

VIII.—*Description of a New Fish of the Genus Paratilapia, from the Upper Zambesi.* By G. A. BOULENGER, F.R.S.

(Plate XIV.)

ON a recent visit to the Victoria Falls, Mr. W. L. Sclater obtained three fishes in the Zambesi, immediately above the falls, which he has kindly sent to me for examination. One, known as the Tiger Fish, is a Characinid, *Hydrocyon lineatus*, Blkr., widely distributed in Africa (from the rivers of Guinea to the Congo in the West, from the Blue and White Niles to the Limpopo in the East); the two others, generally known as Bream, and prized as excellent table fish, belong to distinct species of the Cichlid genus *Paratilapia*, Blkr. One of these, originally described by Günther as *Hemichromis robustus*, from Lake Nyassa, had previously been recorded by me from the Upper Zambesi under the name of *Hemichromis jallæ*, the description being based on a young specimen, which was afterwards identified by me with Günther's species as *Paratilapia robusta*. The other, which is allied to the Nyassan species *Paratilapia afra*, Gthr., and *P. modesta*, Gthr., represents a new species which I have much pleasure in naming after Mrs. Sclater.

PARATILAPIA CARLOTTÆ.

Teeth small, in four series in both jaws, outer largest. Jaws equal. Depth of body $2\frac{1}{3}$ times in total length, length of head $3\frac{1}{5}$ times. Snout with slightly concave upper profile, $1\frac{1}{3}$ as long as the eye, which is $4\frac{1}{5}$ times in length of head and $1\frac{1}{2}$ in interorbital width; præorbital as long as eye; maxillary not quite extending to below anterior border of eye; four series of scales on the cheek, the depth of which is greater than the diameter of the eye; large scales on the operculum. Gill-rakers short, 12 on lower part of anterior arch, the largest T-shaped. Dorsal xv 12; spines increasing in length to the last, which measures nearly $\frac{2}{3}$ length of head and $\frac{1}{2}$ longest soft rays. Anal iii 10, pointed like the soft

dorsal; third spine longest, a little shorter than longest dorsal. Pectoral pointed, a little shorter than head, not reaching origin of anal. Ventral reaching first soft ray of anal. Caudal rounded. Caudal peduncle slightly deeper than long. Scales finely denticulate on the border, $33\frac{4}{11}$; lat. line $2\frac{3}{4}$. Colour, in formol, dark brown above, white beneath; dorsal, anal, and caudal fins with round black spots, most distinct and forming regular series between the rays, on the anal and on the base of the dorsal; a black opercular spot.

The single specimen measures 255 millimetres.

This new species differs principally from *P. afra* in the fin-formula (D. xv 12; A. iii 10, instead of D. xvii 8; A. iii 6-7), from *P. modesta* in the shorter snout and the non-projecting mandible.



Boulenger, George Albert. 1905. "Description of a new fish of the genus *Paratilapia*, from the Upper Zambesi." *Annals of the South African Museum. Annale van die Suid-Afrikaanse Museum* 3, 301–302.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/17221>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/31500>

Holding Institution

MBLWHOI Library

Sponsored by

MBLWHOI Library

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: Public domain. The BHL considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection.

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.