

A NEW GENUS AND SPECIES OF BAT
(KERIVOULINÆ) FROM THE SOLOMONS,
WITH A REVIEW OF THE GENERA OF
THE SUB-FAMILY.

By

ELLIS LE G. TROUGHTON,
Zoologist, The Australian Museum.

(Figure 1.)

A small but extremely interesting collection of bats was recently presented to the Australian Museum by Mr. J. H. L. Waterhouse, F.R.A.I., Headmaster of the School and Training College of the Methodist Mission at Roviana Island in the New Georgia Group of the Solomon Islands. They were secured with a view to obtaining ectoparasites as well as enriching the collection of Chiroptera, and the donor's trouble was rewarded in both respects. One of the bats proved to be of exceptional interest, a complexity of characters rendering allocation to its sub-family somewhat difficult, and involving the description of a new genus and species for its reception.

External features and dentition, with the skull *in situ*, suggested affinity with the genus *Myotis* (Vespertilioninæ), but the specific characters were not reconcilable with *moluccarum* Thomas,¹ the only species of that genus said to extend to the Solomons. It may be noted, however, that Thomas did not give details of the material on which this record was based, and, as the coloration of his species coincides generally with that of the new form, it is conceivable that his Solomon Island representatives may be identical with it, the distinction being easily overlooked in a superficial examination.

Closer examination and dissection to expose the sternum and its five attached ribs prove conclusively that the Roviana specimen belongs to the following sub-family, as defined by Miller, though apparently not reconcilable with any known genus within it.

Sub-family KERIVOULINÆ.

1878. *Vespertiliones* Dobson, Cat. Chiropt. Brit. Mus., p. 168
(part).

¹ Thomas.—Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. (8), xv, 1915, p. 170.