

*Hab.* MEXICO (*Deppe, Mus. Berol.*), Oaxaca (*Mus. Brit.*<sup>4</sup>); GUATEMALA (*Mus. Berol.*), Dueñas (*Salvin, Mus. Brit.*<sup>4</sup>).—ECUADOR<sup>4</sup>; PERU<sup>4</sup>; BRAZIL<sup>2</sup>; PARAGUAY<sup>1</sup>; CHILI<sup>5</sup>.

It has already been observed that the accusation of blood-sucking has been brought against many of the so-called "Vampires;" but trustworthy observers have now clearly proved that the present species and the allied *Diphylla ecaudata* are the true culprits. The first positive scientific testimony against *Desmodus* was that of Mr. Darwin, who brought home a specimen which was caught red-handed on the withers of a horse in his own presence<sup>5</sup>. Since then the negative evidence of Mr. Bates \* and Professor Reinhardt †, and the anatomical investigations of the latter and of Professors Huxley ‡ and Peters §, have been confirmed and completed by the conclusive testimony of Dr. Hensel ||, who clearly showed that the wounds of Bat-sucked beasts could only be inflicted by the peculiar teeth of the Desmodontes, and were identical with those which he himself received in the capture of *D. rufus*. He believes that, in the absence of Horses or Mules, these Bats prey on small Rodents and on-Birds.

The range of *Desmodus rufus* extends from Chili in the south to Guatemala and Southern Mexico, from both of which countries there are specimens in the British and Berlin Museums.

## 19. DIPHYLLA.

*Diphylla*, Spix, Sim. et Vesp. Bras. p. 68 (1823).

This, the last of our numerous genera of Central-American Bats, is closely allied to *Desmodus*; but it is distinguished by the non-development of the interfemoral membrane in the middle portion, by the presence of a short calcaneum, by the breadth of the lower incisors, and by the possession of a single true molar on each side, above and below, though the last are merely rudimentary. The only known species is reddish-brown above and yellowish-white beneath; its forearm measures about 2 inches.

### 1. *Diphylla ecaudata*. (Tab. III. fig. 6.)

*Diphylla ecaudata*, Spix, Sim. et Vesp. Bras. p. 68, pl. xxxvi. fig. 7 (1823, descr. orig.)<sup>1</sup>; Dobson, Cat. Chir. Brit. Mus. p. 550<sup>2</sup>.

*Hab.* GUATEMALA (*Salvin, Mus. Berol.*).—ECUADOR; BRAZIL<sup>1</sup>.

Little has been heard of this Bat since its discovery in Brazil by Spix; and the most northern locality hitherto recorded has been Ecuador, whence Mr. Fraser sent a specimen which had been taken, in the act of sucking a man's blood, on the Rio Napo¶. Professor Peters, however, informs me that there is a specimen in the Berlin Museum,

\* Nat. on R. Amazons, ii. pp. 332, 333.

‡ P. Z. S. 1865, pp. 386–390.

|| Zool. Garten, 1869, pp. 135–140.

† Vidensk. Meddel. 1865, pp. 241–244.

§ Tom. cit. p. 389.

¶ Tomes, P. Z. S. 1860, p. 212.