

NOTE ON SAUROCEPHALUS, HARLAN.

BY E. D. COPE, *in the Meeting November 18, 1870.*

Prof. Cope called attention to the cretaceous group of fishes represented by *Saurocephalus* of Harlan. He said they had been regarded as related to the Acanthopterygian family of *Sphyrænidæ*.

He showed that they were more like certain Malacopterygian families in the structure of the mouth; that the neural arches of the vertebræ were not coössified; and that the tail was vertebrated in a manner between the types of *Salmonidæ* and *Amiidæ*. He said the pectoral rays of the group had been described by Leidy under the name of *Xiphactinus*, and that the caudal rays were remarkably and beautifully segmented. He said that they had been hitherto regarded by authors as spines or rays of the cestraciont genus *Ptychodus*.

Prof. Cope also made a communication on the results of the explorations of certain caves in the island of Anguilla in the West Indies, by Dr. Van Rijgersma. He stated that the vertebrata embraced eleven species, of which one was a Crocodilian, two birds, one a deer, and five rodents. Of the latter, three were of gigantic size, including, beside the two species of Chinchillas already described (Proceed. Amer. Philos. Soc., 1869, 183), a third, larger than either, which was named *Loxomylus latidens*, Cope. It differed from the *L. longidens*, Cope, in having teeth with triturating surface less oblique to the axis of the tooth, and wider than long, instead of longer than wide, and with a certain irregularity in the outer margin. The distal end of the femur measured $3\frac{1}{3}$ inches across; the series of superior molars $2\frac{1}{3}$ inches; width of two inferior incisors in place one inch and two lines. The bones of the deer indicated a species a little over half the size of the Chinchilla.



Cope, E. D. 1869. "Note on Saurocephalus, Harlan." *Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society held at Philadelphia for promoting useful knowledge* 11(81), 608–608.

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