

## Fam. I. VESPERTILIONIDÆ.

## 1. VESPERUGO.

*Vesperugo*, Keyserling u. Blasius, Arch. f. Naturg. v. i. p. 312 (1839).

*Scotophilus* auctt. (nec Leach)\*.

The members of the widely distributed family Vespertilionidæ are characterized by their widely separated intermaxillaries, simple nostrils, and well-developed tragus, combined with a lengthened tail which reaches to the margin of the interfemoral membrane. Of the four genera represented in the Central-American fauna, the first, *Vesperugo*, may be recognized by the broad flattened head, by the short subtriangular ear of which the outer margin has its origin near the angle of the mouth, by the small inward-curved tragus, the short legs, and usually by the presence of a small posterior lobe attached to the calcaneum.

The range of *Vesperugo* is co-extensive with that of the family, including all the zoographical regions and most of the subregions. The species are both very numerous and often very variable in their characters; for "specimens of the same species, even from the same locality," says Mr. Dobson, "occasionally present differences which lead to their being regarded as distinct species." The Bats of this genus, and, indeed, of the whole family, are consequently very difficult to diagnose, especially in a few words; but the four Central-American species may be distinguished by the following characters:—

1. *V. serotinus*. Incisors  $\frac{2.2}{6}$ . Tragus broadest below the middle of its outer margin; last two caudal vertebræ free. Forearm 2".15. Fur varying from dull brown to brownish-buff, paler beneath.
2. *V. propinquus*. Incisors  $\frac{2.2}{6}$ . Tragus broadest about the middle of its outer margin; ear-conch thickened at its inner edge. Forearm 1".60. Fur rufous above, paler beneath.
3. *V. albigularis*. Incisors  $\frac{2.2}{6}$ . Outer margin of ear-conch rising under the jaw and separated from angle of mouth by a wart. Forearm 1".69. Fur dark brown; chin, throat, and posterior margin of membrane white.
4. *V. parvulus*. Incisors  $\frac{1.1}{6}$ . Tragus long, pointed; postcalcaneal lobe well developed. Forearm 1".15. Fur brownish-yellow, paler beneath.

\* The type of *Scotophilus* of Leach (Trans. Linn. Soc. xiii. 1822, p. 71) was an immature Bat in the British Museum, probably identical with *Nycticejus temmincki*, Horsfield; and his name has been very properly restricted by Professor Peters and Mr. Dobson to the Old-World species formerly included in the genus *Nycticejus* (cf. Monatsb. Ak. Berl. 1866, p. 679; P. Z. S. 1875, p. 368).