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LXII.—Descriptions of new species of *Crocidura*

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This second new species of *Mesolepis* is at once distinguishable from *M. tuberculatus* by the scale-ornament, and from the Coal-measure species *M. Wardi*, Young, by the greater proportional size of the head and the peculiar smallness and narrowness of the scales.

Locality. Glencartholm, Eskdale. Type in Edinburgh Museum.

Cheirodopsis Geikiei, Traq.

More perfect examples of this interesting Platyosomid show that not only were the dorsal and ventral peaks of *Cheirodus* wanting, but that it possessed well developed ventral fins which are absent in the allied genus.

Tarrasius problematicus, Traq.

Prof. Zittel, in the ichthyological part of his 'Handbuch der Palæontologie,' has provisionally placed this extraordinary fossil fish in the Dipnoi *. More recent acquisitions show that such a view of its position is quite untenable, the pectoral fin, unknown previously, being rounded and with only a very small basal lobe.

We now know the form of the entire fish, and, though the osteology of the head is not sufficiently clearly exhibited to decide its systematic position with absolute certainty, the obtusely lobate character of the pectoral fin seems to point towards the Crossopterygii. The teeth are small and obtuse. The anterior part of the body is naked, the small Acanthodian-like scales only commencing behind the abdominal region. There is no trace of ventral fins.

The locality of the original specimen was in the "Report" erroneously stated to be Tarras Foot. All the examples as yet known were found at Glencartholm; nevertheless the name of the genus must stand.

LXII.—*Descriptions of new Species of Crocidura.*

By G. E. DOBSON, M.A., F.R.S.

Crocidura Grayi.

Like *C. Horsfieldii* †, but considerably larger, although the tail is not longer than in that species and is similarly nearly naked; the fur (so far as can be ascertained from an inspec-

* I. Abtheilung, 3 Band, p. 129.

† *Crocidura Horsfieldii*, *Tomes*, = *C. retusa*, *Peters*.

tion of specimens preserved in alcohol) is very similar in length and in colour to that of that species; the lateral gland is as well developed as in the males of *C. Horsfieldii*, perhaps somewhat larger, in the single female available for examination (which is, however, not quite full-grown) there is no trace of one.

Fur above reddish brown, beneath greyish brown, the basal three fourths of the hairs somewhat slaty. Skull much larger than that of *C. Horsfieldii*; teeth (see my 'Monograph of the Insectivora,' part iii. fasc. 1, pl. xxviii. fig. 11) like those of that species, the last upper incisor nearly equal to the anterior maxillary tooth in vertical extent, but less than it in cross section.

Length (of an adult male, the type): head and body 68 millim., tail 51, ear 10, elbow to end of middle digit (without claw) 18, manus (without claws) 8, pes (without claws) 13½.

Hab. Philippine Islands. From Mr. Cuming's collection in the British Museum (Natural History).

I name this species in memory of the late Dr. J. E. Gray, F.R.S., of the British Museum.

Crocidura Petersii.

Slightly larger than *C. Doriana*, resembling that species in the peculiar position of the lateral gland, but differing from it in the form of the teeth and in the much greater length of the foot. The measurements of the skull are different (see below) and much greater than those of fully adult specimens of *C. Doriana*, although the specimen from which this description is taken is not full-grown, thus indicating a much larger species; the bones of the skull also are much thicker, very unlike the diaphanous skull of *C. Doriana*.

Ears short and clothed with short hairs only; the tail is thinly covered with very short hairs, but comparatively plentifully set with long brown hairs, which extend along three fourths its length; the fur on the back is reddish brown, beneath ashy with a brownish tinge.

The anterior cusp of the first upper incisor extends far beneath the posterior basal cusp; the latter is very peculiarly shaped (see 'Monograph of the Insectivora,' pt. iii. fasc. 1, pl. xxviii. fig. 17), its anterior margin is absolutely straight, and its cusp is well developed; the anterior maxillary tooth is larger than the third incisor in cross section and equals it in vertical extent.

The following are the measurements of the type, a not quite full-grown male specimen:—

Length: head and body 92 millim., vent to tip of tail 52, ear 9, elbow to end of middle digit (without claw) 24, manus

(without claws) 10, pes (without claws) 17; skull, total length between perpendiculars 27, occipital crest to anterior extremity of premaxilla 24, greatest width of skull $11\frac{1}{2}$, length of upper tooth-row $13\frac{1}{2}$, mandibular condyle to anterior extremity of first lower incisor 19, length of lower tooth-row $12\frac{1}{2}$.

Hab. Western Africa (the Gaboon).

Type no. 5552 in the collection of the Berlin Museum.

I name this species in memory of the late Prof. W. C. H. Peters, Director of the Zoological Museum at Berlin.

Crocidura Martensii.

About the size of *C. sericea*, but differing from that species in the colour of the fur and in the form of the teeth. Fur dark brown, with shining extremities, on the lower surface similar with greyish tips, on the whole resembling the fur of *C. aequatorialis*; tail thinly covered with short brown hairs above intermixed with long white ones, beneath whitish, with very short brown hairs; ear-conch clothed with very short fur, except where a few moderately long hairs spring from the margin of the upper internal fold; manus and pes clothed with short pale yellow-brown fur. The lateral gland is of moderate size and in the usual position. The first upper incisor has a much shorter anterior cusp than in *C. sericea*, and the other teeth are quite differently shaped to those of that species, as may be seen by comparing 'Monograph of the Insectivora,' pt. iii. fasc. 1, pl. xxviii. fig. 15, with pl. xxvii. fig. 5. The anterior maxillary tooth (penultimate premolar) is somewhat larger in cross section at the base than the third upper incisor, but it scarcely equals it in vertical extent, its cusp considerably exceeds the anterior basal cusp of the last premolar, its posterior margin is convex and close to the last premolar. The posterior basal cusp of the first incisor is rather small, and there is a small internal basal process.

Length (of an adult male specimen preserved in alcohol): head and body 75 millim., tail 58, ear 9, elbow to end of middle digit (without claw) 18, manus 7, pes 13, distance of summit of cusp of first incisor from that of last premolar 5.

Hab. Cape of Good Hope. Type no. 5588, preserved in the collection of the Zoological Museum at Berlin.

I name this species in honour of Prof. E. von Martens, of the Berlin Museum.

Crocidura pilosa.

About the size of *C. fumigata* or very slightly larger. The body is densely clothed with rather long fur, dark red-brown

above, and slightly paler with shining tips beneath, the basal four fifths of the hairs on both upper and lower surfaces are bluish with a greyish tinge. The ears are more thickly clothed with short hairs than usual in specimens of this genus, and the same remark applies to the tail, which is well covered with coarse short hairs, which lengthen and form a short pencil at the extremity, interspersed through basal two thirds are long fine hairs; the feet are well covered with short hairs; the hairs of the tail are dark brown above and slightly paler beneath; on the feet similar to those on the upper surface of the tail.

The skull closely resembles that of *C. fumigata* in size, but differs in the greater elevation of the premaxillary bones (see 'Monograph of the Insectivora,' pt. iii. fasc. 1, pl. xxviii. fig. 9); the teeth differ from those of that species in some peculiarities of form and implantation, better understood by comparing *op. cit.* pl. xxviii. fig. 9, with fig. 8, than from any description; the anterior cusp of the anterior incisor is conspicuously shorter than in *C. fumigata*.

Length (of an adult female specimen preserved in alcohol): head and body 60 millim., tail 48, ear $7\frac{1}{2}$, elbow to end of middle digit (without claw) $18\frac{1}{2}$, manus 8, pes $13\frac{1}{2}$, length of skull between perpendiculars 20, occipital crest to end of premaxilla 17, greatest width of skull 9, length of upper tooth-row 8.

Hab. Transvaal. Type no. 6200, preserved in the collection of the Zoological Museum at Berlin.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTICES.

A Treatise on the Common Sole (Solea vulgaris), considered both as an Organism and as a Commodity. By J. T. CUNNINGHAM, M.A. &c.

IN requesting and obtaining the liberal aid of Government and public corporations, as well as that of private individuals throughout Britain, the founders of the Biological Laboratory at Plymouth entailed a certain amount of responsibility—more especially with regard to the first-mentioned; and this work is an earnest of that responsibility. The author of the treatise came to his task with experience gained at the Granton Laboratory and the rich grounds in and off the Forth, and this experience crops up here and there in the work, and adds to the interest as well as to the value of the observations. The work consists of a more or less scientific study of the common sole and an account of the present condition of the sole-fishery, together with the possible practical application of the former to the purpose of maintaining or increasing the supply of soles available for the market.