

A REPLACEMENT NAME FOR THE FOSSIL PENGUIN
MICRODYTES SIMPSON (AVES: SPHENISCIDAE)

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IN ONE of the more recent of his many contributions to the paleontology of penguins, Simpson (1981) proposed a new genus and species, *Microdytes tonnii*, for a very small penguin from the lower part of the marine Patagonia Formation (approximately late Oligocene) of Chubut, Argentina. In consulting the *Nomenclator Zoologicus* (Edwards and Hopwood, 1966), however, I found that the name *Microdytes* Simpson, 1981, is a junior homonym of *Microdytes* Balfour-Browne, 1949 (Coleoptera). A replacement name is therefore required, and Dr. Simpson has requested that I supply one.

Genus *ERETISCUS*, nom. nov.

Type species.—*Microdytes tonnii* Simpson, 1981.

Etymology.—Greek, *eretes*, a rower, and *iskos*, a masculine diminutive suffix, in reference to the small size of the species and to the locomotory adaptations of penguins in general.

REFERENCES

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MANUSCRIPT RECEIVED 17 SEPTEMBER 1984