

**Article IX.**— A NEW PIKA FROM COLORADO.

BY J. A. ALLEN.

The Museum has recently received as a gift from Mr. J. D. Figgins, Director of the Colorado Museum of Natural History, a series of nine specimens of *Ochotona*, three of which are from Pagoda Peak, Routt County, Colorado, and six from Geneva Park, between Mount Evans and the main divide, about 70 miles west of Denver. Three of the Geneva Park specimens are in summer pelage (August 28–31) and three in winter pelage (November and December). The Pagoda Peak specimens were taken October 30, and are also in winter pelage and thus comparable with the November-December Geneva Park series. The skulls of the two series show no appreciable differences, but the series are quite different in coloration. The Geneva Park specimens are of course referable to *Ochotona saxatilis* Bangs; the others, representing an isolated colony at Pagoda Peak, northwestern Colorado, may be distinguished as

***Ochotona figginsi* sp. nov.**

Type, No. 32721, ♀ ad., Pagoda Peak, Routt County, Colorado, Oct. 30, 1910; collected and presented by Mr. J. D. Figgins, for whom the species is named.

Not appreciably different in size and cranial characters from *Ochotona saxatilis*, but different in coloration; the ground color of the pelage of the upper parts is much darker, the subapical light band of the hairs being very pale yellowish white in *saxatilis* and very near ecru drab in *figginsi*; the black tips of the hairs are also fewer and much shorter in the former, not forming a very pronounced feature, while in *figginsi* they are so abundant and so much longer as to give a blackish tone to the coloration; in *saxatilis* the ventral surface, in winter pelage,<sup>1</sup> is pale buff, with the pectoral band approaching ochraceous buff; in *figginsi* it is white with a pale yellowish wash, a little stronger and more buffy on the pectoral band, but not of the deep buff seen in *saxatilis*. The lower borders of the dorsal area in *figginsi* share in the darker general tone of the upperparts, and are thus much deeper and more of a cinnamon than in *saxatilis*.

My attention was called to the Pagoda Peak animal by Mr. Figgins, who in collecting the specimens here described found that they had "quite a different note from those found about the main Divide [*i. e.*, *O. saxatilis*]

<sup>1</sup> *Ochotona saxatilis* Bangs was based on a series of specimens in summer pelage, from Montgomery, near Mount Lincoln, Park County, Colorado, collected by me July 27, 1871. (See Monographs of North Amer. Rodentia, 1877, p. 411.) In this species, as probably in all other species of the genus, the summer and winter pelages are very unlike.

and differed somewhat in color, possibly subject to separation." He adds: "Perhaps nothing will describe this difference [in the notes] more fully than to say that those on the Divide have a sharp, clear note, while those of the Routt County region have a lower and more guttural note, giving one the impression that they were suffering from a bad cold in the throat. . . . In case the differences prove sufficient to warrant separation, I will deem it a favor if you will describe it."

Respecting the locality he states (*in litt.*): "In the northwest corner of the State [Colorado], there are numerous detached peaks or cones several thousand feet above the plateau,<sup>1</sup> and upon one or two of these, possibly more, conys are found. . . . As far as the natural habitat of these animals is concerned, the lava cones are as isolated as if they were islands."

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<sup>1</sup> Gannett gives the altitude of Pagoda Peak (on the authority of Hayden), as 11,251 feet.