

**On the occurrence of a Bat of the genus *Mormoops* in the
United States.**

An adult female of *Mormoops megalophylla* Peters, a bat new to the United States was taken by me at Fort Clark, Kinney County, Texas, December 3, 1897. A lady called me to her house to see a 'very remarkable bat' which had attached itself to the inner side of a door-screen. I found this bat very much alive, at a season when all other bats of the locality were dormant or had migrated. No other bats were seen until the following March, when the common *Nyctinomus* reappeared in the usual abundance. This specimen (No. 84,801, collection of the United States National Museum; original No. 4273) identified by Mr. Gerrit S. Miller, Jr., presented the following measurements, taken from the fresh specimen: Length, 90 mm.; length of caudal vertebrae, 28; alar expanse 373; longest finger, 90; head, 17; forearm, 56.—*Edgar A. Mearns.*

A Correction relative to the Tarsier.

The specific name of the Tarsier is generally published as *tarsius*, but an examination of the original description (Erxleben, Systema Regni Animalis, p. 71, 1777), shows that *tarsier* is the original form. The correct combination is *Tarsius tarsier* (Erxleben).—*James A. G. Rehn.*

An older Name for the Aard Vark.

The name *Myrmecophaga afra* was applied by Pallas (Miscellanea Zoologica, p. 64, 1766) to the Aard Vark, as he calls the animal himself. As the description is as accurate as that of *capensis* Gmelin, it should unquestionably replace the latter. The combination should be *Orycteropus afra* (Pallas).—*James A. G. Rehn.*

An older Name for the Ogotona.

In 1776 Pallas (Reise, Th. iii, bd. 2, p. 692) applied the name *Lepus davuricus* to the Ogotona, and two years later he renamed the same animal *Lepus ogotona* (Nov. Sp. Glir., p. 65, 1778). As we should accept the older name, the combination would be *Ochotona davuricus* (Pallas).—*James A. G. Rehn.*

The proper Name of the Viscacha.

In 1786 a German edition of Molina was published by Brandis, entitled 'Versuch einer Naturgeschichte von Chili'. On page 272 he applies the name *Lepus viscaccica* to 'La Viscacha' of Molina, and the description appended clearly shows that he had in view the same animal that Blainville called *Dipus maximus* in 1817. Mr. Gerrit S. Miller, Jr.,

who kindly examined a copy of Molina's 1776 edition for me, states that no binomial names are used in it. On this basis, the animal should be known as *Vizcacia viscaccica* (Brandis).—*James A. G. Rehn.*

An older Name for the Norway Rat.

Erxleben ('Systema Regni Animalis', p. 381, 1777), applied the name *Mus norvegicus* to the rat which was named *decumanus* by Pallas one year later; accordingly it should replace the latter name.—*James A. G. Rehn.*

On the recent Occurrence of the Black Rat in Boston, Massachusetts.

Under date of July 11, 1900, Mr. Frank Blake Webster, of Hyde Park, Mass., wrote me as follows: "About a year ago, a young man who lived in Boston said there were black rats in a store there. We had him obtain a specimen, which was mounted, and which we still have. During the many years that I have been engaged in business in the city of Boston I have never seen one". The specimen was sent to me and identified as *Mus rattus* by Doctor J. A. Allen and myself.—*Edgar A. Mearns.*

Note on *Dipodomys Montanus* Baird.

Among the mammal types treasured in the collection of the United States National Museum is the type of Baird's *Dipodomys montanus*, originally described in the Proceedings of the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences, in 1855, but figured and more fully elaborated in that author's Mammals of North America, published in 1857. This well-marked species proves on comparison to be strictly identical with *Dipodomys elator* Merriam, named and described in the Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington, in 1894, from specimens taken at Henrietta, Clay Co., Texas, about 450 miles southeast of Fort Massachusetts. The synonymy of *Dipodomys montanus* will therefore be as follows:

Dipodomys montanus Baird, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila., April, 1855, p. 334 (Fort Massachusetts).

Dipodomys ordii var. *montanus* Baird, Mamm. North America, 1857, pp. 410, 411, 757, 762, pl. lxxxiii, fig. 4, *a*, *b*, *c* (teeth of type—No. $\frac{1631}{490}$, a youngish adult). Type collected by Captain E. G. Beckwith, near Fort Massachusetts ("N. M.—On head of Rio Grande, in San Luis valley. Altitude, 8,365 feet. Latitude, 37° 32'; longitude, 105° 23' ").

Dipodomys elator Merriam, Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., Vol. ix, p. 109, June 21, 1894 (type from Henrietta, Clay Co., Texas).

Edgar A. Mearns.



Rehn, James A. G. 1900. "The proper name of the Viscacha." *Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington* 13, 166–167.

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