

head between the eyes. Irides golden hazel. External surface of legs and arms spotted or banded or irregularly striped. Abdomen yellowish white. A dark strip from the nostrils passes through the eye, over shoulders and half way down the side. Throat more or less brown, generally wrinkled under the tongue and fimbres. Tongue bifid behind. Beneath the tongue there is a small opening at each side, and these unite at the entrance into the sublingual sack. When making its crepitant croak, this sack is distended in the shape of a small orange, and rapidly emptied, forcing the wind over the edges against the palate and through the nostrils. By this means the peculiar noise is produced. This species breeds early, depositing its spawn in water, very soon after the ice disappears. I have heard its notes at one end of a small pool when the other end was glazed over with ice, and when the temperature of the water was 33° Fahrenheit. It is a difficult matter to discover this little frog when it sounds its note and it man approaches, no matter how careful, the least motion causes it to be still. It protrudes half of its head over the surface of the water, and in calm sunshiny days, a gentle thrill of wavelets may be noticed around its tiny head. But the moment that it sees anything in motion approaching or passing, its sack suddenly collapses, the tiny head sinks, and Mr. Frog goes noiselessly to the bottom, without leaving the slightest ruffle on the surface of the water. It drops down among the mud and decayed herbage without any effort to bury its body. Its imitative powers are so great that the spot in which it hides itself cannot be seen; the colour of its body being almost like the mud, &c., and spots or stripings have a tendency to make it more obscure. Regarding its note (which is powerful in proportion to its size) it may be heard on a calm spring evening, at a distance of a mile. Its weight is about thirty grains or half a drachm, therefore an ordinary sized man of 155 lbs. weight is 32,720 times larger than this little vocalist. Now suppose a man gifted with the same proportional vocal power, stood anywhere on the equator, raising his voice aloud, the sound would go round the whole world, and lap over its point of starting 8,720 miles. This illustrates an amazing power of producing sound, and it is well that our atmosphere resists and modifies sound in accordance with natural laws, otherwise the surface of the world would become a continual

din. There is another fact that I have often observed in reference to the notes of this frog, that is, its power of reverberation, seeming as if produced by ventriloquism. I have frequently stood motionless near the edge of a pool or swamp, hidden perhaps by a root or an upturned tree, listening to a score of these vocalists in full chorus, as if each endeavoured to drown the sound of its neighbour, and although I looked with great care, I could not see one individual. I have often screeled with my eye for some particular *Hyla*, as far as my vision permitted, and the sound reverberated in my ears, as if the animal was ten or fifteen yards away, while in fact it was actually at my feet. One warm day at the end of April, 1880, I was collecting on the banks of a large pool in the bush. Suddenly I heard a single *Hyla Pickeringii* several yards away, and as I was anxious for some exchanges, I went cautiously to the spot. As I arrived, the same tone of note resounded from the very spot I had left. Returning again, it sounded from an opposite quarter, and, thither I followed the sound as if in mockery, in the very spot I had just left. I proceeded with more caution than before, and after a short time, the sound proceeded from a limb some distance above me. I happened to cast my eye on a fly that rested on a twig about four feet from me, thus by mere accident I discovered a *Hyla* perched on a dead branch. I stood motionless, intently watching it and presently I saw its little pouch distend, and the notes follows, but I could not tell from what quarter, had not my eye detected the musician; my ears led me astray, indeed, they failed to assist me to the true locality from which the sound proceeded. This power of reverberation or ventriloquism, call it what we may, is possessed by no other species to the same extent. It is comparatively easy to trace any other frog by its notes. I saw the spawn this season on the 4th of April, but this year has been exceptionally early. This frog seeks its food on herbage, but seldom climbs to a great distance from the earth. On opening the stomachs of several, I have found Aphides, small beetles and other insects, and on one occasion, a small earth-worm. This frog is seldom seen in daytime; it is more of a night feeder. In the nesting season, the note differs little from that of any other period, and the name given to this sound, is most admirably expressed in French by *chant amom*. The following measurements of a