



*Salamandra helmeata* .

*C. Rogers pinx<sup>t</sup>*

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SALAMANDRA BILINEATA.—*Green.**Plate XVI.*

CHARACTERS. Head small; body cylindrical; tail longer than the body, and slightly compressed towards the tip. Colour above brownish-yellow, with a black lateral line on each side; belly yellow.

SYNONYMES. *Salamandra bilineata*,\* *Green*, Jour. Acad. Nat. Scien. Philad., vol. i. p. 325.  
*Salamandra flavissima*, *Harlan*, Med. and Phys. Res., p. 97.

DESCRIPTION. The head is small, with the snout rather rounded than pointed. The tongue is small, sub-oval, thin, pediculated, and very movable. The palate is armed with a transverse row of minute teeth that begin behind the inner margin of the posterior nares; behind these teeth are two longitudinal groups extending to the posterior extremity of the palate.

The nostrils are lateral, though near the snout. The eyes are prominent, the pupil black, with a golden iris. The neck is not much contracted, but there is a slight cutaneous fold at the throat.

The body is cylindrical. The tail is also cylindrical, long, thick at the root, but soon becomes slender, and is slightly compressed towards the tip.

The anterior extremities are exceedingly small and delicate, and terminate in four small fingers. The posterior are twice the size, and have five toes.

\* From an error of the press, this stands *Salamandra bislineata*.



COLOUR. The upper surface of the animal is brownish-yellow, with a black lateral line on each side, which begins behind the orbit of the eye, and is continued without interruption along the flanks, above the anterior and posterior extremities, and is generally lost near the end of the tail. The inferior surface of the whole animal is bright yellow, and the skin so delicate as to allow the intestines to be seen, which gives to the animal a darker appearance along the mesial line.

DIMENSIONS. Length of head, 3 lines; length of body to vent, 1 inch 5 lines; length of tail beyond vent, 2 inches 2 lines: total length, 3 inches 10 lines.

HABITS. The *Salamandra bilineata* is found on land, but in damp places only, and is more lively and active than are Salamanders in general. It lives concealed under rocks or old trees, whence it emerges after a rain, or in the dusk of evening, to seek its prey.

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION. This animal has a wide range; Dr. Pickering has observed it in Salem, Massachusetts; Professor Green in Jersey; and I have found it in the lower part of North Carolina, and have received it from Greenville and Pendleton, in South Carolina.

GENERAL REMARKS. Professor Green first observed and described this Salamander under the name it here bears.

Dr. Harlan afterwards, apparently unaware of this, gave of it another description as the *Salamandra flavissima*, a name which must consequently be erased from our catalogue of reptiles, as that imposed by Professor Green has the right of priority.



Holbrook, John Edwards. 1842. "Salamandra bilineata – Green." *North American herpetology; or, A description of the reptiles inhabiting the United States* 5, 55–56. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.326873>.

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