

**A Record of the Ruffed Grouse from the Pleistocene of Maryland.<sup>1</sup>**

—The Cumberland Cave, found several years ago in making a railroad cut through a limestone spur near Corriganville, Maryland, under exploration by Dr. J. W. Gidley, Assistant Curator of Mammalian Fossils in the U. S. National Museum, yielded a considerable collection of vertebrate remains principally of mammals. In recent examination, there has come to light a single bird bone, the only one found in the entire collection. This on critical comparison proves to be the distal half of the left humerus of a Ruffed Grouse, *Bonasa umbellus* (Linnaeus), identical in size and form with the modern phase of this species that ranges in the eastern states.

The site of the find is in Alleghany County, about one-half mile south of the town of Corriganville. The remains occurred in a cave or fissure at a depth of about one hundred feet from the surface, and include several hundred specimens. The species associated, as at present identified, include a crocodilian, and nearly forty forms of mammals among which may be mentioned an extinct eland, three species of giant peccaries, and a number of others not yet described. Of especial interest is the presence of a varying hare, a cony (*Ochotona*), a jumping mouse (*Napaeozapus*), a lemming mouse (*Synaptomys*) and several other forms whose existing representatives are found only at a considerable distance from this locality. It now is supposed that the deposits were accumulated somewhere about the middle of the Pleistocene.

In published records the Ruffed Grouse has been reported from the Pleistocene of Potter Creek Cave in Shasta County, California, by L. H. Miller<sup>2</sup> while in the eastern states I have identified it from the Pleistocene of the Frankstown Cave in Pennsylvania.<sup>3</sup> The present specimen has importance in establishing the species at another eastern locality at a comparatively early date.

The specimen is preserved in the collections of the U. S. National Museum (Catalog number 11,690, Division of Vertebrate Paleontology).—  
ALEXANDER WETMORE, *U. S. National Museum*.

**Renaming of the Venezuelan *Odontophorus guianensis canescens*.**—As pointed out by James L. Peters in a recent number of the *Auk* (Vol. XLVIII, p. 542, Oct. 1926), the name *Odontophorus guianensis canescens* Osgood and Conover (Field Mus. Pub., Zool. Ser., vol. XII, p. 27, Aug. 28, 1922) is preoccupied by *Odontophorus parambae canescens* Chapman (Amer. Mus. Novit., No. 18, p. 4, Sept. 22, 1921). Apparently this misfortune was due to the appearance of the latter paper after the manuscript of the former was prepared and submitted for publication. The Venezuelan bird may be called *Odontophorus guianensis polionotus*.—

<sup>1</sup> Published by permission of the Acting Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution.

<sup>2</sup> Univ. Calif. Publ. Geol., vol. 6, Oct. 28, 1911, pp. 397, 400, and vol. 7, Oct. 12, 1913, pp. 71, 113.

<sup>3</sup> See Peterson, O. A., Ann. Carnegie Mus., vol. 16, March 18, 1926, pp. 254–255.