VI. AN UNDESCRIBED BURMESE FROG ALLIED TO RANA TIGRINA

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Mr. I. H. Burkill has recently called my attention to certain frogs eaten in Burma and represented by specimens in the collection of the Reporter on Economic Products to the Government of India. Among these specimens are several that appear to represent a species hitherto confused with Rana tigrina and here described as:—

Rana burkilli, sp. nov.

Closely allied to Rana tigrina, Boie, from which it may be distinguished by the following characters:—

- (1) The snout is much less strongly pointed and does not project so far beyond the mouth, so that the upper jaw when viewed from below appears to be of nearly the same width throughout instead of being distinctly broader in front than at the sides.
- (2) The tibio-tarsal joint falls short of the ear, as a rule by a considerable distance.
- (3) The internal metatarsal tubercle is somewhat feebly developed.
- (4) The skin of the back and the dorsal surface of the thighs is more warty than is usually the case in R. tigrina.
- (5) The dorsal surface is of a dull brownish or greyish colour spotted with black, the surface of the longitudinal ridges and the tips of the smaller warts being whitish. The ventral surface is marked with black, the markings sometimes taking on a reticulate character all over the belly. There is no pale dorsal stripe.

Localities.—Mandalay, Upper Burma (J Anderson, Indian Museum); Tavoy (types); Bassein, Pegu.

Length of type specimen (No. 16569, Indian Museum) 91 mm. without legs.

None of the specimens have vocal sacs, but as most of them have been eviscerated their sex cannot be ascertained.

Mr. Burkill tells me, on the authority of the Burmese, that the new species buries itself in the embankments of rice-fields during the dry weather, while R. tigrina remains active throughout the year. The two species occur in the same localities.