

THE SKULL OF *DENDROLAGUS DORIANUS*, Ramsay.

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[Plates XVIII., XIX.]

WHEN examining the Tree Kangaroos in the Museum Collections for the purposes of my paper on *Dendrolagus bennettianus*, de Vis,* I was somewhat puzzled by a mounted specimen. As however it did not throw light upon the species under investigation, it was placed aside for future study.

Having once more taken it in hand, I found that it agreed with *D. dorianus*† in all described particulars except the non-reversal of the hair. A search among the duplicate collections revealed two other skins, received along with the specimen mentioned; these presented the aspect of the hair peculiar to *D. dorianus*. Another look at the mounted specimen showed‡ that the hair had been brushed in the orthodox manner, namely from head to tail.

These skins were purchased from a Sydney firm of importers in December, 1891, the locality given being the Astrolabe Range, British New Guinea, whence also the types were obtained. One of the skins is headless, but the other contained the skull, from which, however, the occipital region had, as usual, been cut for the purpose of cleaning the cavity.

Dr. Ramsay stated‡ that in the three original specimens, in the Macleay Museum, "The teeth and all the bones of the skull are in a very bad state, being corroded by the liquid in which the skin was preserved." Baron N. de Miklouho-Maclay§ supplemented the original description by a more detailed account of the direction of the hair, and by a notice of the teeth as far as could be ascertained from a stuffed specimen.

These further particulars enabled Mr. Oldfield Thomas|| to draw up a sufficiently comprehensive synopsis of the cranial

* Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S.W. (2)ix., p. 571.

† " " (1) viii., p. 17.

‡ " " " footnote.

§ " " (1) ix., p. 1154.

|| B.M. Cat. Marsupialia, 1888, pp. 94 & 98.