

Cosmaloapan (*Boucard, Mus. Berol.*), Guanajuato (*Dugès⁹*), Oazaca, City of Mexico, Tehuantepec (*Sallé, Boucard, Mus. Brit.⁵*); GUATEMALA, Dueñas (*Salvin, Mus. Brit.⁵*); COSTA RICA (*Mus. Brit.⁵*), Plateau of San José (*Frantzius, Mus. Berol.³*). —SOUTH AMERICA (to Chili)⁵; WEST INDIES⁵.

This is the widest-ranging and apparently the most abundant of all the American *Molossi*, being found from the Southern States of the Union to Chili. It also extends to the West Indies, where, under the name of *N. nasutus*, its habits have been well described by the late Mr. W. Osburn*. According to his account, it is almost exclusively an inhabitant of houses, where it hangs in clusters under the shingled roofs, issuing forth in pursuit of prey about sundown, but soon returning to their retreat. They do not go to sleep, however, but are active all night, scrambling and shuffling about, and thus rendering themselves obnoxious to their human fellow-lodgers. They are abroad again long before sunrise, returning to roost in the grey of the dawn. Their voice is a sharp "click-click."

After an examination of the types, Professor Peters has united the *Molossus mexicanus*⁷ and *M. aztecus*⁸ of M. de Saussure with this species. His specimens were obtained on the tableland and among the mountains of Mexico, one being killed on the Coffre de Perote at an elevation of 13,000 feet, others at the foot of the Volcano of Popocatepetl.

Fam. III. PHYLLOSTOMIDÆ.

1. CHILONYCTERIS.

Chilonycteris, Gray, Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. iv. p. 4 (1839).

With this genus we enter on the last of our three families of Central-American Bats, an exclusively Neotropical type, which may be regarded to some extent as taking the place of the Flying-Foxes (*Pteropodidæ*) in the New World. As defined by Mr. Dobson, the *Phyllostomidæ* are Bats with cutaneous appendages surrounding or close to the nostrils, with moderate or large ears, well-developed tragus, three phalanges in the middle finger and one only in the index. Varying greatly amongst themselves in dentition, and differing much in their habits, they include purely insectivorous, largely fruit-eating, and exclusively blood-sucking forms. The *Phyllostomidæ* thus present great variations in structure, united by gentle intergradations; and it is consequently very difficult to arrange them in genera. The systematist must either place together forms which in any other order of Mammalia would be regarded as belonging even to distinct families, or he must accept a large number of very closely allied genera. Mr. Dobson, in his recent work, appears to me to have succeeded on the whole in keeping the middle path; and I have therefore followed his arrangement.

* P. Z. S. 1865, pp. 65-67.