

97. *Narcine brasiliensis* (Olfers) Henle. "TREMBLER."*Narcine brasiliensis* GÜNTHER, op. cit., viii, 1870, p. 453.

\*32082. One specimen. ♂.

32082. One specimen ♀ (much darker in color than the ♂).

98. *Rhinobatus undulatus* Olfers. "SEA FIDDLER."*Rhinobatus undulatus* GÜNTHER, op. cit., viii, 1860, p. 444.

\*30001, ♂. One specimen.

30017, ♂. One specimen.

\*30018, ♀. One specimen.

99. *Sphyrna zygaena* (L.) Müll. & Henle. "SHOVEL-NOSE SHARK."*Zygaena malleus* GÜNTHER, op. cit., viii, 1870, p. 381.

29998, ♀. One specimen.

\*29999, ♂. One specimen.

100. *Carcharias terræ-novæ* (Rich.) Gthr. "GROUND SHARK"; "TIGER SHARK";  
"WHITE SHARK."*Carcharias terræ-novæ* GÜNTHER, op. cit., viii, 1870, p. 360.

29997. One specimen. ♂.

30012. One specimen. ♂.

30013. One specimen. ♀.

\*30014. One specimen. ♂.

\*30059. One specimen.

30059. One specimen.

---

**ON A NEW MUSKRAT, *Neofiber Alleni*, FROM FLORIDA.****By FREDERICK W. TRUE, M. S.,***Curator of the Department of Mammals in the U. S. National Museum.*

WASHINGTON, June 30, 1884.

In December, 1883, the Museum received from Mr. William Wittfeld, of Georgiana, Brevard County, Florida, a small rodent which was immediately recognized as differing from any species which had been hitherto described. I gave a brief account of it in *Science* for ———, 1884, which I wish now to supplement by a somewhat fuller and more technical description.

**New genus, NEOFIBER.**

Skull and dentition as in *Fiber*. Feet normal; toes not bent laterally at an angle with the sole; tail, round.

**New species, NEOFIBER ALLENI.*****Neofiber Alleni*, True, *Science*, IV, No. 75, 1884, p. 34.**

A muskrat of less than half the size of *Fiber zibethicus*, but of the same general form. Eyes small and high up on the head. Ears mod-



erate, broad and rounded, hirsute within the conch, the longest hairs extending 0.8 centimeter beyond the margin. Border of the conch slightly and unevenly notched. Fore feet as in *F. zibethicus*. Palm black, except the two large posterior tubercles and the base of the thumb. Hind feet moderate, not equaling twice the length of the fore-feet. Soles naked, smooth, black, and 5-tuberculate.\*

The posterior-internal tubercle large and oval in outline. The remaining four situated respectively at the angle between the 1st and 2d toes between the 2d and 3d, between the 3d and 4th, and between the 4th and 5th; all small and of equal size. Soles narrow. Toes not inclined laterally at an angle with the sole. Fringe of the toes and sole not extending prominently below the plane of their lower surface.

Toes of the fore and hind feet only slightly webbed. Claws horn-colored. Tail round, about 0.6 centimeter at the base and tapering gradually to the tip. Sparsely clothed with short blackish hairs, between which the tail appears covered with rows of scales as in *Mus*.

Color of the hair of the body above as in *F. zibethicus*; rich rufous at the upper two-fifths and lead-color at the base. In a small area just behind the shoulders the base of the hairs is white. Color of the head the same as of the body, but darker. Hair of the under surface of the body light rufous at the upper third, lead-color at the base. Chin, throat, and inner side of the fore arms and legs white or but faintly tinged with rufous. Fore and hind feet above clothed with short, dull-brown hairs which extend to the tips of the toes.

The skull, so far as examined, does not differ from that of *F. zibethicus* except in proportions.

The species is named in honor of my friend Prof. J. A. Allen, whose well known monographs of North American mammals place him in the front rank of American zoologists.

*Measurements of Neofiber Alleni, from the typical alcoholic specimen from Georgiana, Florida.*

	Centimeters.
Length of head and body.....	20.2
Length of head.....	5.2
Length of tail.....	12.6
Length of hind foot (without claws).....	3.9
Length of fore foot (without claws).....	2.3
Nose to eye.....	2.0
Nose to base of ear.....	4.5
Height of ear.....	1.8
Length of middle toe of fore foot (without claw).....	.9
Length of middle toe of hind foot (without claw).....	1.0
Longest claw of fore foot.....	.5
Longest claw of hind foot.....	.6

\* The hind feet of *F. zibethicus* are in reality 5-tuberculate although generally described as *quadri-tuberculate*.



*Measurements of the skull.*

	Centimeters.
Total length .....	4.7
Greatest width .....	2.9
Length of nasals .....	1.2
Length of tooth-row .....	1.1
Front edge of first molar to posterior margin of incisors .....	1.6
Greatest width of muzzle .....	.7
Width of interorbital bridge .....	.5
Center of occipital crest to line of hinder margin of orbits .....	1.9

It is evident from an examination of *Neofiber* that the genus stands intermediate between the aberrant *Fiber* and the normal arvicoline genera. The skull, the large head, and peculiar ears, and the heavy form show its affinity to *Fiber*, while the feet and tail prove its close relationship to the other arvicolas.

It will be interesting to know how far the habits of this animal resemble those of the ordinary muskrat.

---

**ON A COLLECTION OF BIRDS MADE BY MESSRS. J. E. BENEDICT AND W. NYE, OF THE UNITED STATES FISH COMMISSION STEAMER "ALBATROSS."**

**By ROBERT RIDGWAY.**

A collection of birds made by Messrs. J. E. Benedict and W. Nye, naturalists accompanying the steamer "Albatross" on her winter's cruise through West Indian waters and along the southern coast of the Caribbean Sea, although not extensive, is of much interest. This is especially true of those collected on the island of Old Providence, 250 miles north of Aspinwall, all the species from that locality being new to science.

The species collected at the different stations are given under separate headings:

**I.—ISLAND OF ST. THOMAS, WEST INDIES (January 17-24, 1884).**

1. *Mimus gilvus*, Vieill. One specimen.
2. *Dendroica petechia* (Linn.). One specimen.
3. *Certhiola portoricensis*, Bryant. Six specimens.
4. *Phonipara zena* (Linn.). Eleven specimens.
5. *Icterus vulgaris*, Daud. One specimen.
6. *Tyrannus dominicensis* (Gm.). Seven specimens.
7. *Crotophaga ani*, Linn. Three specimens.
8. *Coccyzus minor* (Gmel.). Three specimens.
9. *Tinnunculus caribæarum* (Gm.). One specimen.
10. *Chamæpelina passerina* (Linn.). Nine specimens.



True, Frederick W. 1884. "On a new muskrat, *Neofiber alleni*, from Florida."  
*Proceedings of the United States National Museum* 7(419), 170–172.  
<https://doi.org/10.5479/si.00963801.419.170>.

**View This Item Online:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/31798>

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.5479/si.00963801.419.170>

**Permalink:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/11552>

**Holding Institution**

Smithsonian Libraries and Archives

**Sponsored by**

Smithsonian

**Copyright & Reuse**

Copyright Status: NOT\_IN\_COPYRIGHT

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.