This article was downloaded by: [NUS National University of Singapore]

On: 10 August 2015, At: 15:40

Publisher: Taylor & Francis

Informa Ltd Registered in England and Wales Registered Number: 1072954 Registered office: 5 Howick Place, London, SW1P 1WG

Annals and Magazine of Natural History: Series 1

Publication details, including instructions for authors and subscription information:

[http://
www.tandfonline.com/loi/
tnah07](http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/tnah07)

On a representative of the order of insectivorous mammalia belonging to New Holland

M. Gervais

Published online: 15 Mar 2010.

To cite this article: M. Gervais (1838) On a representative of the order of insectivorous mammalia belonging to New Holland, *Annals and Magazine of Natural History: Series 1*, 2:9, 237-237, DOI: [10.1080/00222933809512386](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222933809512386)

To link to this article: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00222933809512386>

PLEASE SCROLL DOWN FOR ARTICLE

Taylor & Francis makes every effort to ensure the accuracy of all the information (the "Content") contained in the publications on our platform. However, Taylor & Francis, our agents, and our licensors make no representations or warranties whatsoever as to the accuracy, completeness, or suitability for any purpose of the Content. Any opinions and views expressed in this publication are the opinions and views of the authors, and are not the views of or endorsed by Taylor & Francis. The accuracy of the Content should not be relied upon and should be independently verified with primary sources of information. Taylor and Francis shall not be liable for any losses, actions, claims, proceedings, demands, costs, expenses, damages, and other liabilities whatsoever or howsoever caused arising directly or indirectly in connection with, in relation to or arising out of the use of the Content.

This article may be used for research, teaching, and private study purposes. Any substantial or systematic reproduction, redistribution, reselling, loan, sub-licensing, systematic supply, or distribution in any form to anyone is expressly forbidden. Terms & Conditions of access and use can be found at <http://www.tandfonline.com/page/terms-and-conditions>

The system is most singular. The male continued copulating nearly one hour, but I could not observe that they locked like dogs, and they did not turn as the latter animals do. The time of gestation has been twelve weeks from the first act of copulation; four cubs were produced, which continued blind for nine days."—J. J. ISAACSON, *Liverpool Zoological Gardens*.

ON A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ORDER OF INSECTIVOROUS MAMMALIA
BELONGING TO NEW HOLLAND. BY M. GERVAIS.

The animal which is the subject of this note has been recently described in England under the name of *Myrmecobius fasciatus* by Mr. Waterhouse, who considers it as belonging to the class of the *Didelphides*, at the same time noticing the points of resemblance between it and certain Insectivora, and principally with the *Tupaia* or *Cladobata*. M. Gervais, insisting on these resemblances, remarks, that, comparing the osseous head of the *Myrmecobius* with that of the *Didelphides*, we find in the existence of two palatin holes (instead of four as in this group of animals), in the arrangement of the ascending branch of the lower jaw, &c., differences which would rather induce us to refer this new genus to the monodelphial mammifera than to the didelphial.—*Compte Rendu*, No. 14, Oct. 1838.

CAOUTCHOUC IN PLANTS*.

The substance caoutchouc is a widely disseminated constituent of vegetable fluids. It has hitherto, I believe, been found only in plants with milky juice, although its presence in all plants yielding such fluid remains to be proved. The presence of caoutchouc in silk has been, I believe, attributed to the nature of the fluids of the plants on which the caterpillars feed; but this, although applicable to the mulberry plants, can scarcely hold good with the various species of *Tetranthera* on which the Moonga feeds, or with the castor-oil plant, the chief food of the Eria, which in Assam does not appear to yield milk. Milky juice is often characteristic of certain families, but often not; its presence is frequently of importance, as it often affords valuable indications of affinity. It is remarkable that it is almost unknown in the grand division of Monocotyledonous plants. The families in which its presence may be said to be universal are *Apocqueea*, *Asclepiadea*, *Campanulacea*, *Sobeliacea* and the great division of *Compositæ*, *Chicoracea*, of which the lettuce is a familiar example. It is of common occurrence in *Euphorbiacea* and *Tulicea*, which orders may be looked on as the grand sources of caoutchouc.

* From Mr. Wm. Griffith's Report. Journ. of the Asiatic Soc. of Bengal.