

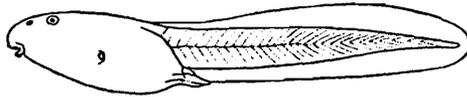
MISCELLANEA.

BATRACHIA.

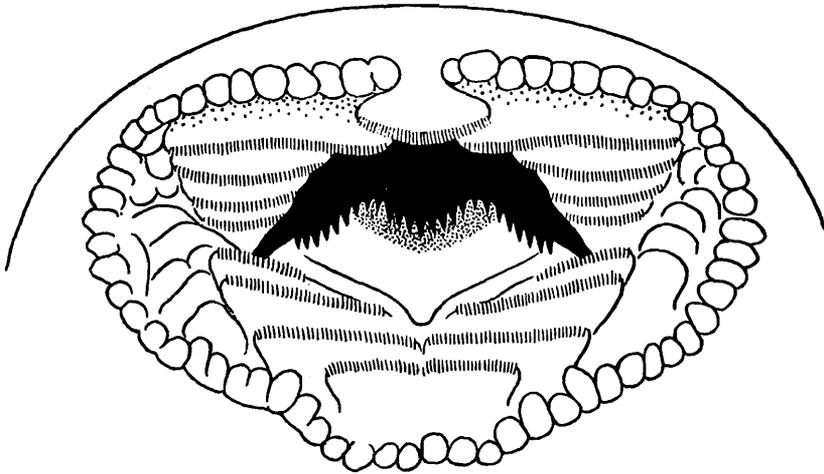
The occurrence of *Rana pleskii*, Günther, in Kashmir.

The frog *Rana pleskii* is known from the Chinese Province of Sze-chuen, from North-eastern Tibet and from the Provinces of Tsang and U in the south of the latter country. It is common in these provinces at altitudes of from 13,000 to 15,000 feet and breeds in small streams and pools.

I have described the tadpole in *Rec. Ind. Mus.* II, p. 345. To my description I need only add that the mouth-disk is cup-like,



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FIG. 1.—Tadpole of *Rana pleskii* from Lake Kreshen, Kashmir, nat. size.
" 2.—Mouth-disk $\times 18$.

and that the rows of horny teeth, which vary from four to five on each lip, are supported on thick fleshy ridges, which are sometimes sub-divided by longitudinal grooves. The upper beak is apt to be worn on the edge and may thus assume somewhat different shapes. The structure and appearance of the tadpole are very characteristic, and I do not think that there can be any doubt as to its identity. In the last few years I have received specimens

that agree exactly with those collected by Capt. Stewart in Tibet, from four different localities in Kashmir, at altitudes between 9,000 and 12,000 feet. These specimens were sent by the late Mr. H. C. Bion of the Geological Survey of India; by Col. F. Smith, R.A.M.C.; and by Mr. F. J. Mitchell, Honorary Director, Trout Culture, Srinagar, Kashmir.

The following are the Kashmir localities:—

Outlet of Gangabal Lake, *ca.* 11,700 ft.; Nagabera, 10,000-10,500 ft.; Lidarwart, *ca.* 9,000 ft.; Lake Kreshen, 12063 ft.

N. ANNANDALE.

BIRDS.

Myiophonus temmincki.

Amongst a dozen specimens of the Himalayan Whistling-Thrush recently lent me by the Indian Museum were half-a-dozen from Gilgit, Kashmir, which ranged so much larger than the others—wings and tail of the largest male (No. 15546) 188 and 152 mm. respectively—that it seemed probable they might represent a distinct race. Still later, however, I received the rest of the Indian Museum series which comprises about forty specimens obtained from localities between Afghanistan and the Shan States, Gilgit and “south of Irawadi”; and though none are so large as the larger Gilgit examples, yet several approach those in length of wing and tail:—Kulu, ♂, 182 and 137; Simla, 177 and 140; South of Irawadi, 179 and 132. Such individuals bridge the difference between birds from Gilgit and other localities so that it seems that a distinction cannot be maintained, but it is perhaps desirable to draw attention to the point that it may receive further consideration.

Amongst the collection is a Whistling-Thrush from Komseng obtained by Mr. S. W. Kemp during the course of the Abor Expedition and referred to by Stuart Baker (*Rec. Ind. Mus.* VIII, 1913, p. 278) as a typical *temmincki*. This, however, hardly seems to be the case as all the other specimens of *temmincki* in the Museum have the feathers of the nape and inter-scapular region pointed, with pointed terminal shining patches, while in the Komseng bird, which is not in worn plumage, the same feathers have rounded ends and broad rounded patches. Though apparently adult, the specimen is rather small (wing 160, tail 116 mm.) and one would like to see more skins from the region in which it was taken. It is quite distinct from *eugenii*.

C. BODEN KLOSS.