of its close ally, *M. erminea*, Linn. Here the animal is of the comparatively pale form named *M. xanthogenys* by Gray⁵, "which is merely the northernmost palest form, between which and true *frenata* (City of Mexico &c.) there is no difference requiring recognition by name. In Guatemala *frenata* already assumes the rich coloration that culminates further south in *brasiliensis"¹⁰. In the dark southern races there is a tendency to the disappearance of the irregular white facial markings; but this is a point in which there is much individual variation. Thus in three examples collected in Costa Rica by Dr. v. Frantzius the frontal spots were totally absent⁷, while in a specimen sent from the same country by Whitely to the British Museum they are of the usual size. The tints of the lower parts vary, as well as those of the upper, but are brighter salmon-red in the young than in the adult. As in the allied species, there is also considerable variation in the proportional length of the tail and body.

In habits the Bridled Weasel probably resembles its northern congeners, but nothing appears to have been specially recorded as to its mode of life.

2. GALICTIS.

*Galictis*, Bell, Zool. Journ. ii. p. 552 (1826)*.*


This genus, of which only two species are known, resembles the true Weasels in dentition and the Martens in general form and habits, but differs from both in its closely connected digits, naked soles, and almost plantigrade gait. Both the Grison, *G. vittata* (Schreb.), and the Tayra have a wide distribution in South America; but the latter only, well characterized by its black-brown colour with irregular light markings about the face and throat, extends its range north of the Isthmus of Panama†.

1. *Galictis barbara*.

*Mustela barbara*, Linnaeus, Syst. Nat. i. p. 67 (1766, descr. orig.)¹.


*Chuhtomuc*, Tulomuco, of Costa-Ricans ³.

_Hab._ MEXICO (Mus. Brit.), Yucatan (Gaumer, Mus. Boucard); BRITISH HONDURAS, Belize (Leyland²); NICARAGUA, Granada (Ersted, Mus. Hafn.); COSTA RICA (Frantzius³); PANAMA (Zool. Soc. Vin.).—SOUTH AMERICA, to the Rio de la Plata.


† Two fossil species from postpliocene deposits of Maryland and Virginia have been described by Prof. Cope under the names *Galera macrodon* and *G. perfidica* (Proc. Philad. Ac. 1868, p. 155; Proc. Am. Philos. Soc. 1869, p. 177); but (with regard to the latter, at least) there seems to be some doubt whether the remains were not those of a *Mephitis*. (Cf. Coues, Fur-bearing Animals, pp. 19, 20.)