ARVICOLA MONTANA.—PEALE.

PEALE'S MEADOW MOUSE.

A. Formâ rotundatâ ; capite magno ; auribus mediocribus et vellere pœne vestitis ; dentibus flavis ; oculis parvis, nigris ; pilis subtilibus sericisque, in dorso brunneis nigrisque intermixtis ; infrâ plumbeis. Cauda pedibusque brevi nitente pilo indutis. Mystacibus albis nigrisque : mammis octo, quatuor in abdomine, in pectore totidem.

CHARACTERS.

Form rounded ; the head large, ears moderate and nearly covered with fur ; teeth yellow ; eyes small, black ; hair fine and silky ; that of the back brown and black, intermixed ; beneath lead-coloured ; tail and feet covered with short, glossy hairs ; whiskers white and black ; teats eight in number, four pectoral, and four abdominal.

SYNONYME.

ARVICOLA MONTANA.—Peale, Mammalia and Ornithology United States Exploring Expedition, vol. viii., p. 44.

DIMENSIONS.

Total length $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches, including the tail, which is $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches long.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Our specimen was obtained on the 4th of October, near the head waters of the Sacramento River, in California. (PEALE.)

In relation to *Arvicola Riparia* of ORD, we have concluded that it is identically the same as *A. Pennsylvanica* of that naturalist. We have given an account of this animal at p. 341, Vol. I. We merely mention that it is so much better known as *A. Pennsylvanica* than as *Riparia*, that we would, setting aside the dates of description by Mr. ORD, prefer to let the name of *Pennsylvanica* remain, and for the future consider *riparius* as a synonyme only.

We may further remark, that had we had an opportunity of examining

a specimen of the so called "*Arvicola riparius*," from the locality in which Mr. ORD procured his original, before our article on *A. Pennsylvanica* was published, we should have given either the one or the other name as a synonyme. We have lately had a fine specimen of this *Arvicola* from the locality from whence Mr. ORD obtained his original specimen.

Audubon, John James and Bachman, John. 1854. "Arvicola montana, Peale's Meadow-Mouse." *The quadrupeds of North America* 3, 302–303.

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