



LXV.—On two new species of cat from China

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Type. B.M. no. 85. 8. 1. 313. Adult female, 25th October, 1877, collected and presented by Mr. A. O. Hume.

Although closely allied to *Mus rufescens* the short bicolor tail clothed with fine hairs forms an unmistakable character by which it may always be easily recognized. Although the majority of the series are of a very uniform pale colour, several specimens show a tendency to become more rufous, but in no case do they become nearly so bright as in *Mus rufescens*. The narrow white edging to the ear is also a well-marked feature. Externally and at first sight this species bears a considerable resemblance to *Mus Blanfordi*, but the presence of spines in the fur, which are *entirely* absent in *M. Blanfordi*, as well as the pure white terminal portion of the tail of the last-named prevent any risk of confusion. The skulls of the two species are not closely alike.

The average length of tail in the series of eleven specimens is 158 millim. (145-170); the tail of the type is slightly broken at the tip.

LXV.—*On Two new Species of Cat from China.*

By J. LEWIS BONHOTE, M.A.

THE Museum has just received from Mr. Henry Brelich the skin of a small cat from the province of Kweichow, which is so distinct from the cats hitherto recorded from China that I have no hesitation in describing it as new, and propose for it the name

Felis Ingrami, sp. n.

Size very small, and tail less than half the length of the body. General colour pale buff, shading to white on the underparts. Body thickly covered with dark markings of irregular shape, showing especially on the sides a tendency to form rosettes, the centre of the spot being of a warm rufous brown. Along the median dorsal area the markings become linear and form two broken lines the whole length of the body, the ground-colour in this area being similar to that in the centre of the spots. The limbs are spotted in a similar manner to the body right down to the toes. On the underparts the spots are pure black, without any of the rufous hairs. The head above the cheeks is of the same ground-colour as the rest of the body, and from above the eyes four narrow clear-cut black stripes run backwards as far as the shoulders, where they lose themselves in a transverse rufous

collar. There is a short but distinct black stripe starting from the outer angle of the eye and continuing to a little behind the ear; this is bordered below by a pure white stripe, which is in turn succeeded by another black one, the latter ending in a rufous spot. The chin and throat are white with several black collars. The tail is somewhat lighter than the general body-colour, spotted near the base and marked above with six or seven incomplete black rings, which are only slightly narrower than the spaces between them.

Skull. There is no skull with the skin.

Dimensions (approximate) from the skin:—Head and body 480 millim.; tail 200; hind foot 75.

Hab. Van Gin Shan Mts., N. Kweichow, Central China.

Type. B.M. 3. 3. 14. 2. Collected and presented by H. Brelich, Esq.

In its size, proportions, and markings this cat is so distinct that there is no risk of its being confounded with any of the other known species. In the general colour and character of its markings it somewhat resembles *F. scripta*, M.-E., but that is larger and has a longer tail; while in the extreme shortness of the tail it approaches *F. minuta* from Java and Borneo.

I have named this species in honour of Mr. Herbert Ingram, at whose instigation Mr. Brelich collected the present specimen and the fine monkey recently described as *Rhinopithecus Brelichi*, Thos.

The recent acquisition of some fine leopard-skins from China, presented by Mr. F. W. Styan to the British Museum, has caused me to go carefully into the differences between the various forms found in that country, with the result that I find a specimen in the collection from Amur Bay, E. Siberia, so different in form and colour as to require description, and I would propose to call it

Felis villosa, sp. n.

Fur long and soft. General colour very pale cream, shading gradually off at the sides and on the limbs to pure white. Many of the black markings, especially along the centre of the back, forming complete circles. On the limbs and quarters the spots are pure black with no light centres. Markings on the tail very much broken up and ending in four black bands, which do not completely encircle the tail. The face, head, and cheeks covered with very small black spots.

I have not been able to examine the skull, which is in the skin.

Dimensions from stuffed specimen :—Head and body 4 feet; tail 2 feet 4 inches.

Hab. Amur Bay, E. Siberia.

Type. B.M. 95. 10. 19. 1. Presented by the Hon. W. Rothschild.

I should hesitate to describe this species of leopard without access to the skull, were I not convinced that the type (a skull only) of Gray's *Leopardus chinensis* belongs to a species distinct from *Felis Fontanieri* of Mr. Milne-Edwards, and probably to an animal of the present species.

It appears to be a much thicker-set animal, though this may be due to the manner in which it is stuffed, while its longer hair and very pale coloration enable it to be at once distinguished from *F. Fontanieri*.

The skull of Gray's *L. chinensis* is totally different in its general shape and build from that of *F. Fontanieri*. One cannot say whether it belongs to the species I have just described or not, but it is unlikely that there should be three species of leopard in N. China; and if Gray's name of *L. chinensis* was not preoccupied by the same author's *F. chinensis*, I should not have ventured to give a new name to the Amur Bay skin.

The differences between the skulls of *L. chinensis* and *F. Fontanieri* may be best understood by a comparison of the figures, P. Z. S. 1867, p. 264, and Rech. Mamm. pl. xxxi., noting especially the upper line of the cranium, which in *chinensis* runs in a regular and unbroken curve, whilst in *Fontanieri* it tends to reach an apex at the supraorbital ridges, falling off in both directions from that point. The orbit in Gray's *chinensis* is much more inclined to the vertical and does not lie back as it does in *Fontanieri*. The vertical distance from the lowest point of the auditory bullæ to the top of the skull is considerably greater in *Fontanieri*. There are also many other minor differences: the bullæ in the last-named species are more rounded and swollen, and the muzzle is also longer and narrower. The teeth are the same size. The skull of *F. Fontanieri* which I have chiefly used for comparison in the above description is of nearly the same age as Gray's *type*, possibly rather younger, but nevertheless quite adult: some skulls of *Fontanieri*, however, reach a much larger size, equalling those of the Indian leopard; the differences in shape between them and *L. chinensis* are, however, the same as in the particular case described above.