PLATE VI.

Horsiella brevicornis (Van Douwe).

Fig. 1. First antenna of female.
Fig. 2. Second antenna of female, seen from the inside (the setæ of the second joint are seen through).
Fig. 3. Second antenna of female, from outside.
Fig. 4. First leg of female.
Fig. 5. Second leg of female.
Fig. 6. Fourth leg of female.
Fig. 7. Fifth pair of legs of female.
Fig. 8. Fifth pair of legs of male.
Fig. 9. Internal ramus of second leg of male.
Fig. 10. Internal ramus of fourth leg of male.
Fig. 11. First antenna of male from the side.
Fig. 12. First antenna of male—last two joints seen from inside.

PLATE VII.

D'Arcythompsonia scotti, sp. n.

Fig. 1. Second antenna of male.
Fig. 2. Mandible palp.
Fig. 3. First leg of female.
Fig. 4. First leg of male (rather more magnified).
Fig. 5. Fourth leg of female.
Fig. 6. Last two joints of external branch of third leg of female.
Fig. 7. Second leg of male.
Fig. 8. Fourth leg of male.
Fig. 9. Last abdominal segment and furca of female.
Fig. 10. Operculum and furcal ramus of male.
Fig. 11. Protuberance of dorsal side of second abdominal segment of male. Seen from side.
Fig. 12. Fifth leg of female.
Fig. 13. Second leg of female.

XV.—*The Generic Positions of* "Mus" nigricauda, *Thos., and* woosnami, *Schwann.* By OLDFIELD THOMAS.

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WHEN dividing, some years ago *, the African members of what is now called *Rattus* into subgenera, I only dealt with the large and prominent groups of species, leaving isolated forms for further consideration. My attention has now, however, been called to a species which was one of the first I ever described †, "*Mus nigricauda*," based on a single Namaqualand specimen that has more recently been reinforced by a number collected by Dr. Ansorge and Mr.

* Ann. & Mag. N. H. (8) xvi. p. 477 (1915).
† P. Z. S. 1882, p. 266, pl. xiv. fig. 1.

Woosnam, so that we are now enabled to make a better study of the animal. In addition, excellent notes on the habits have been made by Mr. Heller, who obtained in East Africa his "*Thamnomys loringi*," a form undoubtedly—as Mr. Hollister has shown *—very closely allied to *nigricauda*.

On using my key to the subgenera, one finds that it is with *Æthomys* alone that *nigricauda* needs comparison, and on making this I come to the conclusion that its specializations for an arboreal life are, undoubtedly, of sufficient importance to render it worthy of superspecific distinction. Moreover, since there is complete discontinuity, I think it most convenient to make a genus for it, rather than a subgenus of *Rattus*.

This may be called :—

THALLOMYS, gen. nov.

Genotype, *Thallomys nigricauda* (*Mus nigricauda*, Thos.).

Other forms described : *loringi*, Hell.; *kalaharicus*, Dollm.

External form modified in the way usual in arboreal forms, *i. e.* with the feet comparatively shortened, with large pads and comparatively long fifth digits, and with the tail profusely pencilled throughout, quite different from the nearly naked tail of *Æthomys* and other terrestrial rats, while even the blackish line through the eyes so characteristic of many arboreal rodents is here again present. Mammæ 0—2=4.

Skull essentially as in *Æthomys*, the bullæ unusually large.

Upper molars with the cusps high and well marked, the valleys on each side of the middle row of cusps deep and well defined, and the middle cusps themselves markedly narrower and more prominent than in *Æthomys, i. e.* nearly circular instead of transversely oblong.

Lower molars with an approach to that peculiar condition which is found at its maximum in *Mylomys* and certain other genera, the cusps high and very sharply defined, their wearing surfaces pointing forwards, and the median valley along the tooth-row very sharp and deep. Almost no trace present of median posterior supplementary cusps.

These characters, and especially those of the lower molars, seem to justify the generic distinction of the group, while the hairy tail separates it from its allies in exactly the same way, and for the same reasons, as *Nyctomys* and *Rhipidomys* are distinguished in America from other Vesper-rats, and in

* Bull. U.S. Nat. Mus. no. 99, p. 69 (1919).

Asia *Pithechirus, Hapalomys,* and many others from the terrestrial forms found there.

A second species formerly put in *Mus* is the curious white-tailed *M. woosnami,* Schwann*, of Bechuanaland, which is even more decidedly different from any *Rattus* than is *Thallomys nigricauda.* Its unusual proportions, with the tail only about equal to the length of the body without the head, the entire absence of supraorbital ridges, and the structure of the molars, of which m^1 is greatly reduced and simplified, all testify to its being an animal which could not by any possible stretch of the genus be nowadays put in *Rattus.* Nor is any other genus more nearly related to it, though there is about it a certain superficial resemblance to *Saccostomus* which a closer study soon shows to be deceptive.

As Mr. Schwann has given a full description of the distinctive characters, with figure of the animal, I do not propose to redescribe it, but simply suggest for it the name derived from its general pallor and white tail of

OCHROMYS, gen. nov.

Genotype, *Ochromys woosnami* (*Mus woosnami,* Schwann).

XVI.—*A new* Taphozous *from the Sudan.*

By OLDFIELD THOMAS.

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AMONG a number of small mammals collected in the Sudan by Major J. Stevenson Hamilton, and sent to the British Museum for determination by the Wellcome Research Laboratories, Khartoum, there occurs a specimen of the following new bat, which I have great pleasure in naming in honour of its discoverer:—

Taphozous hamiltoni, sp. n.

A fairly large species of the group with a naked gular patch in the female—a pouch therefore probably present in the male.

* P. Z. S. 1906, p. 108, pl. vi. (animal).