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possesses the typical series. That species has been only recently described by Dr. Major, who has always taken a very special interest in the present group of voles, so that I have had great pleasure in naming after him this peculiar little species, discovered by his kinsman Mr. Robert.

The presence of a pectoral pair of mammæ is a very unusual character in *Pitymys*, which is usually said to have only the two inguinal pairs. The tendency to have extra molar enamel spaces connecting with each other is also an interesting point about this species, even though variable to a certain extent.

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LVII.—*A Third Genus of the Ichthyomys Group.*

By OLDFIELD THOMAS.

IN a small collection of Costa Rican animals just received from Mr. C. F. Underwood there occur two specimens of a remarkable new Rodent, the subject of the following description:—

RHEOMYS, gen. nov.

General external characters as in *Ichthyomys*. Muzzle below nostrils complete, not cleft, and entirely hairy, without trace of a naked median groove. Ears present, but very small, buried in the fur. Feet apparently rather more broadly webbed, the webs as well as the toes fringed with bristles.

Skull smoothly rounded, little ridged, less modified in general outline than in either *Ichthyomys* or *Anotomys*; the profile normal and the nasals not bent upwards. Nasal opening high and narrow. Anterior zygoma-root as in *Ichthyomys*; the anteorbital foramen even more widely open. Pterygoids in normal proportion to each other—in *Ichthyomys* the entopterygoid is unusually developed and the ectopterygoid almost obsolete.

Incisors quite normal, narrow, slightly but evenly rounded in front, not unlike those of *Akodon* or *Peromyscus*, therefore strikingly different to the peculiar incisors of *Ichthyomys*, fully described in 1893\*. Lower incisors narrow, slender, and pointed, though less so than in *Anotomys*. Molars as in *Ichthyomys*.

*Type.* *Rheomys Underwoodi*, described below. "*Ichthyomys*" *trichotis*, Thos., is also a member of *Rheomys*.

This genus, the third known of the group, is to the full as highly specialized for an aquatic life as *Ichthyomys* and

\* P. Z. S. 1893, p. 337. *Anotomys* was described Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. (7) xvii. p. 86, January 1906.

*Anotomys*, so far as the external characters of glossy fur, reduced ears, and swimming-feet are concerned. But the skull is less modified in the directions usually found correlated with such a life, and the incisors are quite normal. In this latter respect it is like *Anotomys*, with which it also agrees in the complete hairiness of the muzzle between the nostrils and the upper lip. In *Ichthyomys* there is a strongly defined naked line connecting the two. On the whole, in spite of its possession of ears and its glossy fur, *Rheomys* would seem to be more nearly allied to *Anotomys* than to *Ichthyomys*, but it is unquestionably distinct generically from both.

In correlation with the unmodified incisors, the food of *Rheomys* is possibly not so much fish as mollusks, worms, or other water-animals, which, while rendering necessary great swimming-powers to dive after them in a swift-running stream, would not need for their capture and retention such a specialized doubly pointed fishing-gaff as is possessed by *Ichthyomys*.

The animal I described in 1897\* as *Ichthyomys trichotis*, from the Magdalena River, Colombia, clearly belongs to *Rheomys*, having quite similar incisors, equally small ears, and no groove on the muzzle. Owing to the skull of the type having been completely crushed no comparison of it with that of *Ichthyomys* has hitherto been possible; nor had the interesting character of the rostral groove attracted attention.

*Rheomys Underwoodi*, sp. n.

Size and general appearance very much as in *Ichthyomys hydrobates*. Fur glossy; longer hairs of back about 15 mm. in length. General colour above mummy-brown, darkened by the black tips to the longer hairs. Rump nearly black, the tips of many of the longer hairs here glossy white, as commonly in *Ichthyomys*. Whole of under surface greyish white, the bases of the hairs slaty. Head slaty blackish. Sides of muzzle and upper lip as far back as the angle of the mouth white. Posterior part of lower cheek slaty blackish, connected across the chin by a darker band, so that the white of the upper lip is prominently bounded by dark behind. Ears very short, hairy, blackish, a white patch at the tips of the longer hairs round them. Front of forearm and top of metacarpus dark; digits white. Hind feet pale brown, the fringing bristles glossy white. Tail well haired throughout, dark brown above, slightly paler below.

Skull smoothly rounded, unridged. Interorbital region broad, its edges rounded, the supraorbital foramina on the

\* Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. (6) xx. p. 220.

sides, not on the upper surface. Palatal foramina about the length of the molar series, not extending back to the level of the front of *m*<sup>1</sup>. Front of upper incisors pale whitish yellow, of lower ones white.

Dimensions of the type (measured in the flesh) :—

Head and body 130 mm.; tail 150; hind foot 35; ear 5, length of coch 2.

Skull: greatest length 30·5; basilar length 24; zygomatic breadth 15·5; length of nasals 10·8; interorbital breadth 5·6; breadth of brain-case 14·4; palatilar length 13·5; diastema 7·8; palatal foramina 5×2·2; length of upper molar series 4·8.

*Hab.* Tres Rios, Costa Rica.

*Type.* Male. Collected 5 May, 1905, by Mr. C. F. Underwood.

This beautiful animal forms a striking addition to the fauna of Central America, and it is with much pleasure that I name it in honour of Mr. Underwood, who had known of its occurrence for some time, but had hitherto been unable to obtain a specimen.

This makes the third mammalian genus discovered by Mr. Underwood, the other two being *Glyphonycteris* and *Hylonycteris*.

LVIII.—*New Asiatic Mammals of the Genera Kerivoula, Eliomys, and Lepus.* By OLDFIELD THOMAS.

*Kerivoula picta bellissima*, subsp. n.

Essential characters as in *picta*, but size larger and fur longer.

Size decidedly larger than in *picta*, the forearm about 3 mm. longer. Fur long, thick and woolly; hairs of back about 9 mm. in length. Interfemoral membrane and hind limbs more thickly and extensively covered above than in *picta*. Colour practically as in *picta*, except that the fur of the back is more strongly contrasted blackish slaty for about 2 mm. at its base, only a faint indication of a darker basal shade appearing in *picta*. Face more white than rest of body. Tail-vertebræ apparently only six in number instead of seven, the individual joints longer, especially the proximal ones.

Skull as in *picta*, except for its larger size.

Dimensions of the type (a skin) :—

Forearm 39 mm.

Skull: greatest length 15; palate length in middle line 7; front of *i*<sup>1</sup> to back of *m*<sup>3</sup> 7·5.