

**Descriptions of new genera and species of North American frogs / by
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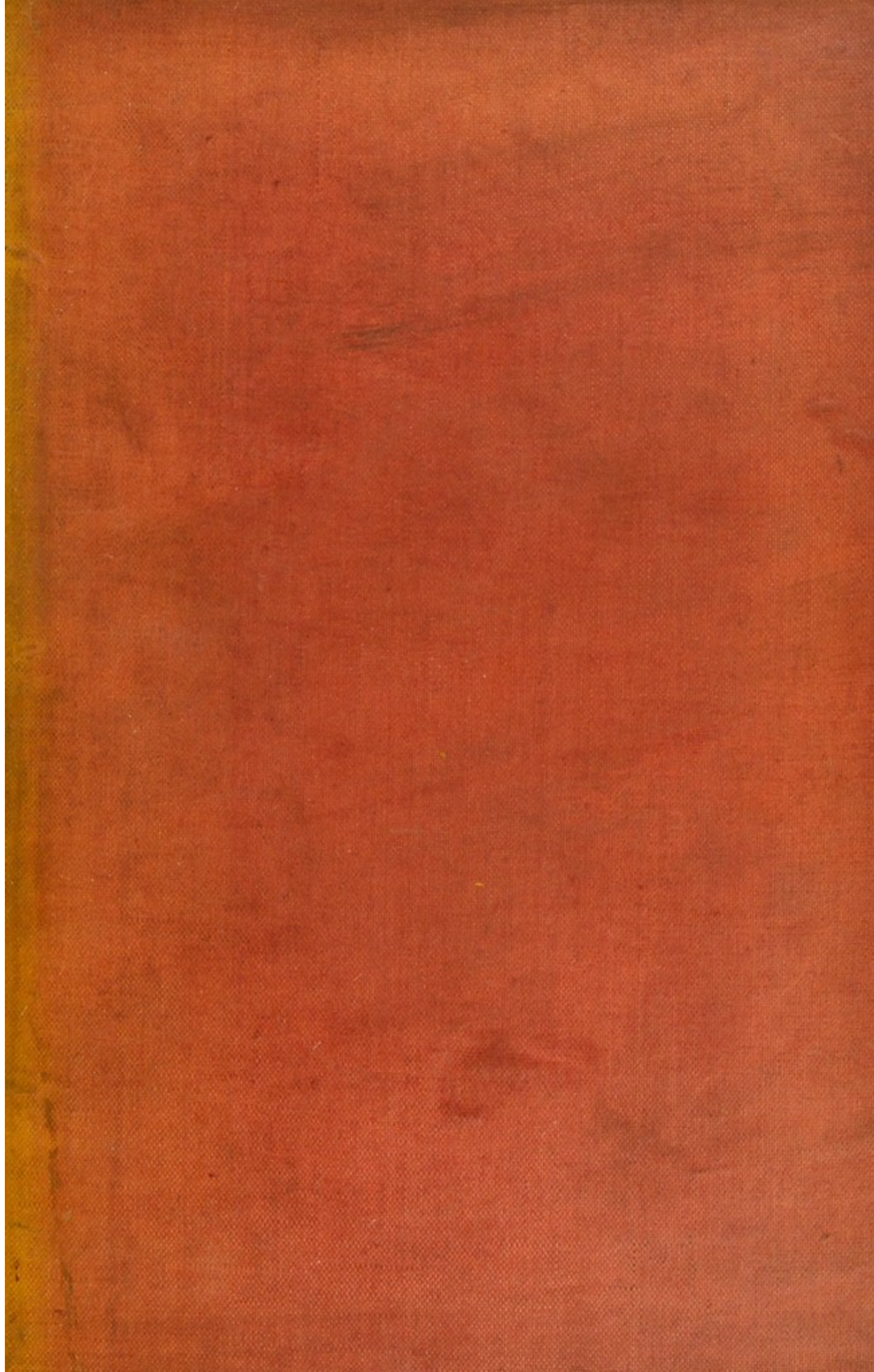
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- | | | |
|---|-------------------|---|
| 1 | <u>Baird</u> | Descriptions of new genera etc |
| 2 | " | Serpents of New York |
| 3 | <u>Girard</u> | On the classification of Mammalia |
| 4 | " | North American Astaci |
| 5 | " | Bibliographia Americana |
| 6 | " | Descriptions of new species of Reptiles etc |
| 7 | <u>Melsheimer</u> | Coleoptera |
| 8 | <u>Stanley</u> | Portraits of North American Indians |

Tr. 97

Descriptions of new genera and species of North American Frogs.

By SPENCER F. BAIRD.

From the Proceedings of Academy of Natural Sciences, April, 1854.

HYLADÆ.

Teeth in upper jaw. Abdomen granulated. Two outer metatarsals, firmly united throughout by muscle and ligament.

1. *Acris crepitans*, Baird.—Brownish above. The median region of head and body above bright green; a dark triangle between the eyes. Three oblique blotches on the sides, nearly equidistant; the first behind the eye, the last on the flanks and running up on the back; all usually margined with lighter. A narrow white line from the eye to the arm. Beneath yellowish white. Inferior face of thigh plain. Tibia a little more than half the length of the body; foot rather smaller. Head rather obtuse, scarcely longer than broad. Web of hind foot extending to the penultimate articulation of the 4th toe.

Syn. *Hylodes gryllus*, De Kay, N. Y. Zool. III. (1842.) 70, Pl. xxii. f. 61.

Hab. Northern States generally.

2. *Acris acheta*, Baird.—Slender. Tibia two-thirds the length of body. Color above dark brown; blotched much as in *Acris gryllus*. Beneath white, closely mottled with brown on the body and on the inferior and inner faces of the limbs; where are also visible minute white dots. Lower surface of body appears quite black. A narrow white line from eye to arm.

Hab. Key West, Florida.

Genus CHOROPHILUS, Baird.

Smooth above, granulated beneath. Extremities of limbs simple, not dilated at tip. Hands free; feet with a slight basal web, which is entirely wanting between the two outer toes. Tongue orbicular; emarginate behind. Teeth posterior to the inner nares. Tympanum distinct. Transverse apophyses of sacral vertebræ dilated into triangular pallets.

Distinguished from *Acris* by expansion of apophyses; from *Litoria* by the emarginate tongue, less membrane of toes, and more posterior palatine teeth; from *Hylodes* in having a membrane at base of toes, &c.

Type, *Chorophilus nigrinus*, Baird, (*Cystignathus nigrinus*, Holb.)

Genus HELOCÆTES, Baird.

Granulated almost everywhere above and below. Tongue nearly entire. Vomerine teeth between the nares. Tympanum distinct. Fingers and toes slightly dilated or knobbed. Fingers free; toes webbed to bases of phalanges; a slight membrane at base of outer toes. Transverse apophyses of sacral vertebræ expanded at ends.

Differs from *Hylodes* and *Acris* in membrane of toes, and dilatation of sacral apophyses; from *Hyla* in slight web and disks; from *Chorophilus* in more anterior position of vomerine teeth, &c.

3. *Helocætes feriarum*, Baird.—Body stout, squat. Head broad. Femur and tibia and hind foot about equal, and half the length of the body. Above dark or fawn, with three nearly parallel stripes down the back, the central widening, but scarcely bifurcate behind, and commencing behind a triangular spot between

79

the eyes. A similar dark vitta on sides of head and body, with a white line along edge of the jaw. Body about one inch long.

Hab. Carlisle, Penna.

4. *Helocætes triseriatus*, Baird.—Body rather slender; head narrow. Femur less than tibia, which is about two-thirds length of body, and shorter than hind foot. Light bluish ash above, with a dark dorsal stripe commencing at the snout, and not interrupted between the eyes; bifurcating about the middle of the trunk; a stripe on each side of this, and another on sides of head and body, making five distinct stripes anteriorly; lateral stripe with white line below. Body about an inch in length.

Syn. *Hyla triseriata*, Max. Prinz von Wied. Reise 1, (1839,) 249.

Hab. Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin and the upper Missouri.

5. *Helocætes clarkii*, Baird.—Snout acute, projecting. Extremities somewhat dilated. Tibia half the distance between eye and anus. Foot but little longer, not nearly half the length of body. Above grayish brown or ash, with distinct large circular blotches. A dark band from snout through eye and tympanum down the sides, and a whitish line on the side of jaw. Size about one inch long.

Hab. Galveston and Indianola, Texas.

6. *Hyla richardii*, Baird.—Above uniform grass green; smooth; beneath white. Tibia considerably less than half the length of body. Hind foot less than arm from elbow. Less than one inch in length.

Hab. Cambridge, Mass.

7. *Hyla andersonii*, Baird.—Skin smooth but wrinkled; arm from elbow longer than hind foot. Above dull olive brown, as are all the exposed surfaces of the limbs when the animal is couchant; all the concealed surfaces, especially those in contact with each other, are thickly sprinkled with circular, yellowish white spots on a pale brown ground, seen also on the armpits and sides of body behind. A post-ocular dark vitta extended down the sides (where its lower edge is indistinct) and sending a dark branch across the arm to the chin. No bars on the limbs. Body about two inches in length.

Hab. Anderson, South Carolina.

8. *Hyla eximia*, Baird.—Smooth above. Tibia not half the total length of body. Hind foot not longer than arm from elbow. Bluish above, with two dark longitudinal stripes; beneath white. A dark band from the eye along the sides, margined above and below by a white line, the latter reaching only to the arm, behind which the outline of the dark band is indistinct. Legs not banded. Body about an inch long.

Hab. City of Mexico.

9. *Hyla vanvlietii*, Baird.—Nearly smooth above. Tympanum nearly as large as the eye. Tibia half as long as the body, longer than arm from elbow, which in turn exceeds the foot. Ash gray or olive, with an irregular cruciform dorsal blotch. A black spot on the side above the foreleg. A white spot under the eye. Thigh and leg with three transverse bands each. Their inner surfaces (when flexed) scarcely reticulated, but spotted with white upon a darker ground. Inside of tibia uncolored. Body two inches long.

Hab. Brownsville, Texas.

10. *Hyla affinis*, Baird.—Body rough. Tympanum two-thirds the size of eye. Tibia not quite half the length of the body, but reaching more than half way from anus to centre of eyes. Color ash gray or green, with numerous rounded dorsal blotches. Three transverse bands on each thigh and leg. No vermiculation on anterior and posterior faces of hind legs, nor on lower part of sides. A light spot under the eye. Web of hand extending only to the third joint of the second finger. Arm from elbow less than tibia, but longer than hind foot. About $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches long.

Hab. Northern Sonora.

RANIDÆ.

Teeth in upper jaw. Abdomen smooth. Two outer metatarsals free for most of length, or united only by membranes.

11. *Rana montezumæ*, Baird.—Head as wide as long. Body generally smooth, except pustulation on the sides and sometimes above. No fold of skin, either on the sides or around the tympanum. Tympanum about size of eye; but little variation with sexes. Large vocal vesicles on each side behind jaws. Tongue broad, cornua short. Palatine protuberances close together. Toes not webbed beyond middle of last phalanges on the external sides. Color purplish olive above, grayish below, with crowded spots or vermiculations of whitish all over the body. In young specimens, rounded, areolated, dark blotches on the back and foreleg. Size, that of *Rana pipiens* of Holbrook.

Hab. City of Mexico.

12. *Rana septentrionalis*, Baird.—Body stout, depressed. Skin not tuberculated, but uneven. A broad depressed ridge on each side of back; none intermediate; a branch of same round the tympanum, meeting a thickening from the jaw. Hand much longer than forearm. Femur and tibia nearly equal, about half the length of the body, and less than the hind foot. Foot large; terminal joint of middle toe free; that of the others free only on the inner side. Above light greenish olive, vermiculated with lighter, and with a few large dark blotches posteriorly. Beneath yellow, unblotched. No line on sides of the jaw. Two inches long.

Hab. Northern Minnesota.

13. *Rana sinuata*, Baird.—Body rather stout; tympanum three-fourths the size of eye. Palatine teeth small, ranging with the centres of inner nares. Skin pitted all over with minute pores, with scattered glandules beneath; an indistinct fold of skin on each side of back, none intermediate; granulation of buttocks indistinct. Femur not half the length of body, rather longer than tibia; hind foot considerably longer than the tibia. Above and on sides purplish brown, with sinuations or coarse vermiculations of yellow. Beneath silvery white. Legs transversely barred. Two and a half inches long.

Hab. Sacketts Harbor, N. Y.

14. *Rana pretiosa*, B. and G.—Female. Body thick and stout; head short, broader than long. Tympanum not two-thirds the length of the eye. Tongue large. Palatine teeth minute, posterior to the inner nares. Skin leathery, covered with asperities, except on inner surfaces, even on the sole of the foot. A depressed ridge of skin on each side, none intermediate; a glandular ridge along the upper jaw. Femur not half the length of the body; tibia about equal to it, but shorter than the hind foot. Terminal joint of longest toe free, next margined, and web generally extending between the tips of the toes on one side, and the last articulation on the other. Shortest toe rather more than one-third the length of the hind foot, both measured from the tarsus. Above yellowish brown, with rounded dark blotches. Sides dusky; dorsal ridge lighter; a light line along the posterior ridge of the upper jaw. Faint indications of a dark area about the tympanum; a few spots about the nostrils. Beneath yellowish white, obsoletely marmorated with brown. About two and a half inches long.

Syn. *Rana pretiosa* B. and G., Proc. Acad. Nat. Sc. Phila., vi. 378.

Hab. Washington Territory.

15. *Rana cantabrigensis*, Baird.—Above yellowish brown. A dark vitta through the eye, margined below by whitish. Lateral fold of skin light colored, as is also a median dorsal line extending from the snout to the anus. A narrow light line along the posterior faces of the thigh and leg. Tibia half the length of body. General appearance and size of *R. sylvatica*.

Hab. Cambridge, Mass. (Collection of Prof. Agassiz.)

16. *Rana boylei*, Baird.—A broad depressed ridge of skin on each side of back. Skin finely tubercular above. Head broader than long. Tympanum scarcely evident, pustulated. Tibia more than half the length of body; hind foot less than half this length; webbed entirely to the horny tips; outer toe decidedly

longer than the third. An elongated tubercle at base of inner toe, with another opposite to it. Above dull reddish olivaceous, with indistinct blotches on the back, and fascia on the legs. Beneath yellowish, mottled anteriorly. Two inches long.

Hab. California (interior.)

17. *Scaphiopus couchii*, Baird.—Outer toe but little shorter than the third. Hand nearly as long as forearm. Above grayish ash, with dark markings. A dark line down the back from each orbit, in connection with other markings, causing a slight similarity of pattern to *Hyla versicolor*. Beneath white. An inch long.

Hab. Coahuila and Tamaulipas.