

Private

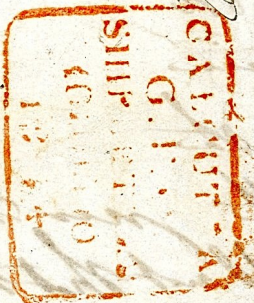
Calcutta 3<sup>rd</sup> July 1844

My dear Sir! The enclosed I thought you would  
like to see and both you and myself are desirous  
that you should know that we at least are not to blame  
in this dirty job. What is written more or less than  
disgraceful. For at least deprives you of the honor of being  
- known as discoverer and publicist. My intention was written  
much fuller and stronger for I detailed all the various  
contents in which I shall have been named by us  
officially and for which I have beautiful plates and upon  
that at the meeting to your honor though  
Scientific was produced not a  
syllable was said by him! Do  
now that you know again  
(as you wish of course send to the  
Editor) we will manage with your contribu-  
tion as in the case of Brown for I doubt not that though  
in Murray's work. But it is in mind for any thing  
which may afford to you. Geological Geology or Mineralogy  
or I shall be most happy to refer to yourself  
or friends here be assured. We are just bringing  
out poor Roberts's geology map of the Himalayas  
affiliated from the shelves of Leadenhall Street and  
every creditable one it is. Pray believe me Very Affly  
H. De la Beche

Nov 27

Providence via South West

Wm. H. West  
Care Mrs. Smith  
Boston



The Editors of the Journal in publishing this brief article, and the plate which accompanies it, which is an exact *fac-simile* of the beautiful drawing made by Mr. Hodgson's Native artist, deem it an act of justice to that gentleman, to themselves as Editors and Officers of the Asiatic Society, and to their contributors, to explain how it has happened, that though the drawing has been in their possession since July 1842, it only now appears. It was sent to them from Katmandoo by Mr. Hodgson under the above date, with a request that the Society's Zoological Curator would add such remarks as he might think proper.

The paper was handed to Mr. Blyth, who also then saw the drawing, and as soon as the first impressions could be coloured, they were placed by the Editors in his hands. The colouring of the whole of the plates, (a very slow process in India,) was finished in August 1843.

The Editors in May 1844, had the paper returned to them with the following announcement from Mr. Blyth :—

“ The truth is, both of them are species *already* described ; viz. the *Pteromys nobilis* and the *P. caniceps* of Gray, and it would not be creditable to the Journal that they should be published under Mr. Hodgson's new names.”

They do not feel competent to decide on a question of priority of discovery nor of identity of species should any arise, and are herein only anxious to prove their earnest wish to do justice, both by liberal care and by early publication, to the labours of the correspondents of the Asiatic Society, and supporters of the Journal. The extract pointed out to the Editors by Mr. Blyth will be found in the note.\*

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## RODENTIA.

### GENUS SCIUROPTERUS.

1. Sp. new. *S. Chrysotrix*, mihi. General structure and size of *Magnificus*. Above intense ochreous chesnut, mixed with black and divided down the spine by a golden yellow line, and margined externally by

\* *Extract from the Annals and Magazine of Natural History for December 1842,*  
*p. 262 and 263.*

*Sciuropterus nobilis*.—Bright chestnut-brown, with yellow tips to some of the hairs, pale rufous beneath ; the top of the head, the shoulders, and a narrow streak down the middle of the upper part of the back pale fulvous ; parachute large.

*Hab.*—India, Dargellan, Mr. Pearson, Mus. Ind. Comp.

*Sciuropterus caniceps*.—Blackish brown, varied with red bay ; hairs long, dark blackish, with red bay tips ; out-side of the legs redder, beneath reddish yellow ; head iron-gray with longer black interspersed hairs ; throat white ; chin black ; small lunate spot on the upper edge red, and roundish spot near the base of the ears bright-red ; tail flattish, black with some reddish tipped hairs, fewer near the end. Body and head, nine inches ; tail, eight and a half.

*Hab.*—India, Dargellan, Mr. Pearson, Mus. Ind. Comp.

the same hue, which also spreads over the shoulders and thighs. Below, and the flying membrane with the lower limbs and tail, intense orange red, deepening into ochreous on the margin of the membrane, and on the limbs ophthalmic and mystacial regions defined by black; chin dark, cheeks mixed, a pale golden spot on the nasal bridge. Two inches of end of tail black. Ears outside concolorous with lower surface. Tail longer than the animal and cylindric. Pelage thick and soft, and glossy, woolly and hairy piles: average length of latter an inch and one-third. Snout to rump fifteen inches. Head to occiput (straight) three inches and three-eighths; tail, seventeen inches and a half; less terminal hair, fifteen inches and a half, ears one inch and one-third. Palma, less nails, one inch and seven-eighths. Planta, less nails, two inches and seven-eighths. Habitat, hills generally, but chiefly the central and northern regions. Sexes alike. *Remark.*—In colour much like *Magnificus*, but invariably distinguished by the pale golden line down the spine.

2. Sp. new. *Senex*, nob. General structure as above, but size smaller, and fur longer. Entire head, pepper and salt mixture, or iron grey: orbits and base of ears behind, intense burnt sienna. Entire body above and the tail and flying membrane, a full clear mixture of golden and black hues; shoulders not paled. Limbs intense aurantine ochreous. Margin of the parachute albescent, and neck below the same. Body below with parachute there, orange red. Tip of tail black as usual. Ears nearly or quite nude and tail subdistichous or flatter. Pelage longer and scarcely so fine as in *Magnificus* and in *Chrysotrix*. Longest piles an inch and three-quarters, and less glossy. Snout to rump fourteen inches, head two inches and seven-eighths, ears one inch and a quarter. Tail only fifteen inches, with hair sixteen inches and a half. Palma one inch and eleven-sixteenths. Planta two inches and a half.

Habitat as before.

*Remark.*—Differs from the two larger species of these hills, and approaches to the least, or *Alboniger*, by the less cylindric form of the tail and under-ears. Its pelage is coarser and less glossy than in any of the other three, but is fully as warm and thick.

July, 1842.



Raj

July 1844



Raj Man Singh del.

- 1. *Sciuropterus Chrysotrix*. mihi.
  - 2. *Sciuropterus Senex* mihi.
- Habitat Central and Northern regions of the Hills. B.H.H.

J. Black, Asiatic Litho. Press, 3 Hare St. Calcutta.

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 H. Reddington