

1. *Thomomys talpoides*.

Cricetus talpoides, Richardson, Zool. Journ. iii. p. 518 (1828, descr. orig.)¹.

Thomomys talpoides, Baird, Mamm. N. Am. p. 403²; Coues, Proc. Ac. Philad. 1875, p. 135³; Rep.

Powell's Expl. Colorado River, p. 205⁴; Mon. N.-Am. Rodent. p. 623⁵.

Geomys umbrinus, Richardson, Faun. Bor.-Amer. i. p. 202 (1829, descr. orig.)⁶.

Thomomys umbrinus, Baird, Mamm. N. Am. p. 399⁷; Rep. U.S. Mex. Bound. Surv. ii. Mamm. p. 41⁸.

Thomomys talpoides umbrinus, Coues, Mon. N.-Am. Rodent. p. 628⁹.

Hab. NORTH AMERICA, from the Assiniboine River southwards⁵.—MEXICO, Sonora, Santa Cruz (Clark, U.S. Nat. Mus.⁸), Espia (Kennerly, *ib.*⁸).

This species was found by the naturalists of the United-States Boundary Survey to be plentiful in the northern States of Mexico; but its exact southern range is still unknown. According to the observations of Messrs. Clark and Kennerly it seldom appears on the surface of the ground, and then only before sunrise. "It seldom exposes the whole of its body in daylight. On coming to the surface, if the grass is sufficiently near to be reached, it seizes a sprig and drags it within the entrance [of its burrow], and with its fore feet packs it away in its pouches; when this operation is complete the opening [of the burrow] is filled up with loose earth, which has been aptly described by suggesting its resemblance to the emptied contents of a flower-pot." When surprised at any distance from its hole the animal becomes bewildered, and is then easily captured⁸.

3. *DIPODOMYS*.

Dipodomys, Gray, Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. vii. p. 521 (1840).

Macrocolus, Wagner, Arch. f. Naturg. xii. 1, p. 172 (1846).

As already indicated, the members of the subfamily Heteromyinæ differ greatly in appearance from the Geomyinæ, being slender Jerboa-like Rodents, with elongated hind limbs and tail. Their skulls are comparatively delicate, with slender zygomatic arches; and usually with enormously developed mastoids, which often occupy a considerable part of the top of the cranium as well as of its occipital surface. Of the three well-marked genera now known, the present is characterized by its densely haired tail and soles, plain ungrooved incisors, rootless molars, and remarkable skull, in which the inflation of the temporal regions is carried to an extreme.

Two species of the genus *Dipodomys* have usually been recognized, agreeing in their peculiar tawny mouse-colour, with white-striped heads, haunches, and tails, but differing in size and proportions. There is no doubt that the *Dipodomys* of the Rocky-Mountain subregion, *D. ordi*, is usually a larger and stouter animal, with a proportionally shorter tail and lighter coloration than the *D. phillipsi* of the Pacific slopes. But Dr. Coues finds such a perfect series of gradations, that he treats the former