HALMATURUS AGILIS, *Gould.*

Agile Wallaby.

Spec. Char.—*Halm. fulvus, suprà nigro adspersus, infrà sordidè albus; aurium apicibus externis et margine antico nigris; strigâ fuscescente utrinque ab oculis usque ad nares productâ, et infrà hanc lineâ albâ; clunibus lineâ albidâ notatis; caudâ longâ pilis brevibus albidis, ad basin suprà flavidis, ad apicem nigrescentibus, indutâ.*

Descr.—Fur rather short, adpressed, and harsh to the touch; general colour sandy yellow; the upper surface of the head and body freely pencilled with blackish, the hairs being of this colour at the point; chin, throat and chest dull white; abdomen yellow, the hairs terminated with white; limbs pale sandy yellow externally and white on their inner side, the arms externally pencilled with blackish; tarsi nearly white, passing into rusty on the toes; lips whitish, and a whitish mark from the lip to beneath the eye, parallel with which is another of a dusky hue; ears white within, externally sandy yellow at the base and broadly margined with black at the apex, and with a narrow black line along the inner edge; on each side of the rump an oblique whitish line; tail sparingly clothed with nearly white hairs except at the base, which is like the body; the tip of the tail black.

	Male.	
	feet.	inches.
Length from the nose to the base of the tail	5	3
,, of tail	2	6
,, ,, tarsus and toes, including the nail		10
,, ,, arms and hand, including the nails		9
,, ,, face from the tip of the nose to the base of the ear		6
,, ,, ear		3

Halmaturus agilis, Gould in Proc. of Zool. Soc., Part IX. p. 81.

This new species of Wallaby may be readily distinguished from every other by its short, wiry, adpressed hair, and the almost uniform sandy brown colour of the body; the male is also remarkable for having very powerful incisors, and also for having the outer toe much developed, whence results a deep cleft between it and the middle one; the head is also longer and more pointed than in any other species which I have seen.

The Agile Wallaby appears to be abundant on all the low swampy lands of the northern coast of Australia. I have seen many specimens from the Cobourg Peninsula; and it is common both near the settlement of Port Essington and at Raffles' Bay. I have also had others placed at my disposal for the purpose of describing by Mr. Bynoe of H.M.S. the Beagle, which were collected on the shores of Torres Straits. It is stated to be a most agile species, readily eluding the dogs employed in hunting it by its extreme activity in leaping among the high grass; when chased it frequently seeks shelter in the thick beds of mangroves, passing over the muddy flats in such a manner as almost to baffle all pursuit.

In size, when full grown, the male is nearly equal to *H. Ualabatus*.