NOTES ON A SMALL COLLECTION OF MAMMALS FROM THE TANA RIVER, EAST AFRICA, WITH DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW SPECIES.

BY Frederick W. True, Curator of the Department of Mammals.

Mr. William Astor C hauler and Lieut. von Hohnel have recently sent to the Museum, among other East African collections, a small number of mammals. These were collected on the Tana River, between the coast and Hameye, a point about 300 miles from its mouth. Included among them is a new species of dormouse, Eliomys, which I propose to name Eliomys parvus. Its characters are as follows:

**Eliomys parvus** sp. nov.

Size small. Ears short, rounded, sparsely clothed with short, brownish hairs; the skin of the margin dusky.

Color above buff, tinged with brown. The hairs of the back are blackish in the basal half, then ringed with buff and tipped with brown. Muzzle lighter than the head, the short hairs being mostly without dark tips. A dusky line extends from the nostrils to the eyes, and a ring of dark color surrounds the latter. Cheeks (to the base of the ears), lips, chin, and throat clothed with hairs which are white to the base. The remainder of the under surfaces yellowish white, the hairs gray in the lower half. Feet white. Tail pale reddish chocolate-brown, washed with white, especially on the under side. Hairs of the tail short at its base, growing gradually longer distally, and attaining a length of 19mm at the tip. The hairs are equally long on the median line and the sides of the tail, and hence there is no trace of a distichous arrangement.

5. *Ibis abbotti* sp. nov.

**SP. CHAR.**—Similar to *I. bernieri*, as distinguished from *I. aethiopica* but lower neck naked and minutely papillose; remiges without dark-colored tips (blackish gray in *I. bernieri*, dark metallic green in *I. aethiopica*); decomposed tertials greenish blue on outer, grayish green on inner, webs and iris light blue instead of white.

**HAB.**—Aldabra Island.

Type, No. 128,812, female ad., Aldabra Island, October 8, 1892; Dr. W. L. Abbott.

6. *Sula abbotti* sp. nov.

**SP. CHAR.**—Most like *S. cyanops*, but bill much more robust, and coloration different, the prevailing color of the wings and tail deep black instead of grayish brown, the wing-feathers (both remiges and coverts) with inner webs and bases largely and abruptly pure white, and the upper tail-coverts and flanks marked with guttate or wedge-shaped spots of black.

**Adult male** (type, No. 128,761, Assumption Island, Indian Ocean, September 18, 1892; Dr. W. L. Abbott): Head, neck, back, rump, upper tail-coverts, and entire under parts pure white; scapulars and wing-coverts pure white basally, grayish black terminally, the former mostly concealed, but frequently exposed as angular spots, or streaks, particularly on the lesser and middle wing-coverts; greater coverts with inner webs pure white, except at tip; remiges and primary-coverts black superficially, but inner webs of secondaries chiefly (those of innermost feathers wholly) pure white, and those of the primaries also largely pure white, this color reaching to the shaft on the basal portion of the first quill, which also has the outer web white, and the shaft yellowish white, at base; on the innermost primary the white forms a broad edging which extends nearly to the tip, gradually running out to the edge, but at the base occupying the entire width of the web. Tail deep black, the feathers (except middle pair) sharply tipped with pure white, and broadly edged with the same at the base. Each of the upper tail-coverts has a large wedge-shaped median spot of black, and many of the feathers of...
the flanks are similarly marked. "Iris dark brown; feet leaden gray, lower parts of webs black; tip of bill (for about 1 inch) black; [rest of] bill fleshy white; orbital skin black; gular pouch light green." (Abbott, MS.)

Total length (skin), about 28 inches; wing, 18; tail, 8.40, outer feathers 3.20 shorter; culmen, 4.40; depth of bill at base (in front of lores), 1.65, width at same point, 1.22; tarsus, 2.00; middle toe, 3.50.

This fine species is a little larger than S. cyanops, and of similar general appearance, but differs very much both in form and coloration. The bill is much heavier than in that species, for while but little longer it is altogether deeper and broader through the base. The serrations of the tomia are also much coarser. The tarsus is decidedly shorter but the toes much longer than in S. cyanops, and the covering of both legs and feet is far rougher than in that or any other species of the genus. As to coloration, the most conspicuous features are the sharply defined wedged-shaped black markings, on a pure white ground, on the upper tail-coverts and flanks, the extensively white inner webs of the remiges, and the positively black, instead of brown, general color of wings and tail. Wherever the white and black come into juxtaposition there is always a bold line of junction, and in no case a gradual shading together of the two colors.

7. Turtur saturatus sp. nov.

Sp. CHAR.—Similar to Taldabranus, but much darker; the whole back rich purplish chocolate, the head, neck, and chest similar but slightly paler; light-colored tips of rectrices more restricted and more tinged with gray (wholly gray in adult female); adult male with sides of neck distinctly glossed with green.

HAB.—Amirante group (Ile Poivre; Ile Alphonse?).

Type, No. 128,725, male ad., Ile Poirve, August 22, 1892; Dr. W. L. Abbott.
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*Dimensions of body in millimeters.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Cat. No.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Length of head and body</td>
<td>80.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length of tail vertebrae</td>
<td>69.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Length of terminal hairs of tail</td>
<td>19.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Length of hind foot, with claw</td>
<td>13.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Height of ear from base of outer margin</td>
<td>9.0</td>
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*Dimensions of skull in millimeters.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Cat. No.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Basi-cranial length (anterior margin of foramen magnum to posterior base of incisors)</td>
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<tr>
<td>End of palate to posterior base of incisors</td>
<td>7.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Length of nasals</td>
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<tr>
<td>Greatest zygomatic breadth</td>
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<tr>
<td>Upper premolar to posterior base of incisors</td>
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<tr>
<td>Length of upper molar series</td>
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