

On the name *Vespertilio blossevillii*.

In a recent note on the systematic name of the Cuban Red Bat, Dr. J. A. Allen falls into a very natural error in assuming that the "abstract" in Férussac's Bulletin, entitled "Mammifères nouveaux ou peu connus décrits et figurés dans l'Atlas zoologique du Voyage autour du monde de la corvette la Coquille," etc., was published after the appearance of the Zoology of the 'Coquille'. As a matter of fact, the Zoology of the voyage of the 'Coquille' appeared in livraisons, beginning with October, 1826; and tome I, pt. I, while dated "1826", was really published between 1826 and 1828, the preface actually bearing the date January, 1828. No descriptive matter appeared before 1827, but plates were issued with the separate parts, and the names on them will stand, except in those cases where an earlier description occurs in Férussac's Bulletin. In the case of *Vespertilio blossevillii*, the name dates from Férussac's Bulletin, VIII (not XIII, as misprinted in the note above mentioned), May, 1826, p. 95, while the earliest reference to *Vespertilio bonariensis* is plate II, fig. 1, Zool. "Coquille," which appeared in livr. 3 of that work, published in April, 1827. It will be plain, from the above, that *Lasiurus blossevillii*; and not *L. bonariensis* is the correct name of the Uruguayan species.—*Chas. W. Richmond.*

The name of the Aard-Vark.

In advocating the name *Orycteropus afra* (Pall.) for the Aard-Vark (Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., XIII, p. 166) Mr. Rehn has omitted to notice (1) that *afra* is the feminine of a declinable adjective, and that the masculine, in agreement with *Orycteropus*, should be *afēr*, and (2) that the combination *Orycteropus afēr* has already been occasionally used in Zoology, e. g. P. Roy. Soc. XLVII, p. 246 (1890), and P. Z. S., 1897, p. 939. In neglect of the first point, *O. afra* has also been used by Flower and Lydekker (Mamm. p. 211, 1891).—*Oldfield Thomas.*

The name of the Ogotona.

Mr. Rehn has changed into *v*, Pallas' first *u* in *Lepus dauuricus*. As the name comes from the country of the Dauurien (as Pallas calls them) the letter is clearly not a *v* printed as a *u*, as is often the case in old works. In addition, the generic name having a feminine termination, the adjectival specific name should also be feminine. The proper name should therefore be, not Mr. Rehn's "*Ochotona dauuricus*" but *Ochotona dauurica*.—*Oldfield Thomas.*