

**LIST OF THE SPECIMENS  
OF MAMMALIA IN  
THE COLLECTION OF  
THE BRITISH MUSEUM**

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**JOHN JOHN EDWARD GRAY**

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## INTRODUCTION.

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IN preparing the present catalogue, the principal object has been to give a complete list of all the specimens of Mammalia contained in the collection of the British Museum, indicating at the same time the peculiarities of each as regards age, sex, condition, variety of colouring, habitation, and the source from whence it has been derived.

With this view, the different individuals of each species contained in the collection are indicated by the letters *a*, *b*, *c*, &c., following the name of the species and its synonyma.

When the age of the specimen is not stated, it is to be understood that it is full grown, or nearly so; when otherwise, its state is marked immediately after the letter by which it is distinguished; and if there be any difference by which the sexes are readily distinguishable, or if the point be absolutely ascertained, the specimen is stated to be male or female.

These particulars are followed by the *habitat*, which is given as particularly as the materials possessed by the Museum permit; but many of the specimens having been procured from dealers, some of whom are unfortunately very careless on this point, and even occasionally guilty

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of wilful misstatement, it is often impossible to give the *habitat*, except in the most general terms.

Those specimens which have been presented to the Museum have the name of the donor marked immediately after the *habitat*. When there is no such indication, the specimens have been either purchased or procured in exchange; and in this case, whenever the place or person from whom they have been received gives authenticity to the specimens, or adds any thing of moment to their history, they are noted as being from such or such a collection.

The system followed may be regarded as a modification of those of Ray and Linnæus, adapted to the present state of zoological science. In its main features it agrees with that which I published in the "Annals of Philosophy" for 1826, when the exotic Mammalia in the Museum were first arranged for exhibition, and which was soon afterwards commented on by Mr. W. S. MacLeay, in the "Linnean Transactions." Some parts of this system have undergone a more careful revision, as, for example, the genera of Bats, which are arranged in conformity with my paper on the subject in the second volume of the "Magazine of Zoology and Botany," and the Seals, Kangaroos, &c., according to my paper on the new species of Mammalia in the British Museum, in the "Magazine of Natural History." A short exposition of the entire system, together with the more prominent characters of the orders, families, and minor groups, and of most of the genera, is given in the 44th edition of the "Synopsis of the Contents of the British Museum," published in 1842.

In the adoption of generic and specific names, it has been thought right to use, whenever it was possible, that which was first applied to the species. As far as regards

the specific names, there is comparatively little difficulty in the application of this simple rule; but generic names have been used by different authors in senses so widely different, and the groups which they were meant to designate have been so variously extended or restricted, that it is no easy matter to determine, where several names have been used, which of them ought to be preferred. It is needless, however, to enter into the details of nomenclature further than to observe, that to the name adopted for the genus is appended the specific name under which the animal was first described. If the generic name adopted be different from that first employed for the species after the establishment of the Linnæan system of nomenclature, the Linnæan name under which it was first described follows as a synonyme, and where the animal has received more than one specific name, these names are also given. But it has been thought unnecessary to load the Catalogue with any other generic names where no change has been made in the specific. Thus, for instance, after *Macacus Sinicus*, Desm., (the name adopted,) the synonyma given are, *Simia Sinica*, Linn., and *Cynocephalus Sinensis*, Latr., these names being sufficient for all the purposes of identification, without adding *Cercopithecus Sinicus*, Kuhl, *Cercocebus Sinicus*, Geoff., and *Pithecus Sinicus*, Desm., which have reference only to the peculiar views of those authors with regard to the limitation and nomenclature of the genera proposed or adopted by them. In those cases where the two sexes of the same species, or any particular individual state or variety belonging to it, have been differently named, such names (belonging exclusively to the state or individual so described) are placed after the reference to the specimen to which they severally apply.



Great care has been taken in the determination of those species which have been received without any indication of their names, and in the verification of their synonyma. But the British Museum is peculiarly fortunate in having received a large portion of its species (either as presents, or by way of exchange or purchase) from the several authors, both in this country and abroad, by whom the species to which they belong were originally described, or from the collections in which they first received their names. In such cases there can be no doubt of the specimens being ascertained representatives of the names they bear.

Thus, among the collections which have been received as presents, those presented by

*The Hon. East India Company*, are to be regarded as authentic examples of the species described by Dr. Horsfield, in his "Zoological Researches in Java," in his papers in the "Zoological Journal," and in the "Proceedings of the Zoological Society."

*The Hudson's Bay Company*, as the types of the species described by Dr. Richardson in his "Fauna Boreali-Americana," and in his papers in the "Zoological Journal," and "Transactions of the British Association."

*Joseph Bachmann, LL.D.*, as the types of North American species described in the "Proceedings of the Zoological Society," and the "Journal of the Academy of Sciences of Philadelphia;" and as authentic specimens of species described by Say and other American zoologists.

*Capt. Sir John Back and Capt. Sir John Franklin, R.N.*, for the specimens described in the Appendices to the Accounts of the Northern Voyages.

*Capt. Sir Edward Belcher, R.N. C.B.*, as the types of the species described in the "Zoology of the Voyage of H.M.S. Sulphur," now in the course of publication.

*Thomas Bell, Esq.*, as the types of species described by that author; and as authentic specimens, from which I have described certain species of Bats.

*George Bennett, Esq.*, as being the original specimens from which the species have been described.

*William Burchell, LL.D.*, as the types of the species described in Dr. Burchell's "Travels in South Africa," and of those described from this collection by Colonel Hamilton Smith, in the Additions to Griffith's Translation of Cuvier's "Animal Kingdom."

*Sir William Burnett and Captain Fitzroy, R.N.*, as the types of the species collected during Capt. Fitzroy's voyage, and described in Mr. Darwin's "Zoology of the Voyage of H.M.S. Beagle."

*Capt. Clapperton, R.N., and Colonel Denham*, as the types of the species described by Messrs. Children and Vigors in the Appendix to their "Travels in Central Africa."

*M. Adolphe Delessert*, as the type of the species described in the "Magazin de Zoologie."

*Walter Elliot, Esq.*, as authentic specimens of the species described in his papers on the animals of Madras in the "Madras Journal of Science," and of those which I described from his collection in the "Magazine of Natural History."

*Capt. George Grey*, as the types of the species described from his collection, by Mr. Gould and myself.

*General Thomas Hardwicke*, as the types of the species described by him in the "Transactions of the Lin-

nean Society," or described and figured in my "Illustrations of Indian Zoology," or in my other papers on the subject.

*Bryan H. Hodgson, Esq.*, as the types of the species described by him in his papers in the Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, in the Asiatic Researches, the Proceedings of the Zoological Society, and of those figured in the "Zoology of Nepal," now in the course of publication.

*George Knapp, Esq.*, as authentic specimens of the species from Fernando Po, described by Mr. Waterhouse in the "Proceedings of the Zoological Society."

*William Elford Leach, M.D.*, as being the original specimens named or described by that zoologist in his various publications.

*W. Lewis, Esq.*, as being the original specimens of several species of bats described by Dr. Leach in the "Linnean Transactions."

*John MacGillivray, Esq.*, as being the originals of the species described in Mr. MacGillivray's paper on the "Animals of Aberdeen."

*William Sharpe MacLeay, Esq.*, as the types of species from Cuba, described by me in the "Annals of Zoology and Botany."

*Lady Raffles*, as authority for the species described or indicated in Sir Stamford Raffles's paper on the animals of Java and Sumatra, in the "Linnean Transactions," and for the species described by Dr. Horsfield, in the Appendix to Lady Raffles's "Memoirs" of her husband's life.

*J. S. Redman, Esq.*, as being the original specimens of several species of bats described by Dr. Leach in the "Linnean Transactions."