

similar small differences. Neither the external characters nor the skull agree with *L. rufescens*.

The following is a summarized list of the species above discussed :

1. *Vulpes montanus*.
2. *Lutra*, either *L. vulgaris*, var. or an allied species.
3. *Mus*, probably new, allied to *M. Bactrianus*.
4. *Lepus Biddulphi*, sp. nov.
5. *Lagomys auritus*? var.

XVI.—*On a supposed new Sheep from the Central Hills of Kelat.*—By
A. O. HUME.

(Received 30th October; Read 7th November, 1877.)

(With plate IV.)

I received last year from Major Sandeman, C. S. I., Political Superintendent of Kelat, the head and horns of a sheep which he supposed to be the same as the oorial (*Ovis cycloceros*) and which had been obtained in the Hills above the Bolan pass.

Directly I saw these horns I was struck with their greater length and slenderness, and their peculiar twist, and after comparing them with two specimens of *O. Vignei*, and numerous specimens of *O. cycloceros*, and the description of *O. Gmelini*, the head appears to me to belong to a hitherto undescribed species.

In all these three species, as far as I can make out, each horn lies in one plane, whereas in the present species the horn twists out, in a capital S. fashion. There is in fact much the same difference between the horns of the present species and of *O. cycloceros*, that there is between those of *O. Kareleni*, and *O. Hodgsoni*.

It seems to me not impossible that this species may be one at any rate of the wild stocks from which the domesticated breed originated.

I propose to name this sheep

OVIS BLANFORDI.

after my friend Mr. W. T. Blanford, our well known Zoologist and Geologist.

The following are the dimensions of the skull and horns with corresponding dimensions of those of a specimen of *O. cycloceros*, of apparently the same age, viz., about 8 years. In the case of each measurement, the dimension first given is that of *O. Blanfordi*.

Length from the occipital crest to the end of the premaxillaries,	10·25,	10·85
„ from the anterior border of the foramen magnum,...	9·85,	8·55
„ of the bony palate from the opening of the posterior nares to the extremity of the premaxillaries,	4·7,	4·5
„ of the upper molar series,	2·6,	2·85
Breadth of palate between last molars,	1·63,	1·69
„ between anterior premolars,	1·13,	1·0
„ of the fossa between the pterygoid processes,	0·5,	0·75
Greatest width of skull at posterior border of orbit,	5·3,	5·6
Length of horns along the curve,	35·75,	29·5
Circumference of ditto at base,	9·0,	10
Width from tip to tip of horns in a straight line,	16·5,	5·4
Greatest breadth of horn at base,	2·25,	2·45
Greatest depth of horn at base,	3·25,	3·25
Width of forehead between orbits,	3·5,	3·8

The lower part of the forehead at the nasal suture and the whole of the frontals are more raised and convex than in either *O. cycloceros*, or *O. Vignei*.

The frontal ridge between the bases of the horns is less developed in *O. Blanfordi*, and in this latter the posterior convex margin of the bony palate is differently shaped, being more pointed and not nearly semicircular as in *O. cycloceros*.

Although this was promised me, I have not, I regret to say, as yet received any skin of this sheep; but I should hope that the dimensions above given, accompanied by an accurate drawing, would suffice to enable other observers to identify this supposed new species.

XVII.—*Catalogue of the recorded Cyclones in the Bay of Bengal, up to the end of 1876, compiled by HENRY F. BLANFORD, Meteorological Reporter to the Government of India.*

The following list was drawn up with a view to ascertaining with greater accuracy than had previously been practicable, what is the distribution of cyclones at the different seasons of the year, and also what parts of the Bay are most liable to storms, in each season of the year. The general results arrived at on these heads have been announced in my lately published work “The Indian Meteorologist’s Vade Mecum.”



Hume, Allan Octavian. 1877. "XVI—On a Supposed New Sheep from the Central Hills of Kelat." *The journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal* 46(IV), 327–328.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/110105>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/367876>

Holding Institution

California Academy of Sciences

Sponsored by

California Academy of Sciences 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>.