

A NECESSARY AMENDMENT TO THE DESCRIPTION OF TAUTATUS.

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The advent of a second and older specimen of *Tautatus thai* (antea, p. 63) renders it necessary to amend the definition of the genus* which should be as follows:—

GENUS *Tautatus*, descr. emend.

Skull with superficial resemblance to *Mus* but the rostrum shallower and no masseteric knobs at the anterior bases of the zygomatic plates. No raised supraorbital ridges, the edges even more round than in *Mus*. Palatal foramina long, extending posteriorly well between the first molars; palate extending well beyond the posterior extremities of the last molars. Mesopterygoid space normal, slightly diverging posteriorly. Bullæ of medium size.

Incisors notched and upper molars with proportions as in *Mus*, m^1 being longer than m^2 and m^3 combined; but laminae of m^1 less distorted, the inner tubercles less posteriorly situated. The remaining molars of more angular outline: the anterior edge of m^2 straighter owing to the more advanced position of the antero-internal tubercle; the internal edge short and followed by an oblique postero-internal edge almost concave; antero-internal point of m^3 forming the apex of a markedly triangular tooth.

External characters apparently not peculiar: fur dense, rather long and stiff but not mixed with flattened spines. Hind-foot with fifth toe reaching to the middle of the basal phalanx of the fourth. Only the pollex with a flat nail. Ears of medium size.

The principal differences from *Mus*, therefore, lie in the absence of the masseteric knobs and the less distorted form of the molars. In the specimens examined the premaxillaries do not extend beyond the posterior terminations of the nasals and this may possibly constitute another character.

* Journ. N. H. S. Siam, II, p. 279 (1917).

