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L.—A new Bamboo-Rat from Perak.
By OLDFIELD THOMAS.

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IN 1902 the British Museum received from Mr. L. Wray, of the Perak Museum, a specimen with skull of a bamboo-rat, referred at the time to *Rhizomys pruinosus*, from Bukit Gantang, Larut. An example of the ordinary Malay bamboo-rat of the genus *Nyctocleptes* was also sent with the same consignment.

In writing my notes on bamboo-rats last year*, I ignored the Perak *Rhizomys*, because of a doubt as to its having its proper skull; but now Mr. H. C. Robinson, in connection with his general work on Malayan mammals, has asked me to examine and report on this specimen, as being the only Malayan *Rhizomys* (s. s.) on record.

The skull is unfortunately in a very bad condition, but, so far as it shows any definite characters, it agrees with that of *Nyctocleptes* rather than *Rhizomys*, while the skin is clearly referable to the latter genus. I am disposed to believe, therefore, that when the specimen was stuffed, as it had been in Perak, the local taxidermist had inserted in the skin a skull of *Nyctocleptes*, common enough in that region.

The skin, however, shows by itself such characters as indicate that the species is new. It may be called

Rhizomys umbriceps, sp. n.

Most nearly related to the *R. pannosus* of South-eastern Siam, with which it shares the harsh poor fur, the general colour, and the absence of the distinctive hoary appearance found in *R. pruinosus* and *senex*. Body-colour nearly as in *pruinosus*, more or less greyish drab, the underfur light grey, the longer hairs brown, some of them tipped with white. But the head, instead of being concolor with the body or very slightly darker, is heavily washed with blackish on crown and cheeks, the top of the muzzle alone rather lighter. Under surface slightly lighter than upper. Hands and feet grey. Tail naked, brown.

* Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. (8) xvi. pp. 56 & 313 (1915).

Ann. & Mag. N. Hist. Ser. 8. Vol. xviii. 30

Approximate dimensions (measured on skin) :—

Head and body 340 mm. ; tail 90 ; hind foot 50.

Hab. (of type). Bukit Gantang, Larut, Perak.

Type. Adult male. B.M. no. 2. 5. 2. 4. Presented by the Perak Museum.

That this animal should be distinguishable from the related forms in Burma and South-eastern Siam is only natural, as its locality is so widely distant from theirs, down in the southern part of the Malay Peninsula.

LI.—*A new Form of Delias from Rossel Island.*

By J. J. JOICEY, F.L.S., F.E.S., and G. TALBOT, F.E.S.

Delias ornythion rosselana, subsp. n.

♂. The hind wing below has a thicker red line than in the typical form, and in some specimens it is twice as thick.

♀. This only differs in the more regular edge of the white area on the fore wing. The red line on the hind wing tends to be thicker than in the male.

Described from a series of 16 ♂♂, 2 ♀♀, from Mt. Rossel, 2100 ft., Rossel Island, Nov.–Dec. 1915 (*W. F. Eichhorn*).

On Waigau and throughout Dutch New Guinea is found the race *Persephone*, Stgr., with the completely black hind wing showing rarely a vestige of a red line. In German and British New Guinea as far east as St. Aignan occurs typical *Ornythion* with a complete red line on the hind wing, which is only rarely vestigial. Rossel Island is the farthest east of the Louisiade group, to which St. Aignan belongs, and here we find the tendency for the red line to increase in size.

Two other *Delias* are known from this island—*maga*, Gr.-Sm., which is a race of *mysis*, Fbr., and *irma*, Fruh., being the Brit. N. Guinea race of *aruna*, Bdv. *D. maga* was described from Sudest Island, also one of the Louisiades, but the specimens from Rossel show a narrower black margin to the hind wing below as compared with the type. We refrain from differentiating this form in the absence of more material from the typical locality, the ♂ type alone being represented in the collection.