## MERRIAM

Characters.—Similar to E. epixanthus but tail and hind feet shorter; body, flanks and sides of tail even yellower; face whiter from more abundant admixture of yellowish white hairs on sides of face and between eyes, so that the fore part of head appears almost gravish instead of sooty.

Cranial characters.—Compared with typical epixanthus from California the skull as a whole is much shorter, broader, and more rounded (less angular); occipital and sagittal crests absent or much less developed; zygomata bowed strongly outward [instead of subtriangular], the outer side convex outward [not flat]; braincase short, broad between posterior roots of zygomata, and tapering posteriorly so that the breadth between squamosals anteriorly is much greater than breadth of occiput [inctead of subequal]; outer wall of antorbital vacuity (seen from the side) nearly straight and vertical [instead of strongly concave].

Remarks.—An immature female collected at Stepovak Bay, Alaska Peninsula, July 9, 1899, by Charles Palache is the yellowest porcupine I ever saw. It measured 630 mm in total length.

## LEPUS OTHUS sp. nov. Tundra Polar Hare.

Type from St. Michaels, Alaska. Skull no. 15883 U. S. National Museum. L. M. Turner.

Characters.—Size very large (hind foot 174); winter pelage white all over except extreme tips of ears, which are black.

Cranial characters.—The skull of Lepus othus is so large, broad, and massive that it does not require comparison with the glacialis series from eastern Arctic America, but only with tschuktshorum from the region about Plover Bay, Siberia. From tschuktshorum it differs in the following particulars: frontals slightly broader interorbitally; nasals narrower and less flattened; supraoccipital shield narrower, much longer than broad [in tschuktshorum decidedly broader than long]; jugal decidedly narrower (less expanded vertically), longer posteriorly (protruding farther behind squamosal root of zygoma), and with muscular impression on outer face decidedly narnower anteriorly; basioccipital narrower; incisive vacuity smaller.

Cranial measurements.—Type specimen: basal length 86.5; zygomatic breadth anteriorly 49; at widest point 52; postpalatal length 46.5; greatest breadth across postorbital processes 39; greatest breadth of nasals posteriorly 22; anteriorly 20.

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