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XVI.—Description of a new species of agouti (Myoprocta)

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of the abdomen, where it is clear red. Wings rather dilute fuliginous, violaceous.

Hab. Pachacayo, Peru, over 12,000 ft., March 27 (*C. H. T. Townsend*).

A species of the same general type as *C. hæmorrhoidalis* (Fab.), but more robust, with the wings darker and the abdomen less blue. Superficially, it is exactly like the workers of *Bombus coccineus*, Friese, which were taken by Professor Townsend at the same time and place.

Bombus rufocinctus albertensis (Cockerell).

The following notes, additional to the original description, are taken from the type. Pile coarse, rather long, on abdomen much shorter than in *B. kirbyellus*; ocelli about as in *rufocinctus*, as also the deep sulcus in front of middle ocellus; corbicular fringe pure black; spinules of tarsal joints red; black interalar band eye-shaped, narrowing laterally. The following measurements are in microns:— antero-posterior diameter of middle ocellus 357; transverse diameter of a lateral ocellus 323; lateral ocellus distant from eye 595; middle ocellus to lateral ocellus 221; length of third antennal joint 595, of fourth 323, of fifth 357.

XVI.—*Description of a new Species of Agouti* (Myoprocta).

By R. I. POCKOCK, F.R.S.

Myoprocta pratti, sp. n.

General colour of upperside olive-green, owing to the pale yellow annulation of the black hairs. Dorsally the pale annuli are narrower than laterally, making the sides of the body lighter than the back. Ventrally the yellow annuli prevail over the black, so that the sides of the belly are pale yellow. Along the middle line of the belly there is a narrow but rather ill-defined white area, which spreads slightly between the hind legs and markedly between the fore legs on the chest, where it is set off both on the throat anteriorly and on the inner side of the limbs by bright nearly orange-yellow hairs. The anterior part of the throat behind the interrampal area whitish, but the sides of the neck and the cheek covered with hairs banded with black and bright yellow. The top of the head, and especially the muzzle,

brighter coloured than the back. A bright yellow streak behind each ear and a conspicuous bright yellow stripe running internally down the front of the thigh to the hock. Anterior surface of legs covered to the digits with hairs speckled yellow and black.

Loc. Peru.

One specimen (type) presented to the Zoological Society by Mr. B. Chavez, who brought it from the "Amazons." A second procured by Mr. A. E. Pratt on the Marona River, Peru.

In *Myoprocta acouchy*, Linn., from Guiana, the hairs are speckled with rich rusty yellow, and many of those on the hind-quarters are wholly black, the underside is rusty orange all over, and the fronts of the legs are almost the same colour as the belly and unspeckled.

XVII.—*The Classification of the Percoid Fishes.*

By C. TATE REGAN, M.A.

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THE large and varied order Percomorphi occupies a central position among the Teleostean fishes. On the one hand it appears to be derived from the Berycomorphi, and on the other it seems to have given rise to a number of specialized offshoots, which may be regarded as ordinally distinct: Scleroparei, Heterosomata, Plectognathi, Discocephali, Xenopterygii, Pediculati, Symbranchii, and Opisthomi.

The Percomorphi may be thus defined:—

"Symmetrical acanthopterous physoclists with normal dorsal fin, pelvic fins never more than 6-rayed, subabdominal, thoracic, jugular, or mental in position, the pelvic bones typically attached to the cleithra; principal caudal rays not more than 17. No orbitosphenoid. Second sub-orbital not forming a stay for the præoperculum. Post-temporal more or less distinctly forked."

At present I am inclined to recognize thirteen suborders, viz. Percoidea, Trichiuroidea, Scombroidea, Siganoidea, Teuthidoidea, Kurtoidea, Gobioida, Blennioidea, Stromateoidea, Anabantoidea, Mugiloidea, Polynemoidea. But it is largely a matter of opinion whether some of these may not be regarded as ordinally distinct, or whether others should not rank merely as divisions of the Percoidea.

I have already dealt with the Trichiuroidea, Scombroidea,