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A NEW SHREW FROM EASTERN TURKESTAN.

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ON January 10, 1894, Dr. W. L. Abbott collected a small shrew in the jungle east of Maralbashi, near the Yarkand river, eastern Turkestan. The specimen represents a *Crocidura* smaller than the *C. myoides* Blanford of Kashmir<sup>1</sup> and strikingly different in color; but unfortunately its skull has been mislaid or lost. The lack of the skull has hitherto deterred me from describing the species, but a careful re-examination of the specimen shows that its characters are too strongly marked to be ignored. It may be called:

CROCIDURA LIGNICOLOR sp. nov.

*Type*.—Adult female (skin) no. 62180 United States National Museum, collected in jungle east of Maralbashi, eastern Turkestan, near the Yarkand river, January 10, 1894.

*Characters*.—Smaller than *Crocidura russula* and *C. myoides*, the tail more densely haired and relatively much shorter. Color strongly suggesting that of *Mus pachycercus*.

*Tail*.—The tail is about half as long as head and body, therefore much shorter than in *C. russula* and *C. myoides*. It is densely furred throughout, so that the annulation is completely hidden. Interpersed with the finer appressed hairs are the usual slender bristles, about 6 mm in length. Pencil distinct, 4 mm long.

*Feet*.—The feet are small and slender, both palms and soles 6-tuberculate. Palmar tubercles as in *Crocidura russula*. Plantar tubercles as in *C. russula*,<sup>2</sup> except that the posterior and penultimate on

<sup>1</sup> The type was collected at Leh. The National Museum contains a specimen taken by Dr. Abbott in a pine forest among the mountains of central Kashmir, at an elevation of about 10,000 feet.

<sup>2</sup> In *C. myoides* the tubercles are apparently like those of *C. russula*, but the soles of the Kashmir specimen are injured.

the outer side are larger, and placed almost directly opposite those of inner side.

*Ears.*—The ear is slightly smaller than that of *C. myoides*; therefore much smaller than in *C. russula*. It is not peculiar in form.

*Fur.*—The fur is dense and silky, that on middle of back about 7 mm. in length. The hairs throughout have a distinct gloss, producing a strong contrast with the dull fur of *Crocidura myoides*.

*Color.*—Entire dorsal surface of head and body wood brown, almost exactly matching the plate in Ridgway's Nomenclature of Colors. Tail wood brown, slightly paler below than above, its dorsal surface like back. Sides, legs, feet and entire ventral surface of head and body grayish-white. Fur of body slate-black through basal two-thirds or three-fourths, the dark portion crossed by several indistinct narrow pale bands which produce an effect like watered silk when the hairs are smoothly parted.

*Measurements.*—Total length 82; head and body 54; <sup>1</sup> tail vertebrae 28.5; <sup>1</sup> hind foot 12 (11); <sup>2</sup> ear from meatus 5.6; ear from crown 3; width of ear 6.8.

*Remarks.*—In its peculiar color this species differs widely from described members of the genus and shows a striking parallelism with the small *Mus pachycercus* inhabiting the same region. What its cranial and dental characters will prove to be can only be conjectured, but there is every reason to suppose that they will essentially agree with those of *Crocidura myoides* and *C. russula*.

<sup>1</sup> From fresh specimen by collector.

<sup>2</sup> Measurement of hind foot in parenthesis taken without claws.