

Description of a new species of the genus *THELYPHONUS*.

BY HORATIO C. WOOD, JR.

*T. stimpsonii*.—Cephalo-thorax closely resembling that of *T. giganteus*. Cheliceres strongly curved. Their superior surface roughened by minute tubercles or granulations, the inner, pilose. The first or basal joint very wide above, armed on its inner superior margin with five irregularly radiating spines, the posterior three of which are quite small, and the third somewhat longer than the other two; the fourth is rather larger, its length being about twice that of the third, the fifth is shorter than the fourth, but is next to it in size. The space between the fourth and fifth is greater than the intervals between the others. The inferior inner margin armed with two small spines. Second joint provided with a very minute spine on its superior, and a larger one on its inferior inner margin. The third joint has on its superior inner margin two minute spines and a long robust finger, bifid at its extremity and strongly terrate on its anterior edge. The superior inner margin of the fourth joint and both margins of its finger strongly serrate. Abdomen very similar to that of *T. giganteus*, but the first joint has on its lower surface a deep median semicircular depression, with a much smaller one on each side.

We have seen but a single specimen brought from Japan by Dr. Stimpson of the North Pacific Exploring Expedition.

Length of body one inch and a half, of cheliceres three quarters of an inch.

## On the Reptilia of Sombrero and Bermuda.

BY E. D. COPE.

The only terrestrial animal inhabitants of the island of Sombrero, are stated\* to be a centipede and a lizard. The former is the *Scolopendra torquata* of Wood; the latter I propose now first entering upon the zoological record.

*Ameiva corvina* Cope.—Teeth in young and half grown specimens bicuspid posteriorly, occasionally a third cusp; in adults a few of the posterior maxillaries and mandibulars bicuspidate, the smaller cusp antero-internal. Number 20. 5-5. 20; 21. 21. Head and in particular the muzzle, narrow, elongate, slightly decurved. Nostril in internasal, or nasal suture. The former plates slightly in contact medially. Fronto-nasal longer than broad; prefrontals ditto, extensively in contact medially. Four supra-oculars, posterior very small, the suture between second and third continuous with the posterior line of the frontal plate. The latter is hexagonal, a little longer than broad; presents a sub-rectangle anteriorly, and an obtuse angle posteriorly. Two fronto-occipitals, longer than broad, usually in contact, forming with the two occipitals on each side a series curving outwards, separated by granulations from the supra-ocular series. Interoccipital irregular, sometimes divided. Numerous small irregular plates upon the occiput. Rostral a little prolonged upon each labial suture. Superior labials six, inferior five, in contact posteriorly with two oval plates. Symphyseal and mental each broader than long; infralabials five, anterior pair extensively in contact, the posterior separated by granulations from labials. Gular scales small, smooth, hexagonal; those of the posterior gular fold larger than those of the anterior. Ventral plates in twelve or fourteen series, those of the external, small, rounded. Anus bordered with granules: anal plates four, large, arranged as part of a quincunx pattern, surrounded by several smaller shields. One row of large transverse anterior femoral plates, and four series of subhexagonal plates posterior and inferior to it. Exterior sub-

\*Mr. J. B. Hanson, in Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phil. 1859, p. 111.



tibial series of nine plates, fifth and sixth from the foot largest; inner rows three. Heel devoid of tubercles; soles uniformly granular. Scales of the tail-whorls weakly keeled. Scales of back and sides very small, smooth, rounded. An antibrachial patch of six or seven narrowly transverse shields; posterior brachial patch not defined, composed of small hexagonal scales. Palm with two small tubercles near base of external digit. Femoral pores 36 in male, 32 in female. Length of head and body to vent, 4 in. 10 l., vent to end of tail 11 in. 4 l., head to posterior gular fold 1 in. 7 l., femur (anterior) 1 in., tibia (external) 10 lin., foot with fourth digit, 1 in. 7 l.

Color, black; the lower surfaces tinged with glaucous green.

This addition to the numerous list of *Ameivæ* fills a new position in the genus. It is not closely allied to any species known to us, though its facies is much that of *A. dorsalis* of Jamacia. Museums Acad. Nat. Sci. (Mr. Hanson,) and Smithsonian, (Mr. A. H. Ruse.)

We are informed by Mr. J. M. Jones, in his "Naturalist in Bermuda," that a species of "*Scincus*" inhabits the islands, and that it is the only indigenous true reptile. He notices its resemblance to *Plestiodon laticeps* ("*S. fasciatus*,") of the United States, and gives a description of an old male specimen. The Smithsonian Institute having liberally loaned us specimens (No. 4737) obtained by Hon. J. H. Darrell, I am enabled to state its specific characters, as follows.

*Plestiodon longirostris* Cope.—Form much as in *P. laticeps*, the tail a little thicker, the muzzle more narrow and elongate. The anterior extremity extended forward reaches the anterior border of the orbit; the posterior reaches to beyond the appressed elbow, but not to the axilla. Rostral plate as high as broad, less depressed than in *laticeps*: nasal small; nasofrenal smaller, trapezoid; anterior frenal as long as high. Eight superior labial plates, the sixth and seventh bordering the inferior palpebra. Each occipital bounded by two temporals, (sometimes confluent) and a postoccipital; the anterior temporal bounded by two inferior temporals, the anterior small, the posterior larger than the eighth upper labial. Inter-occipital large, rounded posteriorly, very acute anteriorly. Fronto-parietal plates gemmiform, in contact by their inner angles. Supraoculars four; anterior supraocular small, barely or not in contact with the fronto-nasal. Inferior palpebra granular; a series of six to eight vertical scales beneath the marginal row. Supranasals large, considerably in contact; internasal transverse subtruncate posteriorly; fronto-nasals as long, or more frequently longer than broad, extensively in contact. Frontal elongate, in front obtuse, posteriorly acute angled. Inferior labials seven; symphyseal deeper than in *laticeps*; a large seven-sided mental in contact with two labials on each side, two infralabials posteriorly, and the symphyseal anteriorly. Three transverse infralabials on each side, the anterior not separated by a postmental. Three slightly prominent granules upon the superior part of anterior auricular border. Digits compressed; of the posterior the fourth has twice the extent of the fifth. Sole tuberculous externally and internally; medially granular; palm tuberculous posteriorly. Scales small, especially upon the sides; rows from 39 to 42. Preanal plates four, the median pair very large, the exterior very small. Total length 6 in. 6 lin., tail 3 in. 9 lin. Color above, from rusty to ashy brown, paler on the tail. A white line commences at the anterior angle of the orbit, and extending above the latter, reaches as far as the crural region. It is margined with black superiorly, and separated from that of the opposite side by eight rows of scales. Beneath it, the sides are black or brownish for a width of three and a half scales, beneath which shade is another narrow white line, extending from beneath the orbit to the groin. The dark color of the sides extends upon the tail for one-third its length. The under surface of this member, of the extremities and belly, greenish blue; throat and chin yellowish. In younger specimens a light line upon each canthus rostralis is analogous to those which unite and form the median dorsal band in *P. laticeps*.



There are nearly ten more rows of scales in this species than in *P. laticeps*; the latter has six preanal plates, of which the median pair is not so disproportionately large; also the frenals and nasofrenal are narrow and erect.

---

**Description of a new Species of Rodent of the Genus *SPERMOPHILUS*,  
from Texas.**

BY J. H. SLACK, M. D.

*SPERMOPHILUS BUCKLEYI*, n. s.—Size about equal to that of the *Sciurus cinereus*. Neck, limbs, sides and posterior half of body, grizzled white and black, the hairs being black at the base and annulated with broad bands of black and yellowish white; a broad black patch commencing at the tip of the nose, covering the shoulders and terminating in a point at about the tenth dorsal vertebra, tail about two-thirds the length of the body, covered with long annulated hairs. Ears small. Soles naked.

*Measurements from the dried skin*.—Body, 13 inches; tail to end of vertebræ, 7.5; to end of hairs, 11; hind feet, 2.3. Length of lower jaw, 1.5.

*Habitat*. Pack-saddle Mountain, Llano Co., Texas.

This curious *Spermophile* was presented to the Academy by Mr. S. R. Buckley, of the Texas Geological Survey. It was captured alive by one of his party, and kept by Mr. Buckley for some time as a pet. He describes it as very gentle and docile. Its favorite food was acorns, green oak balls and milk; of the latter it appeared extremely fond. Its voice he describes as similar to the chirping of a young robin. This species is quite abundant in the vicinity of Pack-saddle Mountain. It is gregarious and resides in the holes and clefts of the rocks. When alarmed it runs along the faces of the almost perpendicular cliffs with great agility, its body, from the shortness of its limbs, appearing to touch the ground. The specimen as presented is unfortunately in a very bad condition, consisting of a flat furrier's skin apparently much distorted, and the lower jaw.

---

**Descriptions of new Cretaceous Fossils collected by the North-Western  
Boundary Commission, on Vancouver and Sucia Islands.**

BY F. B. MEEK.

The fossils described in this paper are the new species contained in the collections of the North-Western Boundary Survey. Full illustrations, and more extended descriptions of these and other species formerly described by the writer, from Vancouver Island, will appear in the Report of that Survey; which will also contain a report by Mr. George Gibbs, geologist of the expedition, on the general geology of the country along the boundary line.

In 1857 I announced the discovery of Cretaceous rocks on Vancouver Island, in a paper published in the fourth volume of the Transactions of the Albany Institute. The species described in that paper, as therein stated, were evidently from two distinct rocks, one of which was unhesitatingly referred to the Cretaceous system; while the other,—owing to the fact that all the specimens obtained from it belonged to new species, of genera common to the Cretaceous and Jurassic,—was regarded as doubtful, though probably also of Cretaceous age.

A subsequent examination, however, of these last mentioned specimens, (from Nanaimo, on Vancouver Island) led me to suspect from the affinities of some of the species, that they might be Jurassic, which was stated in a letter to Dr. Newberry, who mentioned it in his report on the Geology of Capt. Williamson's Pacific Rail Road Survey.

[Oct.



Cope, E. D. 1861. "On the Reptilia of Sombrero and Bermuda." *Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia* 13, 312–314.

**View This Item Online:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/17713>

**Permalink:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/10888>

**Holding Institution**

MBLWHOI Library

**Sponsored by**

MBLWHOI Library

**Copyright & Reuse**

Copyright Status: Public domain. The BHL considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection.

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>.