

PALÆONTOLOGICAL NOTES.

No. III.

The Skull of *Sthenurus occidentalis* Glauert.

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(Plates xlv-xlvi and Figures 1-6.)

In 1910 L. Glauert described this new species of *Sthenurus*, the type being a nearly complete mandible, with all the teeth in place, from the Mammoth Cave, Western Australia.¹ Later B. H. Woodward announced the discovery at the same place of two skulls of the new species, which, however, were not described.²

Being engaged on a revision of the macropod genera *Sthenurus* and *Procoptodon*, I desired to examine these skulls, and, on my communicating with Mr. Glauert, he very generously forwarded the two specimens for examination and description. I am also indebted to Mr. H. H. Scott,³ Curator of the Queen Victoria Museum, Launceston, for the loan of a damaged skull from King Island, Tasmania, which supplements in an important manner the data obtained from the two Western Australian specimens. I am very grateful to these two gentlemen, and to the governing bodies of the Western Australian Museum and the Queen Victoria Museum for the privilege of examining the skulls, and also for their kind permission to extract the permanent premolar, which is of diagnostic importance.

It is unfortunate that the three skulls are those of comparatively young animals, though the chief features of the skull and of the maxillary teeth can be fully made out. In view of the paucity of even partially complete macropod skulls of Post-Tertiary age, these specimens are of great interest, particularly as the genus to which they belong differs somewhat from typical macropods in cranial and mandibular characters.

For purposes of description the larger skull from Western Australia will be referred to as A, the smaller B, while the Tasmanian specimen, which so strongly resembles the others that it may fairly be referred to the same species, will be distinguished as C.

The largest skull is nearly complete, but lacks the left zygomatic arch, part of the nasals, and the incisor teeth, only the roots of i^1 and i^2 being preserved;

¹ Glauert.—Bull. Geol. Surv. W. Austr., 36, 1910, pp. 53-64; Rec. W. Austr. Mus., I, 1, 1910, pp. 31-36.

² Woodward.—Rec. W. Austr. Mus., I, 3, 1914, p. 252.

³ Scott.—Memoir on *Procoptodon rapha*, Vict. Mus., Launceston, 1906; Brochure Mus. Launceston, No. 6, 1917, pp. 2-3.