticular tubercles small; a large, compressed, shovel-shaped inner metatarsal tubercle, its length equalling that of the inner toe. Tarso-metatarsal articulation reaching the nostril. Skin smooth on the back, warty on the sides; a dorso-lateral glandular fold, not connected with a similar fold above the temple. Pinkish grey above, with dark brown, black-edged spots, which are very crowded on the outer side of the dorso-lateral fold; a dark band on the side of the head, passing through the nostril, the eye, and the tympanum; limbs with regular cross-bars;

hinder side of thighs with dark vermiculation; lower parts white, with the exception of the throat and breast, which are grey, marbled with blackish and with two longitudinal white bands. Male with a large external vocal sac in a fold on each side of the throat.

From snout to vent 65 millim.

Four specimens (male and female and two young), from McCarthy Island, Gambia, presented by Mr. J. S. Budgett.

This species is very closely allied to *R. moeruensis*, Blgr., from Lake Mweru. It differs principally in the still shorter fingers, the first of which does not extend beyond the second.

Rana Swinhoana.

Vomerine teeth in two oblique series between the choanæ. Head much depressed, slightly broader than long; snout as long as the diameter of the orbit, rounded; canthus rostralis obtuse; loreal region not very oblique, concave; nostril equally distant from the end of the snout and from the eye; interorbital space as broad as the upper eyelid; tympanum distinct, one half to three fifths the diameter of the eye. Fingers moderate, first not extending beyond second; toes entirely webbed; tips of fingers and toes dilated into well-developed disks, which are much smaller than the tympanum; subarticular tubercles rather small; a small, oval, inner metatarsal tubercle. The tibio-tarsal articulation reaches the tip of the snout. Skin smooth, granular on the side; no dorso-lateral fold. Brown above, with small darker spots; a dark canthal streak and a dark temporal blotch; a whitish streak on the upper lip; limbs with rather indistinct dark cross-bars; lower parts white.

From snout to vent 80 millim.

Two female specimens from Bangkimtsing, Formosa, presented by Mr. J. D. La Touche.

The nearest ally of this species, named in memory of the late Robert Swinhoe, the first explorer of the Reptile-fauna of Formosa, is *R. livida*, Blyth (*chloronota*, Gthr.).

Hylambates cassinoides.

Vomerine teeth in two small groups between the choanæ. Head as long as broad; canthus rostralis indistinct; tympanum about half the diameter of the eye. Fingers free, toes webbed at the base, dilated into small but very distinct disks; a moderately large oval metatarsal tubercle. Hind limb very short, the tibio-tarsal articulation reaching barely the axil. Skin smooth above; belly and lower surface of

thighs granular. Grey above, with six dark brown longitudinal stripes, the median pair narrowly separated; a dark brown canthal streak; limbs with regular dark brown cross-bars; lower parts white.

From snout to vent 46 millim.

A single female specimen from McCarthy Island, Gambia, presented by Mr. J. S. Budgett.

In form and markings this frog bears a remarkable similarity to *Cassina senegalensis*, D. & B., from which it is, however, easily distinguished by the terminal disks of the digits and the presence of a short web between the toes.

LV.—On *Haddonella Topsenti*, *gen. et sp. n.*, the Structure and Development of its Pithed Fibres. By IGERNA SOLLAS.

[Plates XXVIII. & XXIX.]

OWING to the kindness of Dr. Harmer I have had the opportunity of looking through a collection of corals and sponges brought home by Dr. Haddon from Torres Straits. Amongst these was a single specimen of a ceratose sponge belonging to the *Dendroceratina*.

The sponge has been torn away from its earliest support, but remains attached to a piece of coral to which its distal parts have secondarily adhered. The proximal ends of the fibres project from the flesh, which has been dragged away from them; they are flattened and disk-like. The surface of the sponge is raised into conuli, which are widely separated at unequal distances from one another; a little below the summit of each the fibre which supports it can be seen through the flesh as a dark line. The general colour is a dull grey, tinged with pink (in spirit).

The oscula are covered by a sieve-like membrane. I prefer this method of stating the facts to saying that "the oscula occur in groups," seeing that each group of apertures leads into a single continuous cavity. The dermal ostia occur in patches, separated from one another by anastomosing strands of fibrous tissue, in close contact with the dermal membrane. The whole sponge is very cavernous. A six-rayed Ophiuroid was found in one of the internal passages.

The flagellated chambers measure about 0.07×0.04 mm. on an average and are elliptical in form, with wide mouths opening directly into the excurrent canals.

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