

I have followed Dr. Coues in the spelling of the specific name of this animal, which Gray wrote *phillipii*; for it was avowedly named in honour of Mr. Phillips, who sent home the original type specimen.

4. PEROGNATHUS.

Perognathus, Max. zu Wied, Nov. Act. Ac. Cæs. Leop.-Car. xix. 1, p. 369 (1839).

In this genus we have a less specialized type than *Dipodomys*, characterized by its grooved incisors, rooted molars, sparsely haired tail, and more or less naked soles; while the peculiar modification of the skull is not carried nearly so far as in the last genus.

About six species, all natives of the central and western regions of the North-American continent, appear to be well established. Of these, two have been separated by Professor Baird * and by Dr. Elliott Coues † under the name of *Cricetodipus*, the former writer treating the group as a subgenus, while the latter raised it to full generic rank ‡. It is true that *Perognathus flavus* and *P. parvus* not only differ from the other species in the minor external features pointed out by Professor Baird, but that Dr. Coues has demonstrated certain cranial characters which show some approach to the last genus, and which are, in his opinion, "fully up to the current generic mark." But as these differences are mostly of a comparative nature, and as all the species appear to be very closely allied in essentials, I prefer to revert to Professor Baird's views, and to regard *Cricetodipus* as a subgenus of *Perognathus*. Following this line, the three Mexican Pocket-Mice may be thus diagnosed:—

A. *Cricetodipus* (Baird, ex Peale). Ears with no tragal or antitragal lobes. Soles hairy on their posterior half. Auditory bullæ projecting somewhat behind the occipital plane.

1. *P. flavus*. Upper parts pale fulvous, mixed with blackish; lower parts and limbs white; a bright fulvous stripe along the flanks. Average length of head and body above 2", of tail nearly the same.

B. *Perognathus* (proper). Ears with a lobe on the antitragus and usually on the tragus. Soles naked to the heel, at least along the centre. Auditory bullæ hardly projecting behind the occipital plane.

2. *P. hispidus*. Upper parts "yellowish cinnamon, closely lined with blackish"; lower parts and limbs white; a fulvous stripe along the flanks. Length of head and body about 3".25, of tail rather more.

* Mamm. N. Am. p. 418 (1857).

† Mon. N.-Am. Rodent. p. 515 (1877).

‡ The name *Cricetodipus* was first applied by Peale to his *C. parvus* (U.S. Expl. Exp. i. p. 53, 1848, descr. orig.), with which Professor Baird identified a Californian specimen now in the United-States National Museum. Dr. Coues regards Peale's species as uncertain, and founds his genus on the "*C. flavus* of Baird" (Mon. N.-Am. Rodent. p. 516).