

rather inclines to the conclusion that *Sauropsondylus* was an Iguanoid Lizard, hardly separable from the Serpents, than that it indicates a Cretaceous Ophidian. So classed, it is the type of a new family.

XVII.—Notice of a new Finner Whale from Formosa.

By Dr. J. E. GRAY, F.R.S. &c.

MR. SWINHOE has kindly sent me some bones of a Finner Whale which was cast ashore on the coast of Formosa.

The cervical vertebræ show that it is quite distinct from any Whale the bones of which have previously come under my examination.

It agrees with the smaller Finner, *Balænoptera rostrata* of Europe, in the second and third cervical vertebræ being united, while in all the other true Finners known they are free; and also in the subcircular form of the front part of the neural canal.

I am therefore inclined to refer it provisionally to the genus *Balænoptera* as restricted in my paper (Proc. Zool. Soc. May 24, 1864); but I think it probable that, when we know the entire number of the vertebræ and other details of the skeleton, it will prove to be a distinct form.

The Whale may be named *Balænoptera Swinhoei*.

The second cervical vertebra with large, broad, truncated, lateral processes, with a large, oblong, subcentral perforation; the lateral processes are each two-thirds of the transverse diameter of the articulating surface of the body of the vertebra.

The third cervical united to the second by the ankylosis of the neural arches; the body thin, oblong, transverse, broader than high; the lateral processes slender, truncated at the end, not so long as the transverse diameter of the body, curved towards each other at the end, but not forming a ring.

The rest of the cervical vertebræ free.

The sixth or seventh cervical with a thin body, and a slender, nearly straight upper lateral process, and only a very short tubercle on each side below.

The neural cavity of the second cervical vertebra subcircular, rather less high than broad, and not quite so wide as half the diameter of the front side of the body.

The neural cavity of the third cervical vertebra oblong, transverse, rounded above, as wide as half the transverse diameter of the body, and about one-third broader than high.

The bones are nearly the same size as the similar bones in the *Physalus antiquorum*, which is between 60 and 70 feet long when alive; they therefore belong to an animal at least three times as large as the *Balænoptera rostrata* of Europe.



Gray, John Edward. 1865. "XVII.—Notice of a new Finner Whale from Formosa." *The Annals and magazine of natural history; zoology, botany, and geology* 16, 148–148.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/72304>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/61400>

Holding Institution

University of Toronto - Gerstein Science Information Centre

Sponsored by

University of Toronto

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: NOT_IN_COPYRIGHT

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>.