



*Salamandra jeffersoniana.*

*J. Queen, del.*

*F. S. Duval, Lith. Philadelphia.*

SALAMANDRA JEFFERSONIANA.—*Green.**Plate XIV.*

**CHARACTERS.** Head very large; eyes full and prominent; body long, cylindrical, light brown above, marked with azure spots; tail length of body, compressed and pointed at the tip.

**SYNONYMES.** *Salamandra Jeffersoniana*, *Green*, Maclurian Lyceum, p. 4.

*Salamandra Jeffersoniana*, *Harlan*, Med. and Phys. Res., p. 98.

**DESCRIPTION.** The head is very large, with the snout rounded and full. The mouth is large; the tongue is small, round, pediculated, though slightly attached anteriorly. The palate is armed with numerous minute teeth, that make a transverse row back of the posterior nares, and with two longitudinal series reaching to the posterior extremity of the palate.

The nostrils are near the snout. The eyes are remote and prominent, with both pupil and iris entirely black. The neck is contracted, and has a well marked transverse fold at the throat.

The body is elongated, cylindrical; the tail is as long as the body, round, and tapering to near its extremity, which is compressed and pointed.

The extremities are well developed; the anterior are provided with four fingers; the posterior with five toes, all remarkably long.

**COLOUR.** The whole animal above "is dusky-brown, interspersed with beautiful



azure-blue points, scattered irregularly over the whole surface; on the tail and legs these points are so grouped as to form small blue spots, while along the spine they are scarcely visible." "The throat and abdomen are purple."

**DIMENSIONS.** Length of head, 8 lines; length of body, 2 inches 6 lines; length of tail, 2 inches 10 lines: total length, 6 inches.

**HABITS.** Professor Green says this animal is terrestrial, and feeds on insects, earthworms, &c., and that "it creeps with much facility along the ground, being greatly assisted in its motions by its extremely long fingers and toes."

**GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION.** Western Pennsylvania, near Charter's creek, is the only known locality of the *Salamandra Jeffersoniana*.

**GENERAL REMARKS.** This animal was first observed and described by Professor Green, an excellent herpetologist. Never having seen the animal alive, I cannot answer for the correctness of the colours of the accompanying figure; yet it was copied from an original drawing of Peale, done for Professor Green.



Holbrook, John Edwards. 1842. "Salamandra jeffersoniana – Green." *North American herpetology; or, A description of the reptiles inhabiting the United States* 5, 51–52. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.326871>.

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