

THE EARLIEST NAME FOR THE CAPE RATEL.

The name now in general use for the Cape Honey-Ratel, *Mellivora ratel* (Sparrman), Kongl. Vet. Acad. Handl. 1777, Stockholm, p. 147, 1777, is antedated by *Viverra capensis* Schreber, Die Säugthiere, plate 125. Of late years this latter name has been placed in synonymy, as dating from 1778; but according to Sherborn (P. Z. S., 1891, p. 588) the plate was published in 1776. It is obvious that *Mellivora capensis* (Schreber), type locality Cape of Good Hope (Schreber, III, p. 451), is the proper name for the Cape Ratel.

—N. Hollister.

A NEW RECORD FOR *MICROSOREX* IN NEW YORK.

While studying the series of long-tailed shrews belonging to the Lee Museum of Biology at Bowdoin College, I was surprised to find a skin and skull of *Microsorex hoyi* from Canton, New York, received from Miss M. Southworth, November 9, 1903. Through correspondence with Miss Southworth I have learned that the shrew was brought in by the house cat "on an eighty acre farm, well tilled and very level, with no rocks nor woods, and, no doubt, it was caught in a meadow, as the house is surrounded by meadows."

Canton appears to be the second locality in New York State from which *Microsorex* has been obtained, C. H. Merriam* having recorded three specimens from Locust Grove.

—Manton Copeland.

* North American Fauna, No. 10, 1895, p. 90.