

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF URANIDEA (URANIDEA RHOTHEA) FROM SPOKANE RIVER, WASHINGTON TERRITORY.

By ROSA SMITH.

Head 3 ($3\frac{3}{5}$); depth $4\frac{1}{2}$ ($5\frac{1}{2}$); length (30737) 3 inches. D. VIII-16; A. 11; V. I, 4; Br. 6.

Subgenus COTTOPSIS Girard.

Body of the usual form in the genus, widest anteriorly, gradually tapering to the tail, the greatest width just behind head, $1\frac{1}{3}$ in greatest depth of body. Head wide, depressed, its depth half its width. Mouth moderate, maxillary reaching the vertical of posterior margin of pupil. Eye moderate, $1\frac{1}{3}$ in snout. Snout $3\frac{1}{2}$ in head, more pointed and the head broader than in *U. gulosa* or *U. aspera*. Interorbital space rather narrow, 2 in eye, slightly concave.

Villiform teeth on jaws and vomer, about as in *U. aspera*, the palatine teeth forming a broader and much longer band than in the latter species.

Opercular spines nearly as in *U. aspera*; a sharp spine at the angle of preopercle directed upward and backward, below which are two small and very blunt ones. A single spine directed forward at the inferior angle of opercle.

Skin of the head smooth to the touch, but there are numerous very minute tubercles on the nose, interocular width, and vertex. An appearance of prickles is observed on the space between occiput and origin of dorsal, but no roughness can be felt. Conspicuous prickles extend from the scapula and origin of dorsal fin almost to base of caudal, and below the lateral line a distance equaling the interorbital space; these prickles more prominent than in *U. aspera*. The lower surface of head, the abdominal region, and base of anal are smooth and without any trace of warts or prickles.

Isthmus rather broad, the gill-membranes not forming a fold across it. First dorsal low, its margin convex; fourth and fifth spines highest, about 4 in head. First ray of soft dorsal equaling highest part of spinous, increasing to the third, which is $2\frac{1}{3}$ in head, the outline nearly straight from third to fifteenth rays. Caudal subtruncate. Anal similar to soft dorsal, its last ray inserted opposite insertion of fourteenth dorsal ray, the free tips not extending quite as far as those of dorsal. Ventrals not reaching vent, 2 in head. Pectoral attaining third ray of soft dorsal and barely to beginning of anal.

Caudal peduncle nearly 4 in greatest depth. In young examples the opercular spines and dermal prickles are more conspicuous than in the adult.

Color, in spirits, olivaceous with blackish markings. Upper part of head dark gray, with a darker area on occiput. Two blackish spots at

base of spinous dorsal, and two larger spots, or almost bands, at base of soft dorsal, extending below lateral line, and a black connecting band below lateral line, which extends along middle of peduncle, spreading out, fan-like, at base of caudal; the general hue of the prickly region is dark gray; the thorax, abdomen, and base of anal yellowish-white with fine blackish punctulations on these regions in the larger specimen, the smaller ones without dots on this area. Fins with small black spots which tend to form waving horizontal lines in their arrangement. Ventrals almost plain yellowish-white. Branchiostegal membrane punctate with black in adult. Lining of mouth plain whitish. Peritoneum white.

This species is known to me from four individuals collected from the Falls of the Spokane River, in Washington Territory. The largest and smallest of these have been presented to the National Museum by Mr. W. G. W. Harford, and their catalogue number is 30737.

The smaller number of fin-rays separates this species readily from *U. aspera* and *U. semiscabra* (D. X, 21, A. 17 in *aspera*; D. VII, 18, A. 14 in *semiscabra*), while the very prickly skin at once distinguishes it from all others.

SAN DIEGO, CAL., June 1, 1882.

**ON THE EASTWARD DISTRIBUTION OF THE BLACK-TAILED DEER
(CARIACUS COLUMBIANUS).**

By CAPT. CHAS. BENDIRE, U. S. A.

[Extracted from a letter to Prof. S. F. Baird.]

I have for the past two years carefully examined a great number of hides of the so-called black-tailed deer found in this region, and have sent several lots of tails to Judge J. D. Caton, who is the best authority on the *Cervidae* we have. The judge is perfectly right in saying, "The most extraordinary fact in connection with this deer is the extremely narrow limits of its range, and this must be still farther restricted. I am now satisfied that it reaches no farther than the eastern slopes of the Cascade Mountains instead of the foot-hills of the Rockies." I have examined skins from various portions of this country, a great many taken near the eastern border of the Cascades, about Prineville, Oregon, also the Warm Spring Indian Reservation, The Dalles, Camp Harney, Oregon, Yakima Valley, and the Spokane Fort region, and I have to see the first true black-tailed deer skin (the *Cervus columbianus*) yet which comes from any point east of the Cascade range. I can speak positively about this, as I have made very careful examinations, and have looked over several thousands of hides, brought together from various places, at the instigation of Judge Caton. If this deer occurs at all east of the Cascade range, it will be found about Fort