

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF THALASSOPHRYNE (THALASSOPHRYNE DOWI) FROM PUNTA ARENAS AND PANAMA.

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In his stay in Panama, in 1883, Professor Gilbert obtained a very fine example of a new species of *Thalassophryne*, well distinguished from the five known members of that genus by the large number of its dorsal and anal rays. This species received from us the manuscript name of *Thalassophryne dowi*, in honor of Capt. John M. Dow, to whose kindly interest Professor Gilbert has been greatly indebted in his studies of the fishes of Panama. In the fire which destroyed the museum of the Indiana University, the type of *Th. dowi* was burned and the species has remained undescribed.

Lately we have received from Dr. Burt G. Wilder, of Cornell University, three young specimens of this same species, two of them having been dredged off Punta Arenas and the third in the bay of Panama. The largest of these, $3\frac{7}{8}$ inches long, from Punta Arenas, may be taken as the type of the species.

Thalassophryne dowi, sp. nov.

Type No. 39085 U. S. Nat. Mus. From Punta Arenas.

Head 4 in length ($4\frac{2}{3}$ with caudal). Depth $5\frac{2}{3}$ ($6\frac{2}{5}$). D. II, 33; A. 30.

Body comparatively elongate, compressed behind. Head low and rather narrow, its width $1\frac{1}{3}$ in its length. Eyes very small, the diameter not half the interorbital space, and about as long as snout, 8 in head. Interorbital width about $5\frac{1}{2}$ in head. Opercular spine short, nearly 4 in head. Mouth oblique, the lower jaw much projecting. Maxillary 2 in head, extending to beyond eye. Teeth small, those on the palatines largest; teeth of upper jaw smaller than those of the lower. Anterior teeth of the lower jaw in about two series. Pectoral fins long, $1\frac{1}{6}$ in head, reaching about to fifth anal ray. Last rays of dorsal and anal fully joined to the caudal.

The color is nearly lost in the specimens examined by us. The first dorsal is blackish, and there are traces of bluish spots on the body. Otherwise these specimens are immaculate. It is probable that in life the species has no very sharply defined markings; but the paleness of our examples is apparently due to their having been allowed to stand in open sun light.

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