

DESCRIPTION OF *AUSTROCHAPERINA* A NEW GENUS  
OF ENGYSTOMATIDÆ FROM NORTH AUSTRALIA.

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(Figs. 35-40, and Plates viii., ix.)

In the collection of the Australian Museum are three frogs representing three species of a new genus. While in quest of additional material I was permitted through the kindness of Mr. George Masters, Curator of the Macleay Museum, to examine the collection of that Institution, and was fortunate enough to find a bottle containing ten specimens of frogs which represent two species identical with my own. This collection is from the Russell River, North-east Queensland, and contains nine specimens of one species (*A. robusta*, mihi.), and one of another (*A. ornata*, mihi.). My thanks are due to Professor W. A. Haswell, M.A., for his kind permission to borrow these frogs for descriptive purposes, and for granting an exchange of specimens which enabled me to dissect an example.

An examination of the sacral vertebræ and sternal apparatus of *A. robusta* proves that it belongs to the family Engystomatidæ, which up till the present was unrecorded from the Australian continent. These frogs represent a new genus whose affinities are with *Chaperina*, Mocquard, found in Borneo and New Guinea, and for which I propose the name *Austrochaperina*.

I wish to thank Mr. Charles Hedley for his kind endeavour to procure additional specimens at considerable inconvenience to himself and Mr. A. R. McCulloch for his ever ready assistance.

*AUSTROCHAPERINA*, *gen. nov.*

Pupil oval or nearly round, horizontal. Tongue oval or sub-circular, entire,<sup>1</sup> and free behind. Vomerine teeth none. Palatine ridges weak, oblique. Two transverse dermal ridges across the hinder palate. The anterior is short, usually not serrated being represented by a single dermal lobe, and is situated between the

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<sup>1</sup> The tongue appears to be subject to much variation due to contraction in preservation, and is thus rendered almost useless as a character. In one specimen of *A. gracilipes* and one of *A. ornata*, it is elongate-oval and deeply notched behind, but this is, I think, due to injury.