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XXIII.—On a new species of *Eliurus*

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parietal bones not expanded. Zygomatic plate not projected forwards. Bullæ small.

Molars complex, cuspidate, quite unlike the simply laminate molars of *Phlæomys* and more like those of a gigantic *Mus*.

Type *Phlæomys Schadenbergi*, Meyer, of which Mr. Whitehead has sent several specimens.

Dr. Meyer had for description only a skin without skull from Mount Data, and it speaks much for his acuteness that the skulls sent by Mr. Whitehead so fully bear out his suggestion as to the probable generic distinction of "*Phlæomys*" *Schadenbergi* from *P. Cumingii*.

That the animals sent by Dr. Schadenberg and Mr. Whitehead are the same is shown conclusively by some photographs of the type and its feet kindly prepared and sent to me by Dr. Meyer.

XXIII.—On a new Species of *Eliurus*.

By OLDFIELD THOMAS.

AMONG a collection of Madagascar animals received from Dr. C. I. Forsyth Major, the eminent palæontologist, there occurs a specimen belonging to the interesting genus *Eliurus*, but representing a second species of it. It may be called

Eliurus Majori, sp. n.

Size about as in *E. myoxinus*, but the tail is decidedly longer and much less bushy. Instead of being clothed with hairs comparable to those of *Platacanthomys**, this organ is scarcely more long-haired than in *Rhipidomys* and many other climbing rats, nor is there the least trace of a distichous arrangement of the hairs. Fur very soft. General colour grey; an indistinct ring round the eyes, the ears, metapodials, and the whole of the tail, including the terminal pencil, blackish brown. Under surface dirty whitish, the bases of the hairs slate-coloured; line of demarcation on sides not sharply marked. Fifth hind toe reaching to end of second phalanx of fourth.

Dimensions of the type, an adult male in skin :—

Head and body (c.) 155 millim.; tail (vertebræ *in situ*) 153; hind foot (moistened) 27; ear from notch 16.6.

Skull: basal length 30.6; greatest length 36.2; greatest

* See Milne-Edwards, Ann. Sci. Nat. (6) xx., article 1 bis (1885).

breadth 19; nasals, length 14·2, interorbital breadth 5, interparietal 4·4 × 11; palate length from henselion 17; diastema 10·3; palatine foramina 5·8; length of upper molar series 6·6.

Hab. Ambolimitombo Forest, Central Madagascar. Alt. 4500 feet.

Type collected Jan. 24, 1895.

Owing to the small number and peculiar character of the Madagascar rodents, this addition to their number is of much interest. It is unfortunate that the teeth of the only specimen are too much worn for me to venture to make any suggestion as to the affinities of the genus *Eliurus*, the only thing that is clear being its wide difference from any other Mascarene genus.

XXIV.—*On the Reptiles and Batrachians obtained by Mr. E. Lort-Phillips in Somaliland.* By G. A. BOULENGER, F.R.S.

[Plate VII.]

THE small but interesting collection of Reptiles and Batrachians presented to the British Museum by Mr. Lort-Phillips was formed by him in the Goolis Mountains, 60 miles inland of Berbera, and between them and the sea. Two of the lizards prove to belong to undescribed species, with which I have much pleasure in connecting the name of their discoverer.

REPTILES.

1. *Pristurus crucifer*, Val.

2. *Pristurus Phillipsii*, sp. n. (Pl. VII. figs. 1, 1 a.)

Head short and deep; snout obtuse, scarcely longer than the diameter of the orbit; forehead not concave; ear-opening small, oblique. Hind limb reaching the ear, digits and claws moderate. Head and body covered with small granules, largest on the snout and belly. Rostral large, twice as broad as deep, with median cleft above; nostril pierced in a single nasal, which is notched and fissured above; six upper and four lower labials; symphysial large, rounded behind; no chin-shields. Tail compressed, with a low serrated crest above. Grey above, with dark brown cross-bars enclosing red dots; these bars interrupted on the vertebral line; sides with three or four longitudinal series of oval or round deep