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ПАЛЕОНТОЛОГИЧЕСКОГО ИНСТИТУТА

ТОМ XIII

ВЫПУСК I

A. BORISSIAK

ON THE EQUIDAE FROM THE
MIDDLE MIOCENE OF NORTHERN CAUCASUS

А. А. БОРИСЯК

ОБ ОСТАТКАХ ПРЕДСТАВИТЕЛЕЙ СЕМ.
EQUIDAE ИЗ СРЕДНЕГО МИОЦЕНА СЕВ. КАВКАЗА

ИЗДАТЕЛЬСТВО АКАДЕМИИ НАУК СССР

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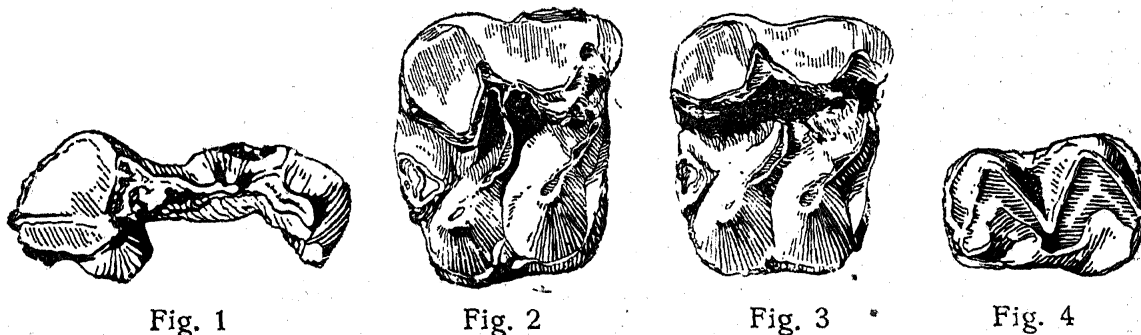
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The Equidae are the most interesting forms of the Middle Miocene mammalian fauna from the well known locality on the Kuban River, near Belomechetskaya, Northern Caucasus. Originally several teeth of *Anchitherium aurelianense* were found. Later excavations yielded remains of a skeleton of a more specialized form, *Paranchitherium* nov. gen.

ANCHITHERIUM AURELIANENSE CUV.

The following remains have been obtained. A part of the crown of the right upper P²; two almost complete upper molars — the right P⁴ and M¹, and the lower left molar M₂, all of them belonging to a very young individual, the teeth being but slightly worn.



P². Only a part of the ectoloph has been preserved (fig. 1).

Measurements. Total length of external wall, 28 mm.; width of its posterior lobe, 10.5 mm.

The parastyle in the preserved part (anterior and labial sides) becomes appreciably thicker towards the base, narrowing at the root. It is shaped as an arch of a circle. It bears on the tip a small crescentic worn surface directly connected with the narrow worn stripe along the whole ectoloph. Of the protocone the labial part is preserved, which forms the anterior lobe of the external wall of the crown. It bears a small anterior ridge separated from the parastyle by a groove, and a strongly developed posterior ridge representing the anterior ridge of the tritocone. These ridges diverge towards the base of the crown, the interspace being 16 mm. at the base and 14 mm. at the edge of the crown. At one third of the length from the anterior ridge the anterior lobe forms a vertical thickening, broadening towards the base and tapering to the top of the crown. Depressions occur on either side of this thickening. The anterior depression is shallow, while the posterior one is somewhat deeper: the section through the external wall of the protocone at the base of the crown represents a sinuous curve. The tritocone, or the posterior lobe of the external wall of the crown has been almost completely preserved. Its external side is set at an obtuse angle to the anterior lobe; it forms a weak concave surface with a small vertical thickening placed nearer to the posterior edge. The anterior and posterior ridges are well pronounced. The lingual side of the tri-