

Article XIX.—DESCRIPTION OF A NEW MOUSE FROM
LAKE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA.

By J. A. ALLEN.

***Sitomys robustus*, sp. nov.**

Similar in proportions and coloration to *Sitomys americanus gambelii*, but nearly twice the bulk of that form; hence about equaling *S. gilberti* in size, but differing from the latter in much smaller ears and much shorter tail, and also in coloration.

Above uniform dull yellowish brown, much varied with blackish, the pelage being plumbeous at base, subterminally broadly ringed with fulvous and tipped with blackish; middle of back darkest, gradually becoming more fulvous on the sides, without, however, forming a distinct fulvous lateral line nor a distinct dorsal band of dusky; beneath white, as also the upper surface of both fore and hind feet. Ears moderate, in size, form, color and hairiness about as in *S. a. gambelii*. Feet large; soles sparsely haired posterior to the last tubercle. Tail a little shorter than head and body, sharply bicolor, dusky brown above and white below, fairly well clothed with short hairs and non-penicillate—about as in *S. americanus*.

Measurements.—Two specimens, both males, and measured in the flesh by the collector, give the following dimensions: Total length, 174–175 mm.; head and body, 94–102; tail,¹ 73–80; hind foot, 21–22; ear, 19–21.

Skull.—Of the size and general proportions of *Sitomys gilberti*, or of small specimens of *S. californicus*, except that the auditory bullæ are markedly smaller, being scarcely larger than in average specimens of *S. a. gambelii*, notwithstanding the much larger size of the skull. In other respects there appear to be no tangible cranial differences. Total length of the type (the other skull is imperfect), 26 mm.; basal length (posterior base of incisors to posterior border of occipital condyle), 22; greatest width of brain-case, 12.5; least interorbital breadth, 4.5; length of nasals, 10; length of lower jaw, 13.5; length of lower jaw to tip of incisors, 16; height at coronoid process, 6.

Type, No. 282, Mus. Leland Stanford University, Lakeport, Lake Co., Cal., March 20, 1893; collector, S. Parrish.

This species is based on two adult males, in the museum of the Leland Stanford University, collected by Mr. S. Parrish at Lake-

¹ It is barely possible that the extreme tip of the tail in both specimens was mutilated in life, but it seems by no means probable.

port, Lake Co., California, March 20, 1893, kindly placed at my disposal for study by Prof. Charles H. Gilbert, of Stanford University. These specimens were at first regarded as greatly overstuffed examples of *S. a. gambelii*, till an examination of their skulls showed the fact to be otherwise. *S. robustus* requires no comparison with other species beyond that already made, its short tail, relatively small ears, robust body, large feet, and small auditory bullæ, at once serving to distinguish it. It would seem, however, to much resemble *S. boylii* in size and coloration, but the latter is described as having a much longer tail—much longer than head and body instead of much shorter, as in the present species.