

of a *Tupaia* in spirits, which was received from Borneo, and also a stuffed specimen without a habitat, evidently of the same species.

These specimens have the general coloration of *Tupaia tana*, and have evidently been regarded as varieties of that species; but they are most distinct. The head and skull are short and broad, of about the same form and proportion as those of *Tupaia ferruginea*; the fur and tail is of the same bright shining bay as *T. tana*, but it is entirely destitute of the three black streaks between the shoulders, which are so well marked in that species.

The skull shows that the stuffed specimen is that of an adult animal not so large as *T. tana*, and more nearly resembling in size *T. ferruginea*. It may be known at once from the latter species by the dark red-brown colour of the tail, with its very red underside. I propose to call it

TUPAIA SPLENDIDULA.

Fur dark red-brown, blackish-washed. Tail dark red-brown; pale red beneath; the shoulder-streak yellow. The head conical, about twice as long as wide behind.

Hab. Borneo.

The head is large compared with the size of the body; the ears rounded, with several ridges on the conch, and a well-developed convex tragus, not unlike the human ear. The palm and soles are bald to the wrist and heel.

I thought at first that this species might be the *Tupaia speciosa* of Wagner; but that animal is stated to have a head as long and as tapering as *T. tana*, and, indeed, seems to be only a slight variety of that species.

NOTICE OF A NEW GENUS AND SPECIES OF THE FAMILY TRIONYCHIDÆ FROM WESTERN AFRICA. BY DR. J. E. GRAY, F.R.S., F.L.S., ETC.

The British Museum has just received two specimens of a *Trionyx* with covered legs from Western Africa (collected by the late Dr. B. Baikie, probably on the Niger), which is evidently different in structure from any we have before received from that country, and which I am inclined to believe is an entirely new form.

It differs from the other African *Trionyches* with covered feet in only having two pairs of callosities on the sternum; while *Heptathyra* has seven, and *Cyclanosteus* has nine such hardnesses on the sternal bones. These callosities differ in disposition and mode of development, as well as in manner, in the three genera. The skull is in form like that of the genus *Cyclanosteus*; that is to say, the face is moderate, with eyes about halfway between the front of the zygomatic arch and cavity of the temporal muscle and the end of the nose; but it differs from the skull of the latter genus in the forehead and crown being wider and flatter.

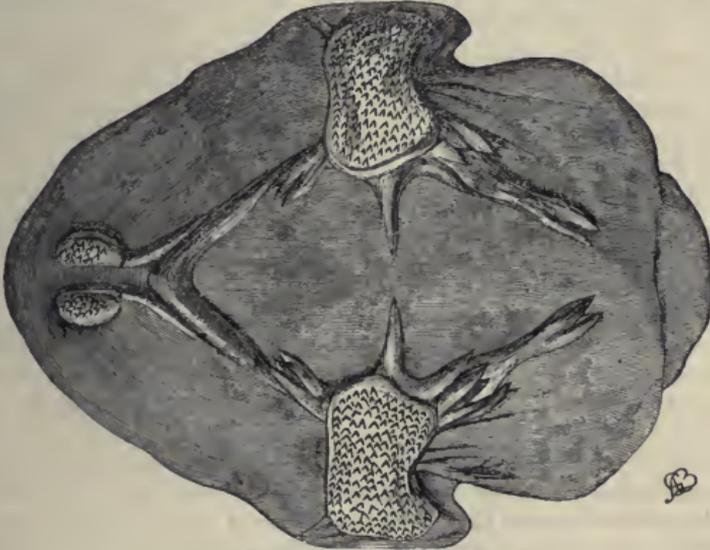
The genus (which I should refer to the tribe *Cyclanosteina*) may be defined thus :—

TETRATHYRA.

The face of the skull short, convex, arched in front ; orbits lateral, shelving, about midway between the end of the nose and the front of the zygomatic arch ; forehead flat, rhombic, broad. The dorsal shield with flexible margins, without any marginal bones ; front of dorsal shield warty above and without any odd nuchal bone. Sternum flat, with broad rounded lobes covering the feet, and two pairs of sternal callosities ; the front pair small, rounded, on the front ends of each of the front pair of sternal bones ; the lateral pairs are large, oblong, broadly notched out behind, and very rugose.

This genus differs from *Cyclanosteus* in the want of any odd bone in front of the dorsal shield, as well as in the number and disposition of the sternal callosities.

The upper surface of the front of the disk is closely covered with roundish warts. The sternal callosities are not developed in the young specimen, the larger lateral pair being first indicated as the animal increases in size. The dorsal disk of the young specimen is marked with close grains, or warty, in rather arched longitudinal ridges.



Lower surface of *Tetrathyra Baikii*.

There are some young specimens in spirits from West Africa in the Museum, which belong to this species ; they differ from the young of *C. senegalensis* in being marbled, while that species is marked with distinct small subcircular black spots.

This second genus of *Cyclanosteina* may explain the reason why we have two skulls from West Africa the one with the front and the other with the whole upper edge of the lower jaw dilated, as figured in the 'Proceedings of the Zoological Society' for 1864, fig. 18, p. 95, and fig. 21, p. 96.

TETRATHYRA BAIKII, sp. nov.

Head olive, white-spotted. Back olive, marbled with black above ;

the lower surface pale, irregularly black-marbled or spotted. The front pair of callosities small, oblong.

Younger specimen, the head and dorsal shield pale brown, marbled with large black (often inosculating) streaks; lower part of head and sternum black, with large, irregular-sized, pale spots, some of which are symmetrical.

Hab. West Africa, River Niger?

The largest specimen, which is not full-grown, is 11 inches long; the dorsal shield 7 inches long and 5 inches wide.

April 11, 1865.—Prof. T. H. Huxley, F.R.S., V.P., in the Chair.

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF INDIAN PORCUPINE.

BY P. L. SCLATER, M.A., PH.D., F.R.S.

About three years ago I received a communication from our excellent Corresponding Member, Colonel Sir William Thomas Denison, K.C.B., Governor of Madras, inquiring of me whether anything was known in Europe of a second Indian Porcupine, distinguished from the common species by having some of its quills of a deep orange-colour. Upon my replying that this Porcupine appeared to be unrepresented in our collections of animals either living or dead in this country, and would moreover probably prove new to science, Sir William promised to do his best to obtain living specimens of it for the Society's Menagerie. The first examples of this animal obtained by Sir William for transmission to this country died, I believe, before they were shipped. But in the latter part of last year Sir William was successful in obtaining four other living specimens, which reached this country in safety on the 22nd of December last. Three of these Porcupines are still living in the Society's Menagerie. The fourth died a few days after its arrival, and was found one morning already partially devoured by its carnivorous companions. Enough, however, remained of it to make a tolerably good skin, which, together with the skull, I now exhibit. Upon these materials I propose to attempt to give characters to this hitherto undescribed species.

Before doing so, however, I should mention that this species, although it has never yet been described, and, as far as I can ascertain, has never reached Europe before, alive or dead, has been already provided with a name, which I do not propose to alter. Mr. Francis Day, Fellow of this Society, late of H. M. Madras Medical Service, in his work on the native Indian state of Cochin, called 'The Land of the Permauls,' published at Madras in 1863, has spoken of this animal as "The Orange Porcupine, *Hystrix malabaricus*," and given some details respecting it*. Mr. Day has also kindly supplied me with some further notes respecting it, which I shall give presently.

I commence, however, by characterizing the species, which belongs to the typical *Hystrix*, and is very closely allied to *H. leucura*, as

HYSTRIX MALABARICA, sp. nov.

H. cristæ setis purpurascenti-nigris, unicoloribus; rostro pilis

* Land of the Permauls, pp. 446, 447.