

## GENUS APLDONTIA.—RICH.

## DENTAL FORMULA.

$$\text{Incisive } \frac{2}{2}; \text{ Canine } \frac{0-0}{0-0}; \text{ Molar } \frac{5-5}{4-4} = 22.$$

Incisors, very strong, flatly convex anteriorly, without grooves, narrower behind. Molars, simple, remarkably even on the crowns. The first in the upper jaw, small, cylindrical, and pointed, is placed within the anterior corner of the second one, and exists in the adult. The rest of the molars are perfectly simple in their structure, without roots, and have slightly concave crowns, which are merely bordered with enamel, without any transverse ridges or eminences. On the exterior side of the four posterior pairs of upper molars, and the inner side of all the lower ones, there is an acute vertical ridge extending the whole length of the tooth, formed by a sharp fold of enamel. When the molars are *in situ*, there is a wide semicircular furrow between each pair of ridges, formed by the two adjoining teeth; the side of each tooth opposite the ridge is convexly semicircular. The second grinder in the upper jaw, and the first in the lower one, are a little larger than the more posterior ones, and the former has a projection of enamel at its anterior corner, producing a second though smaller vertical ridge, within which the first small molar is situated leaning towards it. There is a slight furrow on the exterior sides of the lower molars, most conspicuous in the first one.

Palate, narrow, bounded by perfectly parallel and straight rows of molars.

Head, flat and broad; nose, a little arched, thick, and obtuse. Lower jaw, thick and strong, with a large triangular process, concave behind, projecting at its posterior inferior angle further out than the zygomatic arch. The transverse diameter of the articulating surface of the condyle is greater than the longitudinal one. The jaw is altogether stronger than is usual in the *Rodentia*.

Cheek-pouches, none; eyes, very small; ears, short and rounded, approaching in form to the human ear, and thickly clothed with fur like that of a muskrat, but not so long or fine. Limbs, robust, short; feet, moderately long, with naked soles; five toes on all the feet, rather short but well separated; the thumb of the fore feet is considerably shorter than the other toes; claws, particularly the fore ones, very long, strong, much compressed, and but little curved.



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