

**Article XIV. — ON TWO SPECIES OF PLATYGONUS
FROM THE PLIOCENE OF TEXAS.**

By J. W. GIDLEY.

Among the very interesting fossils obtained by the American Museum expedition of 1901 from the Blanco beds, are two specimens of peccaries. Both are referable to the genus *Platygonus*, but represent two distinct species. One is probably referable to *P. bicalcaratus* Cope, but the other is clearly distinct from any described species. Both specimens consist of upper teeth unassociated with those of the lower series.

***Platygonus bicalaratus* Cope.¹**

This species was founded on a posterior portion of a molar, m_3 of the lower series. Unfortunately there were no characteristic portions of the upper teeth associated with the type, hence the upper dentition of *P. bicalcaratus* is not known. As shown by Cope's figures, the crests of the lower teeth are

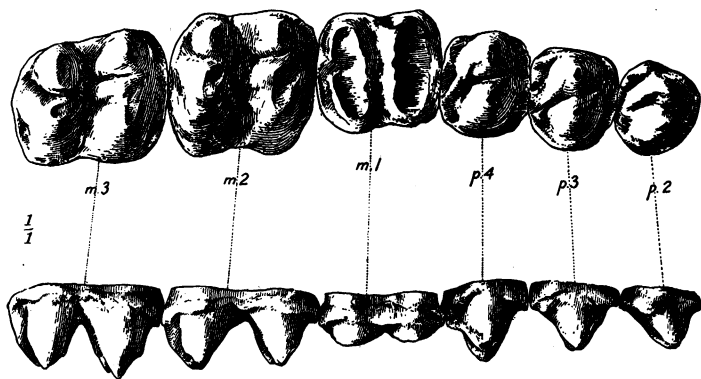


Fig. 1.—*Platygonus bicalcaratus* ? Cope. Right upper molar series. Amer. Mus. No. 10701. $\times \frac{1}{2}$.

very high, and the conids forming them are subequal. These characters, together with the agreement of size, have led the writer to refer provisionally the present specimen

¹Geol. Surv. Texas, 4th Ann. Rep., 1892 (1893), pp. 68-70, Pl. XIII, fig. 5.

(No. 10701 Coll. Am. Museum, Fig. 1) to Cope's species, *P. bicalcaratus*, from the same beds. Although the teeth present the generic characters of *Platygonus* they differ strikingly from any species hitherto described in which the upper teeth are known.

The chief distinguishing characters are as follows: (1) The posterior and anterior crests of the molars are high and completely divided by the cross valley. (2) The cones forming the crests are comparatively wide apart at their summits; thus when they become a little worn the upper molars of this species present very much the appearance of the lower molars of the tapir. (3) The posterior heel in m^3 is entirely wanting.

Measurements.

Diameters, p^3	Anteroposterior. 11 mm.	Transverse. 12 mm.
" p^3	12 "	13 "
" p^4	12 "	14 "
" m^1	16.5 "	15 "
" m^2	19.5 "	17.5 "
" m^3	20 "	16 "

Platygonus texanus, sp. nov.

The second species, hitherto undescribed, is represented by the type, a palate (No. 10702, Am. Mus. Coll., Figs. 2 and 5),

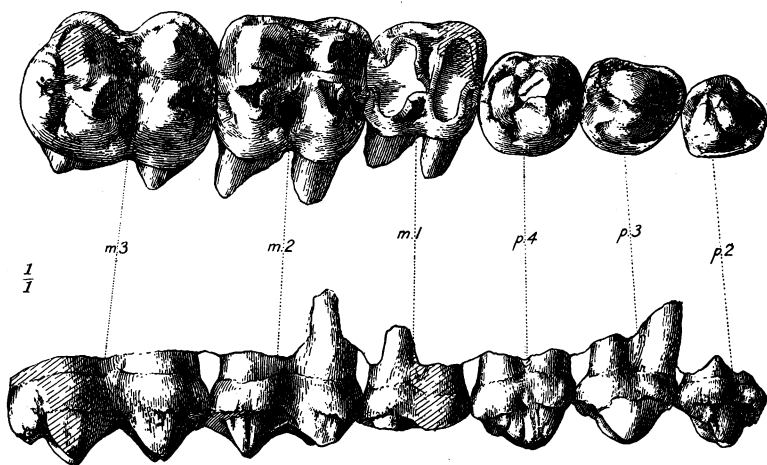


Fig. 2.—*Platygonus texanus*. Type. Amer. Mus. No. 10702. $\times \frac{1}{1}$.

containing the complete upper molar-premolar series, parts of the alveoli of the canines and incisors, and a portion of the upper anterior part of the skull.

Though coming from a later horizon,¹ the somewhat primitive quadritubercular character of the molars suggests in this species a close relationship to *P. rex* Marsh.² However, comparing it with a cast of Marsh's type, which the writer has at hand, the following differences are very clearly shown: (1) The four principal cusps of the molars are proportionally shorter. (2) The cusps are subequal in the anterior and pos-

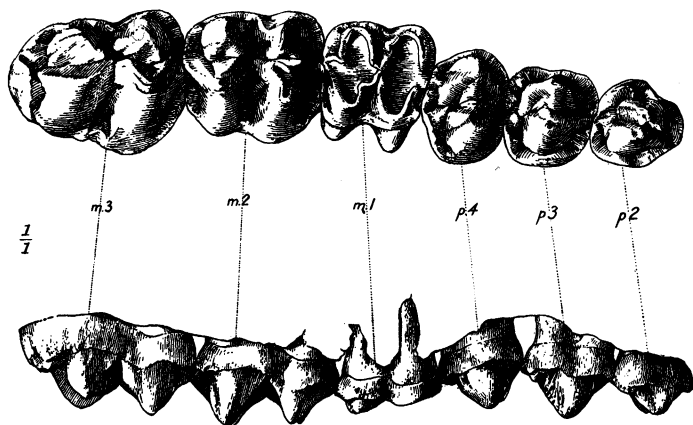


Fig. 3.—*Platygonus vetus*. Leidy. Amer. Mus. No. 2724. $\times \frac{1}{2}$.

terior pairs, and are comparatively wide apart at their summits. In *P. rex* the cusps of the outer side of the molars are perceptibly higher than those of the inner side. (3) The posterior heel of m^3 is much more strongly developed. It is very weakly represented in *P. rex*. (4) The size of the molars indicates a species larger than *P. rex*.

Compared with *P. vetus* Leidy (Figs. 3 and 4) the chief distinctions are as follows: (1) The cones of both the molars and premolars are proportionally lower and, in the molars, more

¹ The type locality of *Platygonus rex* Marsh is eastern Oregon. Marsh gives the horizon as Pliocene, but it is almost certainly Upper Miocene.

² Am. Jour. Sci. (3) xlviii, 1894, p. 273.

simple. (2) The molars are proportionally wider transversely, especially at the summits of the cones. (3) The posterior heel of m^3 is wider transversely, and is more dis-

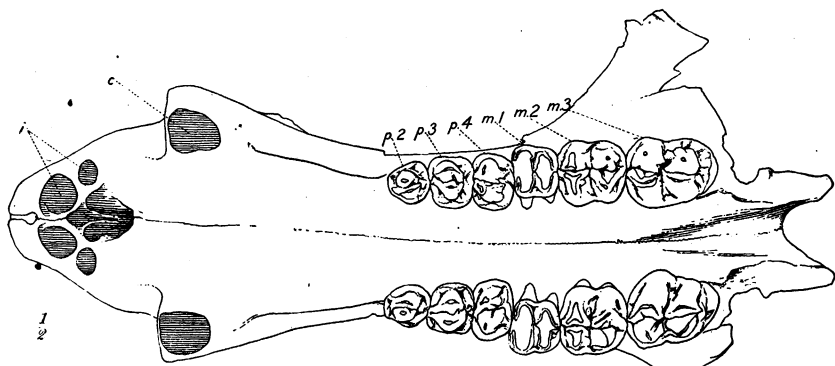


Fig. 4.—*Platygonus vetus* Leidy. Amer. Mus. No. 2724. $\times \frac{1}{2}$.

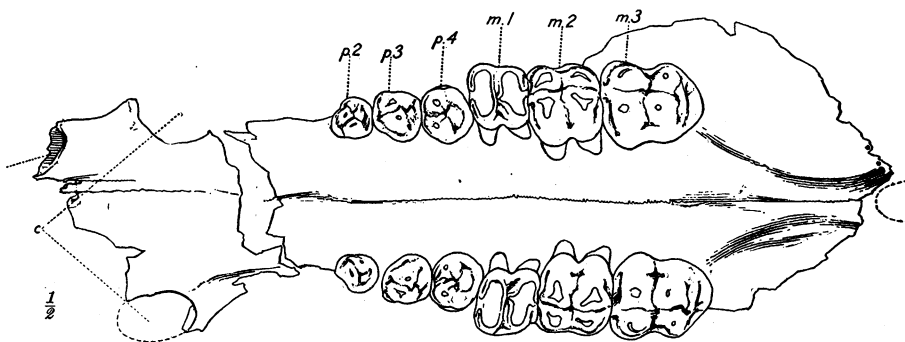


Fig. 5.—*Platygonus texanus*. Type. Amer. Mus. No. 10702. $\times \frac{1}{2}$.

tinctly separated by a cross valley from the posterior crest of the tooth. (4) The canine is proportionally much thicker anteroposteriorly than in *P. vetus*, as indicated by the alveolus. (5) The backward extension of the palatines is much greater than in any species in which this character is known, the anterior border of the palatal notch being situated nearly three times farther back of the posterior molars than in *P. rex*.

Measurements of Type.

	Anteroposterior.	Transverse.
Diameters, p ²	11.5 mm.	10.5 mm.
" p ³	13.5 "	12 "
" p ⁴	14 "	14 "
" m ¹	17.5 "	15.5 "
" m ²	20 "	20 "
" m ³	25.5 "	21.5 "

Total length of series..... 101 mm.

Position of palatal notch back of posterior molars..... 48 mm.

Measurements of two upper molars of Platygonus rex Marsh.

	Anteroposterior.	Transverse.
Diameters, m ²	19 mm.	16 mm.
" m ³	21 "	18 "

(These measurements are taken from Marsh's figures and confirmed by the measurements of the cast.)

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