From this table it will be seen that the carnivorous Dinosaurs stand in *no direct* genetic connection with the birds. There is no "postbubis" in the carnivorous Dinosaurs; these forms seem to become extinct in the Cretaceous, leaving no descendants.

In the herbivorous Dinosaurs and especially in the ornithopod-like forms we must seek for the ancestry of birds, and evidently that of the Ratitæ, the Carinatæ being thus considered as descending from the Ratitæ. It is not at all evident that Archæopteryx belongs in the carinate line as Dames believes.—*Dr. J. G. Baur, Yale College Mus., New Haven, Conn., October, 1884.*

Thomasomys, a new subgeneric type of Hesperomys.—We have been greatly interested in the progress of Mr. Oldfield Thomas's studies of South American Muridæ—a difficult group on which we think this author has succeeded in throwing much needed light. His latest paper, a valuable one upon Jelski's Peruvian collection (P. Z. S. June 17, 1884), divides the unwieldy genus Hesperomys into the following groups: Rhipidomys, Oryzomys, Calomys, Vesperimus, Onychomys, Scapteromys, Phyllotis, Habrothrix and Oxymycterus. Mr. Thomas's arrangement shows "that the name Calomys is restricted to the small group to which it was originally applied by Waterhouse; that Oryzomys, which was hitherto supposed to include only two North and Central American species, really contains the great mass of the South American vesper-mice to which Calomys has been commonly applied; and that the range of Dr. Coues's subgenus Vesperimus extends down as far south as Peru, since it contains the two species *H. cinereus* and *H. taczanowskii*, formerly placed by me with much doubt in Rhipidomys, but which I now think must either be referred to Vesperimus or be made the type of a new subgenus" (l. c., p. 450).

Having lately, through Mr. Thomas's courteous attentions, been able to inspect these two species in the British Museum, we incline to the latter alternative, and accordingly propose the above subgeneric name, based upon the following characters: Form stout. Pelage copious. Tail about as long as head and body, hairy, but annuli distinctly visible. Soles perfectly naked. Ears hairy inside. Front upper and front lower molar each with six cusps, three on a side, opposite one another. Mammæ six. Habits monticoline. Type, *Hesperomys cinereus* Thos. Dedicated to Oldfield Thomas, Esq., assistant dept. of mammals, Br. Mus.—*Elliott Coues, Washington, D. C.*

An Egg-laying Mammal.—Without doubt the most valuable zoölogical discovery of the past year was the announcement made to the British Association, at Montreal, in a telegram from Australia, that Mr. W. H. Caldwell, who went there for the purpose of studying the development of some of the curious animals found there, had discovered that the Monotremata are oviparous, and