

zoologists. The labours of Cuvier, Owen, and other anatomists have shown the necessity of generically separating the very marked groups of which it is composed; and these were carefully reviewed and characterized by the late H. N. Turner in the very last of the short but brilliant series of memoirs which was cut off by his untimely death*.

In *Tatusia* the fore foot has only four digits, of which the middle pair are considerably longer than the first and fourth; the ears are placed close together and are directed backwards; there are from twelve to fourteen movable bands or girdles between the scapular and pelvic shields; and the tail is elongate and covered with scutes, which are arranged in rings or whorls, except towards the tip. The only species here recognized as an inhabitant of our subregion, *T. novemcincta*, may be at once known from its congeners by the length of its ears and tail (the former being one third the length of the head, and the latter nearly as long as the body), and by the flatness of the plates of the pelvic shield. The length of the head and body is about twelve inches, that of the tail about the same.

The claims of two other genera of Dasypodidæ to a place in our fauna must here be noticed. Dr. v. Frantzius was informed that a second species of Armadillo existed in Costa Rica, and that it was called *Armado de Zopilote*, because its flesh had the same musky smell as the *Zopilote* or Black Vulture, *Cathartes atrata* (Bartram). On one occasion only did he see a living example; but he found a skull in the collection of Dr. Joos of Schaffhausen, and identified the animal as *Dasypus gymnurus*, Illiger [= *D. duodecemcinctus*, Schreber, = *Xenurus duodecemcinctus*, auct.], a native of Peru, Brazil, and Paraguay†. Mr. Tomes, on the other hand, in his paper on Mr. Salvin's Guatemalan collections, included *Dasypus minutus*, Desmarest, a Patagonian form, without making any mention of *Tatusia novemcincta*‡. The occurrence of either *Xenurus* or true *Dasypus* in Central America appears highly improbable; and as it is not confirmed by any of the collections to which I have access, I cannot but think that there has been some error of identification in the above records.

1. *Tatusia novemcincta*. (Tab. XXII.)

Dasypus novemcinctus, Linnæus, Syst. Nat. i. p. 54 (1766, descr. orig.)¹; Baird, Mamm. N. Am. p. 623²; Rep. U.S. Mex. Bound. Surv. ii. Mamm. p. 48³; Dugès, La Nat. i. p. 138⁴.

Dasypus novemcinctus, var. *mexicanus*, Peters, Monatsb. Ak. Berl. 1864, p. 180 (descr. orig.)⁵.

Dasypus peba, Desmarest, Mamm. p. 368 (1820, ex Marcgrave)⁶; Moore, P. Z. S. 1859, p. 51⁷.

Dasypus fenestratus, Peters, Monatsb. Ak. Berl. 1864, p. 180 (descr. orig.)⁸; Frantzius, Arch. f. Naturg. xxxv. 1, p. 310⁹.

Dasypus mexicanus, Fitzinger, Sitzungs. Ak. Wien, lxiv. 2, p. 363 (1871, ex Peters)¹⁰.

Tatusia mexicana, Gray, Hand-list Edent. &c. Mamm. p. 14, pl. ii. figs. 3, 4 (1873, descr. orig.)¹¹.

Tatusia leptorhynchus, Gray, op. cit. p. 15, pl. i. figs. 3, 4 (1873, descr. orig.)¹².

* "On the Arrangement of the Edentate Mammalia," P. Z. S. 1851, pp. 205-221.

† Arch. f. Naturg. xxxv. 1, p. 309.

‡ P. Z. S. 1861, p. 287.