

separate class among the Vermes, through which the latter will as it were hold out a hand to the Vertebrata, as already, by other types, to the Infusoria, Echinodermata, Mollusca, and Arthropoda. The group of Vermes is daily showing more and more the character of being the origin of all the animal kingdom.—*Mém. Acad. Imp. de St. Pétersb.* 1866; *Bibl. Univ.* 1867, *Arch. Sci.* pp. 249–251.

*On the external characters of the Young of the Central American Tapir (Elasmognathus Bairdii, Gill).* By A. E. VERRILL.

This remarkable animal has hitherto been known only by its skull, and a skeleton, not entirely complete, belonging to the Smithsonian Institution. The Museum of Yale College has recently been so fortunate as to receive from J. H. Sternberg, Esq., a specimen of the young animal, preserved entire in alcohol. This individual is a female, and is supposed by Mr. Sternberg to have been about three months old in April. He states that its weight is not more than that of the head of the adult, one head that he formerly examined weighing 82 pounds.

Its entire length is 31 inches; nose to occiput 11; nose to eye 4.25; nose to incisor teeth 1.5; eye to ear 3.2; lower jaw 6.5; length of ear 3.5; breadth 2.5; tail from vent, not including hair, 2. The legs are short and stout; the tail small and inconspicuous. The head, viewed from the side, is elongated oval, from above elongated triangular, the sides nearly straight, the nose truncated. In advance of and above the eyes the sides of the nose are compressed and concave, with a slight depression on its ridge. Beyond this the snout is enlarged, and convex both on the sides and above; the tip papillose and slightly decurved, which gives it a truncated appearance. The nostrils are large, oval, placed obliquely at the end of the nose, about half an inch long, the inner angles separated about a quarter of an inch, the margins thickened. The nose itself is quite flexible and, apparently, capable of extension. The ears are large and prominent, broad oval, rounded at the end. The hair is rather fine and soft, about an inch long on the body, and half as long on the head, where it is not so thick.

The general colour is bright reddish brown, the head darker above. The lips and end of the nose, bordering the naked black tip, are white. Five interrupted narrow white stripes pass along each side of the nose, the upper one extending over and beyond the eye. The cheeks have several larger patches of whitish, one of which is under the eye; a larger white spot is on the throat. The ears are dark brown, lighter at the outer base, the tips and several unequal spots on the outside white. The back and sides are marked by longitudinal rows of yellowish-white patches, which partially blend into continuous stripes on the sides. There are in all about ten of these stripes. The underside of the body is uniform yellowish grey. The legs are darker brown than the body, and marked by numerous transverse bands and spots of white.—*Silliman's American Journal*, July 1867.





Verrill, A. E. 1867. "On the external characters of the young of the Central American Tapir. (*Elasmognathus Bairdii*, gill)." *The Annals and magazine of natural history; zoology, botany, and geology* 20, 232–232.

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