

3. *Lepus gabbi*. (Tab. XIX.)

Lepus brasiliensis, Frantzius, Arch. f. Naturg. xxxv. 1, p. 276 (nec Linnæus)¹.

Lepus brasiliensis, var. *gabbi*, Allen, Mon. N.-Am. Rodent. p. 349 (1877, descr. orig.)².

Hab. COSTA RICA (*Frantzius*¹; *Hoffmann*, *Mus. Berol.*), Talamanca (*Gabb*, *U.S. Nat. Mus.*²); PANAMA, Chiriqui (*Hicks*, *ib.*²).—SOUTH AMERICA, Colombia.

Mr. Allen described the Costa-Rican Hare as a variety of *Lepus brasiliensis*, to which species it had already been referred by Dr. v. Frantzius, but observed that its characters were so striking that he was at first inclined to regard them as of specific value². In default of any evidence of intergradation, I feel compelled to take the latter view, and to raise Mr. Allen's "subspecific designation" of *gabbi* to full value. Leaving coloration out of the question, the Central-American Hare differs from the Brazilian in its much shorter ears (1"·50 as compared with 2") and in the rudimentary condition of its tail. In *L. brasiliensis* that organ is very short, and almost concealed in the fur of the rump, but it is distinctly developed even in very young leverets. In *L. gabbi*, on the other hand, as far as can be judged from dried skins, the tail appears to be represented by a mere tubercle, covered with yellowish-brown fur.

Specimens in the British Museum of *L. gabbi* from Concordia in Colombia, and of true *L. brasiliensis* from the Rio Napo in Ecuador, do not show any trace of intergradation in these characters; and until such evidence is adduced it appears to me that *L. gabbi* must be regarded as a distinct and even well-marked species.

In Costa Rica Dr. v. Frantzius says that this Hare frequents forest-glades which are partially overgrown with brushwood. During the day it remains concealed amongst the herbage; and as woodcraft is little understood in Costa Rica, it is seldom shot. The young, however, which are easily surprised, are often taken alive¹.

Our figure is taken from one of the Colombian specimens in the British Museum.

4. *Lepus callotis*.

Lepus callotis, Wagler, Nat. Syst. Amph. &c. p. 25 (1830, descr. orig.)¹; Baird, Mamm. N. Am. p. 590²; de Saussure, Rev. et Mag. de Zool. 1860, p. 56³; Dugès, La Nat. i. p. 138⁴; Allen, Mon. N.-Am. Rodent. p. 350⁵.

Lepus mexicanus, Lichtenstein, apud Richardson, Rep. Brit. Assoc. 1836, p. 150⁶.

Lepus texianus, Audubon & Bachman, Quad. N. Am. iii. p. 156, p. cxxxiii (1853, descr. orig.)⁷.

Eliztactochtli, Hernandez, De Quad. Nov. Hisp. fol. 2, cap. iv.

Liebre of Mexicans⁴.

Hab. NORTH AMERICA, central regions from Oregon southwards⁵.—MEXICO (*Deppe*, *Mus. Berol.*), Michoacan (*de Saussure*³), Guanajuato, Guadalajara (*Dugès*⁴), Orizaba, Tehuantepec (*Sumichrast*, *U.S. Nat. Mus.*⁵).

The "Jackass Hare" is a well-known animal on the central prairies of the United States, and, according to Dr. Dugès, it is the "*Liebre*" *par excellence* of the Mexicans.