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BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

EDITED BY

R. BOWDLER SHARPE, LL.D.

VOLUME V.
SESSION 1895-6.

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PREFACE.



I HAVE to return my best thanks to the Chairman and the Treasurer of the Club, as well as to my colleague Mr. Ogilvie Grant and other kind friends, for the help which they have rendered in carrying on the business of the Club during my recent illness. It has been a sore disappointment to me to have been absent from some of the most interesting meetings which have taken place since the Club was formed.

The communications made during the past Session have been as important as in previous years, and the vitality of the Club is indicated by the fact that the number of Members is now one hundred and eleven.

(Signed)

R. BOWDLER SHARPE,

Editor.

September 12th, 1896.

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R U L E S
OF THE
BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

(As amended 20th June, 1894.)

I. This Club was founded for the purpose of facilitating the social intercourse of Members of the British Ornithologists' Union. Any Member of that Union can become a Member of this Club on payment (to the Treasurer) of an entrance fee of *Five Shillings* and a subscription of *Five Shillings* for the current Session. Resignation of the Union involves resignation of the Club.

II. Members who have not paid their subscriptions before the last Meeting of the Session shall cease, *ipso facto*, to be Members of the Club, but may be reinstated on payment of arrears, *and* a new entrance fee.

III. No Member of the B. O. U. can attend the Meetings of the Club as a Visitor, unless his usual residence is outside the United Kingdom. Every Member of the Club introducing a visitor shall pay *One Shilling* to the Treasurer*.

IV. The Club shall meet, as a rule, on the Third Wednesday in every Month, from October to June inclusive, at such hour and place as may be arranged by the Committee. At these Meetings papers upon ornithological subjects shall be read, specimens exhibited, and discussion invited.

* The latter portion of this Rule is at present (1896) in abeyance, owing to the prosperous condition of the finances.

V. An Abstract of the Proceedings of the B. O. C. shall be printed as soon as possible after each Meeting, under the title of the 'Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club,' and distributed gratis to every Member *who has paid his subscription*. Copies of this Bulletin shall be published and sold at *One Shilling* each.

VI. The affairs of this Club shall be managed by a Committee, to consist of the Editors of 'The Ibis,' the Editor of the 'Bulletin,' and the Secretary and Treasurer, *ex officio*, with three other Members, one of whom shall be changed every year. The Committee shall have power to make and alter the Bye-laws.

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intermedius, *Podargus*, x.
involveris, *Ardetta*, xiii.
javanica, *Butorides*, xii.

- Larus argentatus*, xlv.
 — *glaucus*, xlv.
lentiginosus, *Botaurus*, xiii.
Lepterodias asha, xi.
 — *gularis*, xi.
leucolopha, *Tigriornis*, xii, xiii.
leuconotus, *Nycticorax*, xii.
Leucoplæus, xxiii.
 — *scoresbyi*, xxiii.
Leucophox candidissima, xi.
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leucopygia, *Nyctiprogne*, xxiii.
lineatum, *Tigrisoma*, xii.
Loddigesia mirabilis, xlv.
Lophorhina, xliii.
lorata, *Sterna*, xxiii.
lucidus, *Bubuleus*, xiii.

maculicaudus, *Caprimulgus*, xxiii.
magnifica, *Diphylloides*, xxii.
magnirostris, *Eophona*, xxxviii.
mandibularis, *Nycticorax*, xii.
manillensis, *Nycticorax*, xii.
 —, *Phox*, xi.
maria, *Pitta*, xlvii.
marmoratum, *Tigrisoma*, xii.
marmoratus, *Podargus*, x.
Megalestris, xxiii.
 — *catarrhactes*, xxiii.
Megascops flammeola, xxi.
melanocephala, *Ardea*, xi.
melanogaster, *Sterna*, xxii.
melanolophus, *Gorsachius*, xii.
Melanophox ardesiaca, xi, xiii.
 — *vinaceigula*, xi, xiii.
melas, *Dupetor*, xiii.
Melipotés atriceps, xv.
Mesophox brachyrhyncha, xi.
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 — *plumifera*, xi.
Micranous, xxiii.
minahasæ, *Nycticorax*, xii.
minor, *Chionarehus*, xlv.
minuta, *Ardetta*, xiii.
 —, *Tringa*, ii.
mirabilis, *Loddigesia*, xlv.
Mirafrā collaris, xxiv.

Nænia, xxii.
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neglectus, *Anser*, vi.
neoxena, *Ardetta*, xiii.
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Notophox, xiii.
 — *aruensis*, xi.
 — *novæ-hollandiæ*, xi, xiii.
 — *pacifica*, xi.
 — *picata*, xi.

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Nyctanassa pauper, xi.
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Nycticorax caledonicus, xii.
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 — *leuconotus*, xii.
 — *mandibularis*, xii.
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 — *minahasæ*, xii.
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 — *tayaza-guira*, xii.
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Oceanodroma cryptoleucura, xxxvii.
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Œdinemus senegalensis, xix.
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Oreopsittacus grandis, xv.
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Orthotomus chloronotus, ii.
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Pachycephala fulviventris, xlvii.
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personata, *Eophona*, xxxviii.
Pezophaps solitarius, xxix.
Phaëthusa, xxii.
Phox manillensis, xi.
 — *purpurea*, xi.
picata, *Notophox*, xi.
pileatus, *Pilerodius*, xii.
Pilerodius pileatus, xii.
pinnatus, *Botaurus*, xiii.
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Ploceipasser donaldsoni, xiv.
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 — *marmoratus*, x.
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podicipes, *Ardetta*, xiii.
pœtiloptilus, *Botaurus*, xiii.
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Procelsterna, xxii.
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Psophia leucoptera, xviii.

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Seena, xxii.
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senegalensis, *Cedionemus*, xix.
sharpii, *Grus*, vii.
simplex, *Sylvia*, iii.
sinensis, *Ardetta*, xiii.
Siphia enganensis, ii.
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stagnatilis, *Butorides*, xii.
stellaris, *Botaurus*, xiii.
Stereorarius, xxiii.
Sterna, xxii.
 — *exilis*, xxiii.
 — *lorata*, xxiii.
 — *melanogaster*, xxii.
 — *saundersi*, xxiii.
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stolzmanni, *Oreotrochilus*, xlv.
striata, *Butorides*, xii.
sturmi, *Ardeirallus*, xiii.

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surinamensis, *Hydrochelidon*, xxiii.
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Tetrao tetrax, xlviii.
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tetrax, *Tetrao*, xlviii.
Thaumastura coræ, xlv.
thyroideus, *Sphyrapicus*, xxi.
Tigriornis, xiv.
 — *leucolopha*, xii, xv.
Tigrisoma bahiæ, xii, xiv.
 — *excellens*, xii.
 — *fasciatum*, xii.
 — *lineatum*, xii.
 — *marmoratum*, xii.
 — *salmoni*, xii.
timoriensis, *Herodias*, xi.
Totanus fuscus, v.
Tricholæma ansorgii, iii.
 — *gabonense*, iii.
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tricolor, *Hydranassa*, xi.
Tringa minuta, ii.
trudeai, *Sterna*, xxii.

urogallus, *Tetrao*, xlviii.

Vanellus cristatus, xlv.
vinaceigula, *Melanophoyx*, xi, xiii.
vinipectus, *Proparus*, iii.
violacea, *Nyctanassa*, xi.
virescens, *Butorides*, xii.
virginianus, *Bubo*, xxi.

woodfordi, *Erythrophoyx*, xiii.
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xanthoptera, *Diphyllodes*, xxii.
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zeledoni, *Canchroma*, xii.
Zonerodius heliosylus, xii.
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CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

ON OPENING THE FOURTH SESSION

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB, 1895.

On taking the Chair at the first meeting of the Fourth Session of the B. O. C., I propose to address to you a few remarks on recent events in Ornithology. Before commencing these, however, I must express the regret which all the Members of the Club will feel at the loss we have lately suffered by the death of our friend and colleague, Henry Thornton Wharton, who was well known to us as an expert in British Ornithology, and as the author of a useful list of British Birds, published in 1877. He was also the active and efficient Secretary of the Committee for the preparation of the B. O. U. List of British Birds, published in 1883, and General Editor of that work. In the composition of the B. O. U. List, Wharton's classical knowledge was of very great assistance to the Committee, and it was to his learning that we are indebted for the explanations of the generic and specific terms, which form such useful features in that work. I must also not forget that we have lately lost from our ranks an energetic Indian ornithologist, Lieut. Henry E. Barnes, F.Z.S. I may likewise allude to the untimely death, from hematuric fever, of Ernst Baumann, as recently announced at Berlin. Baumann was a young and energetic collector, who had worked hard at the Birds of the German Colony of Togoland, on the West Coast of Africa; and had added upwards of 100 species to its avifauna.

I will now proceed to more cheerful topics.

Since we commenced our last Session great progress has been made with the British Museum Catalogue of Birds, and we may well expect that the year 1896 will witness its final completion. Count Salvadori's volume on the Anseres, Tinami, and other lower Orders is complete and ready for publication. The joint-volume of Mr. Saunders (on the Laridæ) and Mr. Salvin (on the Tubinares) is nearly ready, I am informed; and that of Dr. Bowdler Sharpe on the Waders is said to be in a very forward state. There remains, therefore, only Dr. Sharpe's Catalogue of the Divers, Pelicans, Cormorants, and Herons, on which, I believe our Editor is busily employed at the present time. I am much pleased also to learn that steps have been taken towards the compilation of an additional volume (as suggested in my last Address), in which the names of all species described since the commencement of the Catalogue in 1874, and not already recorded in the different volumes, will be enrolled. When this additional volume and the General Index of the whole series shall have been issued, the result will be a work of surpassing value to all workers on the Class of Birds.

As regards other works on systematic Ornithology in progress, I will not say much more on the present occasion. I may, however, mention that Captain Shelley is now engaged in printing a complete Catalogue of African Birds, which he has had for some years in preparation. Captain Shelley's intimate acquaintance with this subject will, no doubt, render it a most useful and valuable work. As soon as it is finished, we must call upon him to prepare a new edition of the 'Birds of Egypt.' When visiting that country last winter, I received many complaints as to this useful volume being out of print. I may also express a hope, which I am sure will be joined in by all ornithologists, that Capt. Bendire's 'Life-Histories of North-American Birds,' of which the first part was published in 1892, will be continued and completed. Such a work is just what we require for a better understanding of the Nearctic Ornis.

As regards future explorations, on which I sometimes obtrude my advice, it is still abundantly manifest that every

piece of new land into which the traveller thrusts his way will continue to supply novelties in Ornithology, as in other branches of Natural History, and that the age of discovery is by no means yet past. Dr. Donaldson Smith's researches in Galla-land, Mr. Whitehead's expedition to the Philippines, and Mr. Baron's excursions in the Andes of Northern Peru, alike prove that such is not the case. From New Guinea, again, and the adjacent islands, as the Members of this Club well know, we still continue to receive new and most strange forms of Paradise-birds. One of the most remarkable of these extraordinary birds (*Pteridophora alberti*) has only become known to us during the last Session of the Club. As the mountains of New Guinea become invaded by the scientific explorer, more, no doubt, remain to follow. But to invade the recesses of Galla-land, the Philippines, or Peru, are tasks not to be undertaken lightly. For shorter excursions which might be accomplished in a winter's travel, besides the expedition up the Euphrates, which I suggested in last year's Address, I will venture to put forward the claims of Tripoli and Arabia Felix to ornithological investigation. Tripoli, lying between Tunis and Egypt, presents features of considerable interest, and though its birds would be few, yet we should like to know what *are* to be found there. Tripoli is commonly supposed to be inaccessible from the fanaticism of its inhabitants; but it is evident from Mr. Cowper's recent archæological expedition into that country (of which an account was given at the recent Meeting of the British Association) that these supposed difficulties are by no means unsurmountable. Where the archæologist can go the naturalist can surely follow. The Editors of 'The Ibis' have already sung the praises of Arabia Felix in their last number (see 'Ibis,' 1895, p. 510). It is a pity that Mr. Bent did not take a collector with him to Dhofar. As he neglected this good opportunity, some ornithologist must follow in his footsteps, and tell us what the birds of Dhofar really are.

In concluding my remarks I will again urge upon you the great want of a convenient Handbook on the Anatomy of Birds. Notwithstanding the labours of Garrod, Forbes, and

Gadow in this country, and Fürbringer on the continent, we have no convenient systematic treatise on this important subject in a handy form. There is an enormous quantity of knowledge available, but it requires to be concentrated into a tangible shape. I may say, however, that I have some hopes that Mr. Beddard and Mr. Chalmers Mitchell, who is working with Mr. Beddard in the Zoological Society's Prosectorium, will undertake this formidable task, and that before long we may be gratified by having ready for use a Handbook on the Anatomy of Birds, properly illustrated and written in the tongue most familiar to us.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XXIX.

THE twenty-eighth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 23rd of October, 1895.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present:—G. BARRETT-HAMILTON, E. BIDWELL, PHILIP CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, A. H. EVANS, Major A. P. LOYD, E. NEALE, R. NESHAM, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, C. E. PEARSON, H. J. PEARSON, FRANK PENROSE, T. DIGBY PIGOTT, C.B., HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), HENRY SEEBOHM, R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), Capt. G. E. SHELLEY, W. B. TEGETMEIER, H. M. WALLIS, C. A. WRIGHT.

Visitors: Dr. F. D. DREWITT, C. E. FAGAN, Sir WILLIAM FLOWER, K.C.B., F.R.S., Sir HENRY HOWORTH, K.C.I.E., F.R.S.

The CHAIRMAN gave his annual Address to the Club. This is printed separately.

The TREASURER congratulated the Club on the satisfactory condition of its Finances, and suggested that the Rule respecting guest-money should be suspended for the present. This suggestion was adopted.

Major A. P. LOYD was elected on the Committee, in place of Mr. H. SEEBOHM, who retired by rotation.

[October 31st, 1895.]

Mr. H. J. PEARSON gave a most interesting account of his expedition to Kolguev and Novaya Zemlya, in the yacht 'Saxon,' during the summer of 1895. He exhibited a series of the eggs of the Grey Plover (*Squatarola helvetica*) and the Little Stint (*Tringa minuta*) from Kolguev. At his request, the further account of the expedition to Novaya Zemlya was postponed till the next Meeting.

Mr. C. E. PEARSON exhibited one of the nests of the Little Stint, which he presented to the National Collection.

A pair of nestlings of Bewick's Swan (*Cygnus bewicki*), obtained by Colonel Feilden, who accompanied the expedition, was also exhibited. These also were presented to the British Museum.

Mr. W. R. OGILVIE GRANT exhibited specimens of some new species of birds sent by Mr. John Whitehead from the Philippines:—

SIPHIA ENGANENSIS, sp. n.

♂ similis *S. pallidipedi*, sed hypochondriis cervinis distinguenda. ♀ vero a ♀ *S. pallidipedis*, loris ferrugineis, et fasciâ superciliari angustâ cæruleâ trans frontem ductâ distinguenda. Long. tot. 6·0 poll., culm. 0·7, alæ 3·1, caudæ 2·1, tarsi 0·88.

Hab. Cape Engano, Luzon.

HYPSSIPETES FUGENSIS, sp. n.

♂ ♀. Similis *H. pryeri*, sed pileo colloque brunneis, nec cinereis, et dorso concoloribus, abdomine haud albo notato distinguendus. Long. tot. 10·5 poll., culm. 1·15, alæ 4·85, caudæ 4·65, tarsi 0·85.

Hab. Fuga Island, Babuyan Group.

ZOSTERORNIS DENNISTOUNI, sp. n.

Z. sordide viridescens, notæo angustè albido striolato: subtùs pallide flavus, gulâ lætiore: fronte et sincipite aureis distinguendus. Long. tot. 5·5 poll., culm. 0·7, alæ 2·7, caudæ 2·2, tarsi 0·75.

Hab. Cape Engano, Luzon.

ORTHOTOMUS CHLORONOTUS, sp. n.

Similis *O. derbiano*, sed notæo toto et subcaudalibus oli-

vascenti-viridibus distinguendus. Long. tot. 4·8 poll.,
alæ 2·2, caudæ 1·8, tarsi 0·8.

Hab. Cape Engano, N.E. Luzon.

Mr. GRANT also described a new *Proparus* from Manipur and the Naga Hills, which he proposed to call

PROPARUS AUSTENI, sp. n.

P. similis P. vinipectori, sed pileo rufescentiore, et albedine gutturis restrictâ : præpectore vinaceo nec albo distinguendus. Long. tot. 4·5 poll., culm. 0·43, alæ 2·3, caudæ 2·0, tarsi 0·9.

Captain SHELLEY described three new species of African Barbets, as follows :—

STACTOLÆMA WOODWARDI, sp. n.

Simile *S. olivaceo*, Shelley, sed paullo major, et plagâ magnâ sulphureâ auriculari usque ad nucham productâ distinguendum. Long. tot. 6·5 poll., culm. 0·75, alæ 3·5, caudæ 2·3, tarsi 0·95.

Hab. Zulu Land.

TRICHOLÆMA ANSORGII.

Simile *T. hirsuto*, sed hypochondriis latius nigro maculatis, minime albo fasciatis distinguendum. Long. tot. 6·3 poll., alæ 3·5.

Hab. Uganda.

TRICHOLÆMA GABONENSE, sp. n.

Simile *T. hirsuto*, sed brunnescentius, et facie laterali haud albo notatâ distinguendum. Long. tot. 7·3 poll., culm. 0·95, alæ 3·6, caudæ 2·1, tarsi 0·9.

Hab. Gaboon to Cameroons.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE stated that a recent examination of the type of *Bradyornis woodwardi* from Natal had convinced him that it was only an example of *Sylvia simplex* (= *S. hortensis*, auct.) in greenish plumage. The specimen in question had a somewhat abnormally shaped bill, which made it look like a *Bradyornis*, and, moreover, the plumage did not resemble that of any specimen of *S. simplex* with which it had been compared. The greenish plumage must be that

of the freshly moulted bird in its winter-quarters, and therefore in a stage not seen in European examples.

Mr. HENRY SEEBOHM described a new species of Eagle-Owl from Sidemi, in the Ussuri country, E. Siberia. The type specimen had been obtained by Kalinowski, and presented by the Warsaw Museum to the British Museum, where it had hitherto been identified with *Bubo blakistoni*. Mr. Seebohm proposed to call it

BUBO DOERRIESI, sp. n.

Similis *B. blakistoni*, sed plaga nuchali albâ magnâ facile distinguendus. Long. tot. 25 poll., alæ 20·5, tarsi 3·2.

A second specimen had been procured by Mr. Doerries near Vladivostock, and five specimens were now known, all of them agreeing in the possession of a white nape-spot. It would seem that *B. doerriesi* also had a nearly white tail when fully adult.

The next Meeting of the Club will take place on Wednesday, the 20th of November, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, at 7 P.M., when Mr. H. J. PEARSON will continue his account of the expedition to Novaya Zemlya.

Mr. HOWARD SAUNDERS, one of the Delegates to the International Congress held in Paris for the Protection of Birds useful to Agriculture, will give some account of the proceedings; and his colleague, Sir HERBERT MAXWELL, Bart., M.P., will be present as a visitor.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>

P.S.—The Editor requests that an abstract of any communication intended for discussion at any Meeting of the Club may be forwarded to him *at least five days before* the date of Meeting.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XXX.

THE twenty-ninth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 20th of November, 1895.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—E. BIDWELL, Col. C. T. BINGHAM, PHILIP CROWLEY, E. A. S. ELLIOT, E. W. DE WINTON, Col. H. W. FEILDEN, JOHN GERRARD, J. E. HARTING, W. H. HUDSON, Major A. P. LOYD, J. G. MILLAIS, Dr. ST. GEORGE MIVART, F.R.S., R. NESHAM, W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT, H. J. PEARSON, FRANK PENROSE, EVELYN RAWSON, HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), E. CAVENDISH TAYLOR, Major HORACE TERRY, A. TREVOR-BATTYE, W. B. TEGETMEIER, C. A. WRIGHT, J. YOUNG.

Visitors : Dr. F. D. DREWITT, H. TABOR BROOKS, Admiral A. H. MARKHAM, Sir HERBERT MAXWELL, Bart., M.P., H. MUNT.

Mr. SCLATER called attention to the fine specimen of the Spotted Redshank (*Totanus fuscus*) now living in the Fish House in the Zoological Society's Gardens, and obtained on October 17th, along with other waders, from Spalding in Lincolnshire. It was the first specimen, so far as was known, that had been received by the Zoological Society, and Mr. Bartlett, in all his long experience, had never seen a living specimen in captivity before.

Mr. SCLATER also exhibited a portrait (lithograph) of Prof. Giglioli, presented by the latter to the British Ornithologists' Union.

[November 30th, 1895.]

Mr. SCLATER stated that in view of the large amount of work he had done in American Ornithology, the Authorities of the Smithsonian Institution had kindly agreed to publish, in the Bulletin of the U.S. National Museum, a complete Bibliography of his published writings from 1844 to 1894 inclusive. The MS. of this volume, which was already in type, had been prepared under his superintendence by Mr. G. A. Doubleday. The list contained the titles of 1239 publications, many of which, however, were short notes and notices.

Mr. HOWARD SAUNDERS gave a brief sketch of the proceedings at the International Congress recently held at Paris to consider the legislation necessary for the protection of birds useful to agriculture, to which he had been accredited as the delegate of the British Government, with Sir Herbert Maxwell, Bart., M.P. Sir Herbert also gave an interesting account of the diplomatic work of the Congress.

Professor MENZBIER, of Moscow, forwarded, on behalf of Mr. Sushkin, the diagnosis of a new species of Goose, which Mr. Sushkin proposed to call

ANSER NEGLECTUS, n. sp.

A. ab A. brachyrhyncho staturâ majore, rostro longiore et graciliore, secundariorum tectricibus atro-fuscis, tectricibus carpalibus discoloribus: ab *A. segetum* pedibus zonaque rostri incarnatis distinguendus.

The full description of the species will appear in 'The Ibis.'

Dr. J. VON MADARASZ, of the Hungarian National Museum, sent for exhibition some photographs of a nest of the Chimney-Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*) built in a curious position among the hanging branches of a vine.

Dr. W. T. BLANFORD, F.R.S., communicated a note on the two Sarus Cranes of the Indian Region. He agreed with Dr. Bowdler Sharpe that there were two distinct forms:

one found in the Indian Peninsula and the other in the Burmese Provinces. The latter had been recognized by Dr. Sharpe as the true *Grus antigone* of Linnæus, but, in Dr. Blanford's opinion, this name was founded on Edwards's description of the Greater Indian Crane (Nat. Hist. Birds, i. p. 45, pl. 45), which was said to have "the neck very long, covered in the upper parts with white feathers, which gradually become ash-coloured towards its bottom." This, Dr. Blanford contended, could only apply to the Indian bird, and he therefore proposed the name of *Grus (Antigone) sharpii* for the dark-coloured Burmese form, which had no white on the neck. The characters of the two species were clearly given by Dr. Sharpe in the twenty-third volume of the 'Catalogue of Birds,' pp. 263, 264.

Mr. H. J. PEARSON continued his narrative of his recent expedition to Kolguev and Novaya Zemlya, and exhibited specimens of the downy nestlings of Bewick's Swan, Bean Goose, Common Eider, Grey Plover, Turnstone, Dunlin, and Temminck's Stint. He also brought for exhibition a beautiful series of the eggs of Brünnich's Guillemot.

An interesting discussion ensued on Mr. Pearson's paper, in which Admiral Markham, Mr. Howard Saunders, Mr. Sclater, and others took part.

The next Meeting of the Club will take place on Wednesday, the 18th of December, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER, R. BOWDLER SHARPE, HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Chairman. *Editor.* *Sec. & Treas.*

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XXXI.

THE thirtieth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 18th of December, 1895.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—G. BARRETT-HAMILTON, R. M. BARRINGTON, E. BIDWELL, Col. C. T. BINGHAM, J. L. BONHOTE, PHILIP CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, W. GRAHAM, W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT, ERNST HARTERT, Major A. P. LOYD, J. G. MILLAIS, R. NESHAM, H. J. PEARSON, FRANK PENROSE, HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), Capt. G. E. SHELLEY, Rev. H. H. SLATER, C. A. WRIGHT, JOHN YOUNG.

Visitors : F. V. McCONNELL, H. STEVENS, W. N. WOOD.

The CHAIRMAN spoke of the loss which the Club had sustained since its last meeting, by the death of Mr. Henry Seebohm, of whose life and work he gave a short account. He proposed that a message of condolence be sent to the family, and this was unanimously agreed to. Mr. Sclater also expressed a hope that some means would be found to publish the 'Monograph of the Turdidæ,' which Mr. Seebohm had left in a forward state.

Mr. J. G. MILLAIS exhibited photographs of Swallows' nests built in the branches of stags' horns at Warnham Court. One of these nests had been so built for nine years in succession.

[December 30th, 1895.]

Mr. ERNST HARTERT exhibited skins of *Podargus ocellatus*, Quoy & Gaim., and the type of a new *Podargus*, of which the Tring Museum had received a number of specimens, and which he characterized as follows:—

PODARGUS INTERMEDIUS, sp. n.

Similis *P. ocellato*, sed multo major; alis 243–211 millim., caud. 200–206.

Hab. ‘Kiriwina,’ in insulis ‘Trobriand’ (typus) et ‘Fergusson’ in ins. ‘D’Entrecasteaux’ dictis.

“*Obs.*—This species is remarkably larger than *P. ocellatus* and *P. ocellatus marmoratus*, and all the specimens are alike, so that it must be described. The wing in *P. ocellatus* is usually under, and seldom over 180 millim. long, so that there is generally a difference of at least 20–25 millim., or about an inch. The same striking differences in size are obvious in all the other parts, such as beak, feet, &c., as may be seen at a glance in the specimens exhibited. *P. intermedius* is intermediate in size between *P. ocellatus* and its sub-species and the gigantic *P. papuensis*, Quoy & Gaim., which has a wing of about 300 millim. or a foot, while it agrees in colour with both of the species, varying just as much, the females now before me being more rufous.”

“This interesting new form was discovered by Mr. Albert S. Meek, who also found its nest and eggs, which will be described elsewhere.”

Mr. HARTERT likewise exhibited a new Goatsucker, which he characterized as follows:—

CAPRIMULGUS ROSENBERGI, sp. n.

♀. Similis *C. ocellato*, sed duabus maculis rotundis albis in tectricibus longissimis alarum primo visu distinguendus: macula collari alba maxima: rectricibus omnibus albo terminatis, abdominis sine maculis albis conspicuis. Long. al. 5·2 poll., caud. 4·7, tarsi 0·6. “Iris brunnea.”

Hab. Ad flumen ‘Dagua’ dictum, in Colombia occidentali, W. Rosenberg coll. April 2, 1895.

Type in the Rothschild Museum.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE gave the following systematic list of the species of the family *Ardeidae*, as determined by him

during his recent studies of these birds for the twenty-seventh volume of the 'Catalogue of Birds in the British Museum':—

1. *Phoyx purpurea* (L.).
2. — *manillensis* (Meyen).
3. *Ardea goliath*, Cretzschm.
4. — *sumatrana*, Raffl.
5. — *insignis*, Hodgs.
6. — *humbloti*, Milne-Edw. & Oust.
7. — *melanocephala*, Vig. & Childr.
8. — *cocoi*, L.
9. — *cinerea*, L.
10. — *herodias*, L.
11. — *occidentalis*, Aud.
12. *Mesophoyx intermedia* (Wagl.).
13. — *brachyrhyncha* (Brehm).
14. — *plumifera* (Gould).
15. *Herodias alba* (L.).
16. — *egretta* (Wils.).
17. — *timoriensis* (Less.).
18. *Florida cærulea* (L.).
19. *Melanophoyx ardesiaca* (Wagl.).
20. — *vinaceigula*, Sharpe.
21. *Dichromanassa rufa* (Bodd.).
22. *Notophoyx novæ-hollandiæ* (Lath.).
23. — *pacifica* (Lath.).
24. — *picata* (Gould).
25. — *aruensis* (Gray).
26. *Lepterodias gularis* (Bosc).
27. — *asha* (Sykes).
28. *Garzetta garzetta* (L.).
29. — *nigripes* (Temm.).
30. *Leucophoyx candidissima* (Gm.).
31. *Hydranassa tricolor* (P. L. S. Müll.).
32. — *ruficollis* (Gosse).
33. *Nyctanassa violacea* (L.).
34. — *pauper* (Scl. & Salv.).
35. *Agamia agami* (Gm.).
36. *Demiegretta sacra* (Gm.).

37. *Nycticorax nycticorax* (L.).
 38. — *tayaza-guira* (V.).
 39. — *cycnocephalus* (Mol.).
 40. — *leuco-notus* (Wagl.).
 41. — *caledonicus* (Gm.).
 α. crassirostris, Vig.
 42. — *mandibularis*, Ogilvie-Grant.
 43. — *manillensis*, Vig.
 44. — *minahasæ*, Meyer & Wiglesw.
 45. *Canchroma cochlearia*, L.
 46. — *zeledoni*, Ridgw.
 47. *Gorsachius melanolophus* (Raffl.).
 48. — *goisagi* (Temm.).
 49. *Syrigma cycnocephalum* (Mol.).
 50. *Pilerodius pileatus* (Bodd.).
 51. *Butorides atricapilla* (Afzel.).
 52. — *striata* (L.).
 53. — *javanica* (Horsf.).
 α. amurensis (Schrenk).
 β. spodiogaster, Sharpe.
 54. — *stagnatilis* (Gould).
 55. — *sundevalli*, Sharpe.
 56. — *virescens* (L.).
 57. *Tigriornis leucolopha* (Jard.).
 58. *Zonerodius heliosylus* (Less.).
 59. *Tigriosoma lineatum* (Bodd.).
 60. — *excellens*, Ridgw.
 61. — *marmoratum* (V.).
 62. — *bahiæ*, Sharpe.
 63. — *fasciatum*, Such.
 64. — *salmoni*, Scl. & Salv.
 65. *Heterocnus cabanisi* (Heine).
 66. *Erythrocnus rufiventris* (Sund.).
 67. *Ardeola ralloides* (Scop.).
 68. — *idæ* (Hartl.).
 69. — *grayi* (Sykes).
 70. — *bacchus* (Bp.).
 71. — *speciosa* (Horsf.).

72. *Bubulcus lucidus* (Rafin.).
 73. — *coromandus* (Bodd.).
 74. *Ardetta minuta* (L.).
 75. — *podicipes* (Bp.).
 76. — *sinensis* (Gm.).
 77. — *exilis* (Gm.).
 78. — *neoæna*, Cory.
 79. — *erythromelas* (V.).
 80. — *pusilla* (V.).
 81. — *riedeli*, Meyer & Wiglesw.
 82. — *involucris* (V.).
 83. — *cinnamomea* (Gm.).
 84. *Zebrilus pumilus* (Bodd.).
 85. *Nannocnus eurythmus* (Swinh.).
 86. *Ardeirallus sturmi* (Wagl.).
 87. *Dupetor flavicollis* (Lath.).
 88. — *gouldi* (Bp.).
 89. — *nesophilus* (Sharpe).
 90. — *melas* (Salvad.).
 91. *Erythrophoyx woodfordi* (Grant).
 92. — *prætermissa* (Sharpe).
 93. *Botaurus stellaris* (Linn.).
 94. — *capensis* (Schl.).
 95. — *pæciloptilus* (Wagl.).
 96. — *lentiginosus* (Mont.).
 97. — *pinnatus* (Wagl.).

The following new genera and species were described :—

MELANOPHOYX VINACEIGULA, sp. n.

Similis *M. ardesiacæ*, sed gutture vinaceo nec nigro distinguenda. Long. tot. 16·5 poll., culm. 2·25, alæ 9·0, caudæ 3·36, tarsi 3·05.

Hab. Transvaal. Typus in Mus. Brit.

NOTOPHOYX, gen. n.

Genus simile generi '*Lepterochus*' dicto, sed plumis nuchalibus dependentibus nullis distinguendum.

Typus est *Notophoyx novæ hollandiæ*.

TIGRIORNIS, gen. n.

Genus simile generi '*Tigriosoma*' dicto, sed tarso anteriore reticulato distinguendum.

Typus est *Tigriornis leucolopha* (Jard.).

HETEROCNUS, gen. n.

Genus simile generi '*Tigriosoma*' dicto, sed gutture medialiter plumoso distinguendum.

Typus est *Heterocnus cabanisi* (Heine).

TIGRIOSOMA BAHILÆ, sp. n.

Similis *T. lineato* (Bodd.), sed pectore et abdomine brunneis atque fulvo latè fasciatis distinguendum. Long. tot. 24·0 poll., culm. 4·2, alæ 10·8, caudæ 4·2, tarsi 4·0.

Hab. Bahia, Brazil.

Dr. SHARPE exhibited, on behalf of Dr. J. E. T. Aitchison, F.R.S., a pair of Himalayan Woodpeckers (*Dendrocopus himalayensis*), shot by him in his garden at Murree, N.W. Himalayas, in September. The birds were killed in the act of making holes in walnuts for the purpose of extracting the kernel for food. Dr. Aitchison wrote that two walnut-trees in his garden were infested by these Woodpeckers, which destroyed a large number of walnuts, picking them off the ground when they fell, and inserting them in crevices and holes in the bark of trees, until they had managed to hammer a hole through the shells.

Dr. SHARPE also described a new species of Weaver-bird from Eastern Africa, collected by Dr. Donaldson Smith. He gave the following diagnosis of the species:—

PLOCEIPASSER DONALDSONI, sp. n.

P. brunneus, frontis et verticis plumis brunneis, albo squamatum marginatis: uropygio et supracaudalibus albis: rectricibus albo terminatis: subtus isabellinus, facie laterali gulâque albis, fasciâ mystacali posticâ nigrâ: pectore summo vix fusco striolato distinguendus. Long. tot. 6·7 poll., culm. 0·7, alæ 3·8, caudæ 2·3, tarsi 0·9.

Dr. SHARPE also exhibited a specimen of the Red-throated Pipit (*Anthus cervinus*), which had been submitted to him

for identification by Mr. W. C. J. Ruskin-Butterfield, of St. Leonard's. The specimen had been shot near Hastings on the 13th of November, and was a male in full winter plumage.

Mr. W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT exhibited specimens of two apparently undescribed birds from the Owen Stanley Mountains, in S.E. New Guinea :—

OREOPSITTACUS GRANDIS, sp. n.

♂ similis *O. arfaki* ♂, sed multo major, et plagâ abdominali rubrâ absente distinguendus. Long. tot. 6·3 poll., culm. 0·7, alæ 3·5, caudæ 3·3, tarsi 0·65.

♀ similis *O. arfaki* ♀, sed multò major et abdomine viridi concolore distinguenda.

MELIPOTES ATRICEPS, sp. n.

Similis *M. gymnopi*, sed subtus minimè albo notata, et subalaribus pallidè cervinis distinguenda. Long. tot. 8·0 poll., culm. 1·92, alæ 4·3, caudæ 3·9, tarsi 1·2.

Captain G. E. SHELLEY gave some details of his projected new 'Handbook to the Birds of Africa,' of which the first volume is nearly ready for issue.

The next Meeting of the Club will take place on Wednesday, the 15th of January, 1896, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER, R. BOWDLER SHARPE, HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Chairman. *Editor.* *Sec. & Treas.*

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XXXII.

THE thirty-first meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 15th of January, 1896.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—G. BARRETT-HAMILTON, E. BIDWELL, Lt.-Col. C. T. BINGHAM, F. E. BLAAUW, F. E. BEDDARD, F.R.S., PHILIP CROWLEY, A. H. EVANS, W. GRAHAM, Dr. A. GÜNTHER, F.R.S., G. H. CATON HAIGH, R. NESHAM, W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT, CHAS. E. PEARSON, H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), W. L. SCLATER, Dr. R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), Capt. G. E. SHELLEY, F. STYAN, W. B. TEGETMEIER.

Visitors : Dr. F. D. DREWITT, J. MITCHELL, ARNOLD PIKE.

Mr. SCLATER gave the outlines of a scheme for a new general work on Birds, which he had long planned and which he proposed to bring before the next meeting of the B. O. U. with the hope of inducing his brother ornithologists to assist in it. Now that the great 'Catalogue of Birds' in the British Museum was approaching completion, it was manifest that the possibility of preparing a general handbook of the described species of birds (something in the style of Bonaparte's 'Conspectus') was greatly increased. In Mr. Sclater's opinion the best way of effecting this desirable object would be to separate the handbook into six portions, corresponding

[January 31st, 1896.]

to the six great Geographical Regions of the earth's surface. Taking the described species of birds as about 12,000, each volume appropriated to a Region would relate, on an average, to 2000 species. After adding to each volume 500 species for those that occurred in more than one Region, there would thus be (on the average) about 2500 species to be treated of in each volume.

Mr. Sclater proposed that, besides a reference to the British Museum Catalogue, only a short Latin diagnosis, a few selected synonyms, and the *patria* should be added to the name of each species; and he considered that, if this plan were adopted, five or more species could (on the average) be easily got into one page: at which rate each volume would consist of about 500 pages. He thought that an appropriate title for such a work would be 'Avium Viventium Expositio Systematica'; the short title being 'Aves,' formed by the initial letters of these four words. The six volumes might be numbered I. to VI., but would have a second title according to the Region to which they related—Aves Palæarcticæ, Aves Æthiopicæ, &c. The compilation of each volume should be assigned to an ornithological expert qualified to undertake the particular task.

A DISCUSSION followed on Dr. Sclater's proposed scheme, of which Dr. Günther expressed approval. Dr. Bowdler Sharpe stated that he would like to consider the question further before it was proposed to the B. O. U. in May, and stated that he had promised to contribute to the volumes of the 'Thierreich,' which Dr. Schultze was proposing to publish in Berlin. The Chairman pointed out that the scope of his proposed work was entirely different from that of the 'Thierreich.'

Mr. F. E. BLAAUW exhibited an egg of *Psophia leucoptera* which had been laid in his aviaries at s'Graveland during the past summer. This was believed to be the first opportunity afforded to ornithologists of knowing what the egg of *Psophia* was like, and it was interesting to find that the Trumpeter laid a pure white egg.

Dr. DREWITT exhibited a specimen of the Senegal Stone-Curlew (*Ædicnemus senegalensis*) which he had shot near Assouan in Upper Egypt.

Mr. G. H. CATON HAIG exhibited a specimen of the Water-Pipit (*Anthus spipoletta*) killed in Lincolnshire during the past autumn.

Mr. W. B. TEGETMEIER exhibited some of the down of the King Penguin (*Aptenodytes pennanti*), from specimens now living in the Zoological Society's Gardens.

The next Meeting of the Club will take place on Wednesday, the 19th of February, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street: the dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER, R. BOWDLER SHARPE, HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Chairman. *Editor.* *Sec. & Treas.*

N.B.—At the Meeting of the Club on Wednesday, March 18th, it is proposed to have an exhibition of the eggs of *Cuculus canorus*, with those of the foster-parents. Any Member willing to exhibit his series is requested to write to Mr. EDWARD BIDWELL, 1 Trig Lane, Upper Thames Street, London, E.C.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XXXIII.

THE thirty-second meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 19th of February, 1896.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—O. V. APLIN, G. BARRETT-HAMILTON, E. BIDWELL, W. E. DE WINTON, E. A. S. ELLIOT, H. J. ELWES, W. GRAHAM, E. HARTERT, Lt.-Col. L. H. IRBY, A. H. MACPHERSON, J. G. MILLAIS, E. NEALE, R. NESHAM, W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT, C. E. PEARSON, FRANK PENROSE, Major R. G. WARDLAW-RAMSAY, HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), Capt. G. E. SHELLEY, W. B. TEGETMEIER, A. TREVOR-BATTYE, H. M. WALLIS, J. YOUNG.

Visitors : E. GARNET MAN, COLCHESTER WEMYSS.

Mr. E. A. S. ELLIOT exhibited some interesting skins of North-American birds; amongst others, specimens of the various southern and northern forms of *Bubo virginianus*; *Megascops flammeola* from Colorado, said to belong to the first clutch of eggs sent to the Smithsonian Institution; *Sphyrapicus thyroideus* (both sexes), two examples of *Falco richardsoni*; and a *Xema sabinii* in breeding-plumage, remarkable as having been obtained in Colorado.

Mr. H. M. WALLIS exhibited three eggs laid by a Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetus*), which had been about thirty years in confinement, and began to lay eggs about fifteen years ago.

[February 29th, 1896.]

The eggs having been taken and those of a Domestic Fowl substituted, the Eagle hatched three of the latter and reared three fine birds, feeding them principally on the flesh of rats. One of these fowls, a cockerel, was slain by his foster-mother for taking undue liberties; but the others have thriven. A photograph was exhibited, showing the Eagle and the fowls.

A letter addressed to Dr. Bowdler Sharpe by Count SALVADORI was read, in which he called attention to the differences of plumage exhibited by a series of *Diphyllodes* recently received by him from S.E. New Guinea. He proposed to divide them as follows:—

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| I. Capite fusco-griseo, minimè rufescente. | |
| a. Alis ochraceis | 1. <i>D. magnifica</i> . |
| b. Alis lætè flavis | 2. <i>D. seleucides</i> . |
| c. Alis aurantiacis | 3. <i>D. chrysoptera</i> . |
| II. Capite rufescenti-brunneo. | |
| d. Alis lætè flavis | 4. <i>D. xanthoptera</i> , sp. n. |
| e. Alis lætè aurantiacis | 5. <i>D. hunsteini</i> . |

Mr. HOWARD SAUNDERS made some remarks on his arrangement of the Order *Gavia* in vol. xxv. of the 'British Museum Catalogue.' He divided the Order into two Families:—LARIDÆ, containing Terns, Skimmers, and Gulls; STERCORARIIDÆ, for the Skuas. Besides the well-known cere to the bill, the latter possess some important distinctive features, which have been overlooked by most naturalists except Dr. E. Coues—*e. g.* the sternum has only *one* notch on each side of the posterior margin; the cæca are much larger than in the Laridæ; and the fully webbed toes are furnished with strong, sharp, hooked claws.

In his treatment of the subfamily Sterninæ he had felt obliged to admit a few more genera than he did in his revision in the P. Z. S. for 1876. To *Hydrochelidon* (the Marsh Terns) succeed *Phaëthus* (the heavy-billed River Tern of tropical America), *Gelochelidon* (the Gull-billed Tern), *Hydroprogne* (the Caspian Tern), *Seena* (the Indian River Tern), *Sterna* (for 33 species, commencing with *S. melanogaster*, including the Sooty Terns, and ending with *S. trudeaui*), *Nænia* (for the Inca Tern), *Procelsterna* (for the

two small Grey Noddies), *Anous* (for the large Noddies), *Micranous* (for the small Slender-billed Noddies), and *Gygis* (for the 2 aberrant White Terns): 11 genera, 51 species. The American Black Tern (*Hydrochelidon surinamensis*) is admitted to specific rank; *Sterna saundersi*, Hume, is the proper name for the species provisionally called *S. sumatrana* in 1876; *Sterna lorata* is the name for the small Tern from the south-west of America, previously known as *S. exilis* of Tschudi, the type of *S. exilis* in the Neuchâtel Museum having proved to be *H. surinamensis*.

In the subfamily Rhynchopinæ—with only one genus, *Rhynchops*—five species are admitted. Three of these are found in America, one in Africa, and one in India. That the species found in Africa is far closer to the south-east American species than it is to the Indian will excite no surprise.

The subfamily Larinæ contained 7 genera:—*Xema*, for 2 species of Fork-tailed Gulls; *Rhodostethia*, for 1 species of Wedge-tailed Gull; *Larus* (44 species); *Gabianus*, for the large Australian Gull, *G. pacificus*, with a very deep bill; *Leucophæus*, for *L. scoresbii*; *Pagophila*, for the Ivory Gull; and *Rissa*, for the two species of Kittiwake.

In the family STERCORARIIDÆ, the large Skuas were placed in the genus *Megalestris* (*M. catarrhactes*, &c.), while the three species with elongated central tail-feathers were retained under the genus *Stercorarius*.

Mr. SCLATER exhibited some bird-skins from a collection sent to him for examination by Mr. J. J. Quelch, of the Museum, Georgetown, British Guiana, and called special attention to a fine adult male specimen of *Caprimulgus maculicaudus* (Lawr.) (Hartert, Cat. B. xvi. p. 575), and to an example of *Nyctiprogne leucopygia* (Spix), being the first specimens he had met with of these species from British Guiana. The two specimens of *C. maculicaudus* in the British Museum were both females, Mr. Hartert having described the male from an example in Graf v. Berlepsch's collection.

Mr. SCLATER called attention to the completion and

publication of the first volume of Capt. Shelley's work on African birds. The present volume contained a systematic list of the birds of the Ethiopian Region, 2534 in number, with their localities and references to the 'British Museum Catalogue' and to other descriptions and figures.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE communicated a description of a new Lark from the collection made by Dr. Donaldson Smith during his recent expedition to Lake Rudolph:—

MIRAFRA COLLARIS, sp. n.

M. reatricibus externis extus fulvo marginatis: notæo saturatè cinnamomeo, dorsi plumis albo latè marginatis: supracaudalibus et reatricibus mediis cinereis, nigro medialiter striolatis: subtus fulvescens: hypochondriis cinnamomeis: remigibus subtus nigris, vix ad basin rufis, pogonio interno minimè isabellino: gulâ isabellinâ: fasciâ nigrâ gutturali insigni, et præpectore cinnamomeo maculato distinguenda. Long. tot. 6·0 poll., culm. 0·5, alæ 3·5, caudæ 3·2, tarsi 0·95.

Mr. O. SALVIN, F.R.S., communicated the following description of a new species of Humming-bird from Northern Peru, which he called

AGLÆACTIS ALICIÆ.

Supra fusco-nigra, dorso postico nitide amethystino; tectricibus supracaudalibus nitide viridescentibus, duabus longissimis amethystinis: alis et cauda saturate cupreis, harum remigis externi pogonio externo et rhachide albis, hujus triente basali alba, rhachidibus in dimidio basali albis: loris, mento, pectore medio, plumis elongatis pectoralibus et tectricibus subcaudalibus albis; gutture medio, pectoris lateralibus et hypochondriis nigricantibus, plumis omnibus stricte pallide limbatis; abdomine medio albicante, subalaribus albis: rostro nigro, mandibulæ basi flavicante; pedibus nigris. Long. tota circa 4·8 poll., alæ 3·4, caudæ rectr. med. 1·5, rectr. lat. 1·8, rostri a rictu 0·9.

♀ mari similis, coloribus omnibus minus nitidis.

Hab. Suecha, N. Peru, alt. 10,000 feet (*O. T. Baron*).

Obs. In March of last year Mr. Baron was fortunate enough to meet with this beautiful new *Aglæactis* at a place

called Suecha, in the Andes of Northern Peru, at an elevation of 10,000 feet above sea-level. He obtained several specimens of both sexes, some of which he sent to Mr. Godman and others to Mr. Rothschild.

The most nearly allied species is *A. castelnaudi*, from which *A. aliciae* may readily be distinguished by the following characters:—the brilliant amethystine feathers of the lower back and upper tail-coverts instead of being uniform in colour are interrupted across the base of the tail by a bar of green feathers, they are, moreover, of a redder tint; the tail is dark coppery, and the base of the shafts white; there is a very distinct white patch on the throat and chin, and the outer web of the outermost primary and the under tail-coverts are also white. The white pectoral tuft is composed of short small feathers.

Mr. W. B. TEGETMEIER exhibited an egg of a Domestic Fowl, of an abnormally warm brown colour with darker spots.

The next Meeting of the Club will take place at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, March 18th, when there will be an exhibition of the eggs of *Cuculus canorus* with those of the foster-parents. Early notice to the Treasurer is requested from those Members who intend to *dine* and bring guests, as a large attendance is expected, and places cannot be guaranteed after the 15th of March.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER, R. BOWDLER SHARPE, HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Chairman. *Editor.* *Sec. & Treas.*

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XXXIV.

THE Thirty-third meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 18th of March, 1896.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—G. BARRETT-HAMILTON, E. BIDWELL, Col. C. T. BINGHAM, J. H. BONHOTE, W. E. DE WINTON, A. DOWSETT, H. E. DRESSER, H. J. ELWES, A. H. EVANS, J. GERRARD, W. GRAHAM, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, ERNST HARTERT, J. E. HARTING, P. M. C. KERMODE, Major A. P. LOYD, A. McL. MARSHALL, JAS. McL. MARSHALL, E. NEALE, R. NESHAM, HEATLEY NOBLE, F. MENTEITH OGILVIE, C. E. PEARSON, H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, R. H. READ, Capt. SAVILE G. REID, Hon. CHAS. ROTHSCHILD, Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD, HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), CHARLES STONHAM, E. PRIAULX TENNANT, Major HORACE TERRY, H. M. WALLIS, C. B. WHARTON, JOHNSON WILKINSON, C. A. WRIGHT, Col. J. W. YERBURY, JOHN YOUNG.

Dining Visitors : J. W. CASTLE, W. E. CHAPMAN, Capt. A. COWIE, D. G. ELLIOT, GEORGE EVANS, C. H. FREEMAN, W. E. GRAHAM, H. OGILVIE GRANT, E. S. GROGAN, DONALDSON GUNN, JONATHAN HUTCHINSON, F.R.S., Col. F. W. JAMES, HERBERT MASSEY, HENRY MUNT, JOHN A. NORTON, M.D., GEO. PARKIN, T. PERKINS, H. STEVENS, W. MURRAY TUKE, W. F. URWICK, Dr. O. WOOD.

A number of visitors also attended the Meeting at 8.30.

March 31st, 1896.]

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE exhibited one of the volumes of original paintings of Woodpeckers, executed by the late Mr. Edward Hargitt. The total number of coloured figures was 1368, and on this stupendous task Mr. Hargitt had been engaged for more than fourteen years. The pictures,—said Dr. Sharpe,—as will be seen by the volume exhibited, represent the males, females, and young birds, as well as all the intermediate plumages and variations, which Mr. Hargitt had been able to paint from the specimens in his own collection and those in the public museums and private collections of the world. Considering that for many years he had suffered from indifferent health, and was engaged throughout the time on his own professional work, it was really a wonderful example of human energy to have produced such a series of beautiful paintings of Woodpeckers. Nearly 100 typical specimens were illustrated in the series, and many of them were of great interest, as not having been figured in any public work.

The MS. letterpress, which had been entirely written out by Miss Hargitt, contained 1489 original descriptions, all of them carefully copied from the works in which they had appeared. The work, as completed, formed 14 stout 8vo volumes.

Dr. Sharpe had been carefully through the collection of Woodpeckers left by his late friend and he found that this collection was one of very great importance, containing 3538 specimens, representing 289 species, with 22 types.

The collection contained examples of several species not in the British Museum nor in any other collection, and there could be no doubt that in Mr. Hargitt's series would be found the material for a complete Monograph of the Picidæ, which could be rendered still more perfect by a study of the fourteen volumes of paintings of Woodpeckers which had been executed by Mr. Hargitt. These volumes also contained a number of original observations and corrections to Mr. Hargitt's work in the 'Catalogue of Birds.' In conclusion, Dr. Sharpe expressed a hope that this beautiful collection would find a resting-place in some public or private museum, where it would be fully appreciated, so that the original work

of its late possessor would receive the acknowledgment which so many years of patient labour demanded.

Mr. SCLATER stated that he was informed by Capt. S. Pasfield Oliver that the latter was about to publish a translation of the Journal of "Le Sieur D. B.," from a copy of this rare volume in the possession of Prof. Newton, at Cambridge. Mr. Sclater exhibited the Zoological Society's MS. copy of this book, which was formerly in possession of the late Charles Telfair, C.M.Z.S. The work was most interesting to ornithologists as containing an account by an eye-witness in 1671 of the plumage and habits of the "Solitaire" or Dodo of Bourbon (*Pezophaps solitarius*). It was now known that the name of the author of the volume was Du Bois, and that it was published in Paris in 1674. (Cf. Newton, Trans. Zool. Soc. vi. p. 374.)

Mr. E. BIDWELL invited the members to the Upper Hall, where an exhibition of Cuckoos' eggs and those of the foster-parents had been prepared; but before the adjournment for that purpose, he made a few remarks as to the scope of the present exhibition. He also drew attention to the important difference in the weight of the Cuckoo's egg when compared with that of the majority of those of their foster-parents. By their much heavier weight the eggs of the Cuckoo could nearly always be distinguished. 150 eggs in his own collection, measured and weighed by him, gave the following results:—

Longest egg	24·50 millimètres.
Shortest egg	19·50 ,,
Broadest egg ...	18·75 ,,
Narrowest egg ...	14·50 ,,
Largest egg	23·50 × 18·75 millimètres.
Smallest egg ...	19·50 × 14·50 ,,
Heaviest egg ...	312 milligrammes.
Next heaviest egg	279 ,,
Lightest egg ...	141 ,,
Next lightest egg	147 ,,

The Members of the B. O. C. who exhibited specimens of eggs were as follows :—

	Cuckoos'.	Fosterers'.
E. BIDWELL	158	49
P. CROWLEY	71	37
H. E. DRESSER	17	13
E. A. S. ELLIOT	9	6
W. GRAHAM	7	5
J. A. HARVIE-BROWN	3	1
H. J. PEARSON	12	2
F. PENROSE	19	11
ROBERT H. READ	36	25
SAVILE G. REID	46	29
C. ROTHSCHILD	3	2
W. ROTHSCHILD	99	24
C. STONHAM	16	10

The following gentlemen, non-members of the B. O. C., had kindly sent :—

	Cuckoos'.	Fosterers'.
W. M. CROWFOOT	22	13
H. MASSEY	275	50
J. A. NORTON	126	30

The total number of eggs of the Cuckoo exhibited was 919, and the accompanying clutches of eggs represented 76 species of foster-parents.

Mr. E. HARTERT, at Mr. Bidwell's request, had prepared a few notes on the recent observations of Dr. E. REY, and read the following remarks :—

“The majority of ornithologists had been of opinion that *Cuculus canorus* lays only a small number of eggs, *i. e.* 5 to 7 or so, and that a number of days (a week or so) passes between the laying of one egg and its follower. The work of Dr. E. Rey ‘*Altes und neues aus dem Haushalte des Kuckuks, 1892,*’ supposing his observations to be correct, exploded these theories entirely. Dr. Rey came to many definite conclusions, of which the following were the most important ones :—

- “ 1. The eggs of *Cuculus canorus* vary more in colour and markings than those of any other bird.
- “ 2. The most important characters of the eggs of *Cuculus canorus* are their form, the weight of their shells, and above all their thickness and hardness.
- “ 3. The majority of the eggs of *Cuculus canorus* resemble in colour and markings the type of one of our common Passerine Birds ; while some show a kind of mixed type (‘ Mischtypus ’), and some do not exactly resemble any known eggs.
- “ 4. The eggs laid in the nests of *Ruticilla phœnicurus* and *Fringilla montifringilla* are nearly always like those of the nest-owners in colour and markings (57 out of 67 in those of the former, and all in those of the latter). Imitations are also common in nests of *Sylvia cinerea*, *Sylvia hortensis*, *Acrocephalus streperus*, and *A. phragmitis*, while they are rare in others, and never yet found in nests of *Troglodytes parvulus*, *Accentor modularis*, and the different *Phylloscopi*. In most countries it may be said that there are many more Cuckoos’ eggs which do *not* imitate those of other birds than there are successful imitations.
- “ 5. Most Cuckoos are in the habit of placing their eggs in nests of one species of bird, and take to other nests only if they cannot find their habitual nests.
- “ 6. They use, as a rule, one and the same district (mostly very limited) for depositing their eggs year after year.
- “ 7. Neither the ovary nor the development of the eggs of the Cuckoos differ in any way from those of other birds.
- “ 8. The female Cuckoo lays about 20 eggs every year, and these are laid on alternate days.
- “ 9. Each female Cuckoo lays similar eggs during its life.
- “ 10. Each female lays only one egg in one nest. If more than one be found they invariably belong to different females.
- “ 11. The time when the females lay varies greatly.
- “ 12. The female removes, in most cases (but not always), some of the eggs of the nest-owners.”

After some remarks by several of the members, a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. BIDWELL for the trouble he had taken in organizing the present exhibition was proposed by Mr. Howard Saunders, and carried by acclamation.

The following list, prepared by Mr. BIDWELL, was laid before the Meeting :—

LIST OF
WESTERN PALÆARCTIC SPECIES
IN THE NEST OF WHICH
THE CUCKOO'S EGG HAS BEEN FOUND.

[The figures refer to the number of specimens of Cuckoos' eggs exhibited.]

1	MISTLE-THRUSH.	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i> , Linn.
1	SONG-THRUSH.	<i>Turdus musicus</i> , Linn.
	FIELDFARE.	<i>Turdus pilaris</i> , Linn.
2	BLACKBIRD.	<i>Turdus merula</i> , Linn.
2	RING-OUZEL.	<i>Turdus torquatus</i> , Linn.
	ROCK-THRUSH.	<i>Monticola saxatilis</i> (Linn.).
8	WHEATEAR.	<i>Saxicola ænanthe</i> (Linn.).
1	ISABELLINE WHEATEAR.	<i>Saxicola isabellina</i> , Rüppell.
1	BLACK-THROATED WHEAT- EAR.	<i>Saxicola stapazina</i> , Vieillot.
	EASTERN BLACK-THROATED CHAT.	<i>Saxicola melanoleuca</i> (Güld.).
	EARED WHEATEAR.	<i>Saxicola albicollis</i> (Vieillot).
1	EASTERN PIED WHEATEAR.	<i>Saxicola morio</i> , Ehrenb.
9	WHINCHAT.	<i>Pratincola rubetra</i> (Linn.).
7	STONECHAT.	<i>Pratincola rubicola</i> (Linn.).
	WHITE-TAILED STONECHAT.	<i>Pratincola hemprichi</i> (Ehrenb.).
24	REDSTART.	<i>Ruticilla phænicurus</i> (Linn.).
1	BLACK REDSTART.	<i>Ruticilla titys</i> (Scop.).
1	BLUETHROAT.	<i>Cyanecula suecica</i> (Linn.).
	WHITE-SPOTTED BLUE- THROAT.	<i>Cyanecula leucocyanea</i> , Brehm.
65	REDBREAST.	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i> (Linn.).

- 2 NIGHTINGALE. *Daulias luscinia* (Linn.).
 THRUSH-NIGHTINGALE. *Daulias philomela* (Bechst.).
 38 WHITETHROAT. *Sylvia cinerea*, Bechst.
 12 LESSER WHITETHROAT. *Sylvia curruca* (Linn.).
 BLACK-HEADED WARBLER. *Sylvia melanocephala* (Gm.).
 3 ORPHEAN WARBLER. *Sylvia orphea*, Temm.
 33 BLACKCAP. *Sylvia atricapilla* (Linn.).
 47 GARDEN-WARBLER. *Sylvia hortensis*, Bechst.
 2 SUBALPINE WARBLER. *Sylvia subalpina*, Bechst.
 SPECTACLED WARBLER. *Sylvia conspicillata*, Marm.
 13 BARRED WARBLER. *Sylvia nisoria* (Bechst.).
 2 DARTFORD WARBLER. *Sylvia undata* (Bodd.).
 1 GOLDEN-CRESTED WREN. *Regulus cristatus*, K. L. Koch.
 1 FIRE-CRESTED WREN. *Regulus ignicapillus* (C. L. Brehm).
 10 CHIFFCHAFF. *Phylloscopus rufus* (Bechst.).
 10 WILLOW-WREN. *Phylloscopus trochilus* (Linn.).
 BONELLI'S WARBLER. *Phylloscopus bonellii* (Vieill.).
 4 WOOD-WREN. *Phylloscopus sibilatrix* (Bechst.).
 GREY-TAILED WARBLER. *Aëdon familiaris* (Ménét.).
 4 ICTERINE WARBLER. *Hypolais icterina* (Vieillot).
 MELODIOUS WARBLER. *Hypolais polyglotta* (Vieillot).
 1 BOOTED WARBLER. *Hypolais caligata* (Licht.).
 62 REED-WARBLER. *Acrocephalus streperus* (Vieillot).
 35 MARSH-WARBLER. *Acrocephalus palustris* (Bechst.).
 7 GREAT REED-WARBLER. *Acrocephalus turdoides* (Meyer).
 41 SEDGE-WARBLER. *Acrocephalus phragmitis* (Bechst.).
 3 AQUATIC WARBLER. *Acrocephalus aquaticus* (J. F. Gmelin).
 PADDY-FIELD WARBLER. *Acrocephalus agricola* (Jerdon).
 7 GRASSHOPPER WARBLER. *Locustella naevia* (Bodd.).
 2 RIVER-WARBLER. *Locustella fluviatilis* (M. & W.).
 CETTI'S WARBLER. *Potamodus cetti* (Marm.).
 74 HEDGE-SPARROW. *Accentor modularis* (Linn.).
 ALPINE ACCENTOR. *Accentor collaris* (Scop.).
 DIPPER. *Cinclus aquaticus*, Bechst.
 1 GREAT TITMOUSE. *Parus major*, Linn.
 23 WREN. *Troglodytes parvulus*, K. L. Koch.
 2 TREE-CREEPER. *Certhia familiaris*, Linn.

34	PIED WAGTAIL.	<i>Motacilla lugubris</i> , Temm.
32	WHITE WAGTAIL.	<i>Motacilla alba</i> , Linn.
4	GREY WAGTAIL.	<i>Motacilla melanope</i> , Pallas.
16	BLUE-HEADED WAGTAIL.	<i>Motacilla flava</i> , Linn.
3	BLACK-HEADED YELLOW WAGTAIL.	<i>Motacilla viridis</i> , Gmelin.
12	YELLOW WAGTAIL.	<i>Motacilla raii</i> (Bonaparte).
33	TREE-PIBIT.	<i>Anthus trivialis</i> (Linn.).
49	MEADOW-PIBIT.	<i>Anthus pratensis</i> (Linn.).
	RED-THROATED PIBIT.	<i>Anthus cervinus</i> (Pallas).
2	TAWNY PIBIT.	<i>Anthus campestris</i> (Linn.).
	RICHARD'S PIBIT.	<i>Anthus richardi</i> , Vieillot.
	WATER-PIBIT.	<i>Anthus spipoletta</i> (Linn.).
2	ROCK-PIBIT.	<i>Anthus obscurus</i> (Latham).
	GOLDEN ORIOLE.	<i>Oriolus galbula</i> , Linn.
	GREAT GREY SHRIKE.	<i>Lanius excubitor</i> , Linn.
1	LESSER GREY SHRIKE.	<i>Lanius minor</i> , J. F. Gmelin.
	ISABELLINE SHRIKE.	<i>Lanius isabellinus</i> , Ehrenb.
25	RED-BACKED SHRIKE.	<i>Lanius collurio</i> , Linn.
5	WOODCHAT.	<i>Lanius pomeranus</i> , Sparman.
12	SPOTTED FLYCATCHER.	<i>Muscicapa grisola</i> , Linn.
1	PIED FLYCATCHER.	<i>Muscicapa atricapilla</i> , Linn.
2	SWALLOW.	<i>Hirundo rustica</i> , Linn.
	MARTIN.	<i>Chelidon urbica</i> (Linn.).
14	GREENFINCH.	<i>Ligurinus chloris</i> (Linn.).
	HAWFINCH.	<i>Coccothraustes vulgaris</i> , Pallas.
	GOLDFINCH.	<i>Carduelis elegans</i> , Stephens.
1	SERIN.	<i>Serinus hortulanus</i> , K. L. Koch.
3	HOUSE-SPARROW.	<i>Passer domesticus</i> (Linn.).
2	TREE-SPARROW.	<i>Passer montanus</i> (Linn.).
11	CHAFFINCH.	<i>Fringilla cœlebs</i> , Linn.
1	BRAMBLING.	<i>Fringilla montifringilla</i> , Linn.
	SNOWFINCH.	<i>Montifringilla nivalis</i> (Linn.).
15	LINNET.	<i>Acanthis cannabina</i> (Linn.).
	MEALY REDPOLE.	<i>Acanthis linaria</i> (Linn.).
	LESSER REDPOLE.	<i>Acanthis rufescens</i> (Vieillot).
7	TWITE.	<i>Acanthis flavirostris</i> (Linn.).
3	BULLFINCH.	<i>Pyrrhula europæa</i> , Vieillot.
	NORTHERN BULLFINCH.	<i>Pyrrhula major</i> , Brehm.
1	BLACK-HEADED BUNTING.	<i>Euspiza melanocephala</i> , Scopoli.
2	CORN-BUNTING.	<i>Emberiza miliaria</i> , Linn.

23	YELLOW BUNTING.	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i> , Linn.
1	MEADOW-BUNTING.	<i>Emberiza cia</i> , Linn.
2	CIRL BUNTING.	<i>Emberiza cirrus</i> , Linn.
	YELLOW-BREADED BUNTING.	<i>Emberiza aureola</i> , Pallas.
2	ORTOLAN.	<i>Emberiza hortulana</i> , Linn.
16	REED-BUNTING.	<i>Emberiza schænielus</i> , Linn.
	LAPLAND BUNTING.	<i>Calcarius lapponicus</i> (Linn.).
	STARLING.	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i> , Linn.
	JAY.	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i> (Linn.).
	MAGPIE.	<i>Pica rustica</i> (Scopoli).
	JACKDAW.	<i>Corvus monedula</i> , Linn.
7	SKY-LARK.	<i>Alauda arvensis</i> , Linn.
2	WOOD-LARK.	<i>Alauda arborea</i> , Linn.
2	CRESTED LARK.	<i>Alauda cristata</i> , Linn.
	SHORT-TOED LARK.	<i>Alauda brachydactyla</i> , Leisler.
	WHITE-WINGED LARK.	<i>Alauda sibirica</i> , J. F. Gmelin.
	DESERT-LARK.	<i>Amnomanes deserti</i> (Licht.).
	GREEN WOODPECKER.	<i>Gecinus viridis</i> (Linn.).
	RING-DOVE.	<i>Columba palumbus</i> , Linn.
	STOCK-DOVE.	<i>Columba œnas</i> , Linn.
	TURTLE-DOVE.	<i>Turtur communis</i> , Selby.
	LITTLE GREBE.	<i>Podiceps fluviatilis</i> (Tunstall).

The next Meeting of the Club will take place on Wednesday, the 15th of April, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street: the dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER, R. BOWDLER SHARPE, HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Chairman. *Editor.* *Sec. & Treas.*

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XXXV.

THE thirty-fourth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 15th of April, 1896.

Chairman: PHILIP CROWLEY.

Members present:—E. BIDWELL, W. CHAMBERLAIN, STEPHENSON R. CLARKE, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, E. HARTERT, Major A. P. LOYD, J. G. MILLAIS, R. NESHAM, HEATLEY NOBLE, H. J. PEARSON, T. DIGBY PIGOTT, C.B., HON. WALTER ROTHSCHILD, HON. N. CHARLES ROTHSCHILD, HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), H. M. WALLIS, JOHNSON WILKINSON, C. A. WRIGHT, JOHN YOUNG.

Visitors: BOYD ALEXANDER, A. CHOLMONDELEY, BERTRAM DANFORD, R.E., N. H. JOY, C. M. DIGBY PIGOTT, H. STEVENS.

Mr. HOWARD SAUNDERS exhibited a specimen of *Oceanodroma cryptoleucura* from the collection of Mr. Boyd Alexander. The bird in question was picked up dead on the beach at Littlestone, in Kent, on the 5th of December, 1895, and was seen in the flesh by Mr. Alexander. This was the first instance of the occurrence of the species in Great Britain.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE exhibited a specimen of the Icterine Warbler (*Hypolais icterina*), obtained near Wells, in Norfolk, by Mr. N. H. JOY.

[April 29th, 1896.]

Mr. WALTER CHAMBERLAIN exhibited photographs of some interesting birds which he had living in confinement, one of them being an Australian Crane, which had walked with a wooden leg for the past few years. He also showed some interesting examples of radiography taken by himself.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD exhibited specimens of his new species, *Astrapia splendidissima*, and of the three known species of *Amblyornis*.

Mr. E. BIDWELL exhibited, by the kind permission of Mr. Henry Stevens, an egg of the Great Auk (*Alca impennis*). This egg was purchased on the 23rd of May, 1841, from F. Schultz, of Dresden, by Hugh Reid, of Doncaster, who sold it in the same year to the late Mr. James Hack Tuke, of Hitchin, in whose collection it had remained up to the present time.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT pointed out the differences between the Masked Grosbeak of Japan (*Eophona personata*) and the form found in Amur-land, and exhibited specimens of both races. He proposed to call the Siberian form

EOPHONA PERSONATA MAGNIROSTRIS, subsp. n.

Similis *E. personatæ*, ex insulis Japonicis, sed rostro multò majore (maris culm. 29 mm. nec 22), scapularibus uropygioque grisescentioribus distinguenda.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE made some remarks on recent papers by Dr. J. A. Allen and Mr. Frank M. Chapman on the changes of colour in the plumage of birds without moult. Dr. Allen especially disagreed with the conclusions put forward by the late Edward Blyth and other English and German naturalists. As regarded the points in which Dr. Allen differed from the conclusions of Dr. Sharpe, the latter reaffirmed his conviction on the subject, and could not endorse Dr. Allen's views.

A discussion followed, in which the Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD, Mr. HOWARD SAUNDERS, Mr. JOHN YOUNG, Mr.

HARTERT, and others took part, but, owing to the lateness of the hour, the debate was adjourned until the next meeting of the Club on May 20th, when Mr. OGILVIE GRANT, Mr. J. G. MILLAIS, Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE, the Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD, and other ornithologists, have promised to bring specimens to illustrate their opinions on the subject.

Mr. PHILIP CROWLEY moved a resolution of sympathy with Count Salvadori, an universally esteemed member of the B.O.C., in the long and painful illness from which he was suffering.

The next Meeting of the Club will take place at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, May 20th : the dinner at 7 P.M.

Members who intend to *dine* are requested to give the usual notice to Mr. E. BIDWELL, 1 Trig Lane, Upper Thames Street, E.C., who has kindly undertaken some of the duties of the Treasurer during his absence in Spain.—H. S.

(Signed)

PHILIP CROWLEY, R. BOWDLER SHARPE, HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Chairman. Editor. Sec. & Treas.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XXXVI.

THE thirty-fifth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 20th of May, 1896.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—E. BIDWELL, PHILIP CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, J. H. GURNEY, ERNST HARTERT, J. G. MILLAIS, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, F. PENROSE, A. B. R. TREVOR-BATTYE, C. A. WRIGHT.

A paper, illustrated by specimens, was read from Dr. E. A. S. ELLIOT, describing the seasonal changes of plumage in the Long-tailed Duck (*Harelda glacialis*). Dr. Elliot remarked as follows :—

“The seasonal change in this Duck is particularly interesting, in that the species differs from most of the *Anatida* in having a complete summer plumage.

“This change is due to a complete moult of the pattern on the head, neck, and dorsal region in the male, and to a thorough moult in the female, excepting the white feathers of the belly and the wings. This moult takes place before the birds move northwards, and it is a change which we may suppose to bring it more in harmony with the surroundings

[*May 30th*, 1896.]

of its summer home. We notice, too, that this change is not confined to the male, but is also shared by the female, which becomes distinctly darker as the spring progresses.

“From February to the end of May, by which time the change of plumage is completed, the bird is in moult, the long sickle-shaped white scapulars being some of the last feathers to fall.

“This may be very well traced in the specimens exhibited, which have been obtained in the early months of the year. A typical deep-sea Duck, revelling in the green seas of the North Atlantic, and seldom approaching shore except in the breeding-season, it appears to follow that this change takes place simply to afford some protection from its traditional enemy, for of all the family this Duck nests in the most accessible places, near rivers and in swamps, on the ground, whereas others of the same family, *e. g.* the Golden-eye and the Harlequin, seek more secure nesting-sites. The Long-tailed Duck would undoubtedly, if not thus protected by a garb assimilating to the surroundings, be the prey of each and every animal in the Arctic region.

“It cannot be said that the change from the strikingly beautiful winter plumage to that of the more sombre garb of summer is one assumed with a view to attract the other sex, and the fact that it is only the upper part of the body that is moulted—the black feathers of the breast and white ones of the belly being retained as in winter—is further presumptive evidence that the change is one effected with the design of concealment. Moreover, in the Orkneys the birds are observed to have paired by April, whilst they are yet in winter plumage.

“The down which the female uses for lining her nest appears as a distinctly new growth on the breast and belly ; it is very thick, and darker in colour than eider-down. The male supplies no down.

“This Duck certainly feeds on fish as well as on molluscs ; for the stomachs of all those examined, without exception, contained fish-scales.

“The eyes pass from straw-colour in the winter dress

to dark hazel in summer. I have not noticed any with a red iris."

The discussion on Mr. J. A. ALLEN's recent paper on the changes of plumage in birds was resumed, and Mr. J. G. MILLAIS exhibited a series of *Harelda glacialis* showing the whole of the changes of the male from its winter plumage to the full breeding-dress. He also exhibited specimens of the Sanderling, the Slavonian Grebe, and the Ptarmigan, showing that in the two last-named species the change in plumage was effected by an absolute alteration in the pattern of the feather, and not by a moult.

Mr. W. R. OGILVIE GRANT supplemented the remarks of Mr. Millais by exhibiting a series of flank-feathers taken from female Red Grouse between the months of October and May, showing the alteration of the pattern month by month.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT also exhibited a series of Birds of Paradise, *Lophorhina*, *Diphyllodes*, &c., which showed a gradual change of pattern in the feather, without a moult.

A paper on the subject will be published later on in 'The Ibis,' in which Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE (who was unfortunately absent from the meeting through illness) will combat Mr. Allen's views on the subject of moulting. The verdict of the majority of the Members present at the meeting was that a change of pattern in the feathers of certain birds was absolutely certain.

Mr. E. W. DE WINTON gave some further notes on the changes of plumage undergone by the Wading-Birds in the Zoological Gardens; and the CHAIRMAN specially instanced the Spotted Redshank, which had recently gained its full summer plumage.

Mr. TREVOR-BATTYE described the nest and eggs of *Cygnus bewicki*, the nest being composed entirely of moss.

He also gave some details of the proposed exploration of Spitzbergen, in which he was about to take part.

Dr. R. BOWDLER SHARPE sent a description of two apparently new species of birds :—

CHIONARCHUS CROZETTENSIS.

C. similis C. minori, sed staturâ minore, pedibus (in exuvie) saturatè rubris, et rostri chlamyde minimè elevatâ vel tuberculatâ distinguendus. Long. tot. 14·0 poll., alæ 7·8, tarsi 1·75.

Hab. in Insulis Crozettensibus maris Atlantici.

GARRULUS OATESI, sp. n.

G. similis G. sinensi, sed facie laterali gulâque albis, et dorso cinerascete distinguendus. Long. tot. 13 poll., alæ 6·85.

Hab. in montibus Burmanicis “Chin” dictis.

The next Meeting of the Club will take place at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, June 17th : the dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,
Chairman.

R. BOWDLER SHARPE,
Editor.

E. BIDWELL,
Act. Sec. & Treas.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XXXVII.

THE thirty-sixth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 17th of June, 1896.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present:—E. BIDWELL, Col. BINGHAM, W. E. DE WINTON, J. GERRARD, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, ERNST HARTERT, R. NESHAM, HEATLEY NOBLE, R. LLOYD PATTERSON, C. E. PEARSON, H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, Hon. N. C. ROTHSCHILD, Hon. W. ROTHSCHILD, HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), Rev. H. H. SLATER, LIONEL A. WILLIAMS.

Visitors: Rev. J. E. KELSALL, H. M. PHIPSON.

Mr. H. J. PEARSON exhibited some eggs of *Larus argentatus* from Northern Norway, suffused and blotched with salmon-pink or reddish buff, and also some of a pale blue colour. Specimens of the former character had previously been ascribed to the Great Black-backed Gull and to the Glaucous Gull, but the authenticity of the present examples was beyond question. Discussion followed on the cause, and allusion was made to reddish eggs of the Raven and other birds.

[June 26th, 1896.]

Mr. E. BIDWELL exhibited abnormal eggs of *Vanellus cristatus* and other species.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD exhibited a handsome Pigeon from the island of Sumba, or Sandalwood, which he described as follows:—

PTILOPUS DOHERTYI, sp. nov.

Male adult. Head, sides of head, and throat white; occiput and nape bright magenta-purple: the nape-feathers rather long. Neck and breast very light peach-blossom-pink, feathers with basal half pure white. Mantle—including upper wing-coverts—dark olive, washed with green in some lights and with dark bluish purple in others. Wing dark slate-grey, outer webs strongly glossed with bright metallic purple. Rump and lower back greyish olive-green. Tail and longest upper tail-coverts bright reddish purple (dahlia-purple, Ridgway, pl. viii. fig. 2). Colour of abdomen separated from that of the breast by a yellowish-white semi-circular band; abdomen plum-purple. Flanks, vent, and thighs greenish grey, the last bordered with yellow; tarsi pale grey. Under tail-coverts primrose-yellow, with centres and most of inner webs greyish green. Tail below brownish ash colour. Beak blackish, anterior third pale orange; toes purplish pink. Wing 6·9 inches, tail 5·3, bill 0·7.

Hab. Sumba.

Coll. W. Doherty, Feb. 1896.

Mr. ROTHSCHILD further exhibited a fine series of Humming-birds, obtained in Peru and California by Mr. O. T. Baron, and mounted by him from the flesh. Amongst them were several examples of the remarkable racket-tailed *Loddigesia mirabilis* from Chachapoyas, once so rare in collections; also *Thaumastura coræ*, *Oreotrochilus stolzmanni*, and *Aylæactis aliciae*.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT stated that the Tring Museum had received some interesting collections made by Mr. Everett

in the islands of Djampea and Kalao, between Celebes and Flores. A full account of these, with descriptions of some new species and subspecies, would appear in the forthcoming number of the 'Novitates Zoologicae'; meanwhile, as examples of the collections, specimens were exhibited of the rare *Oriolus boneratensis*, Meyer, and *Trichoglossus forsteni*.

Mr. HARTERT also exhibited a new *Pachycephala* and a new *Pitta* collected by the well-known entomologist William Doherty on the island of Sumba, or Sandalwood. These he characterized as follows:—

PACHYCEPHALA FULVIVENTRIS, sp. nov.

Pachycephala speciei *P. fulvotincta* dictæ affinis, sed maris pectore abdomineque toto saturate aurantio-ochraceis, alis longioribus. ♀ simillima feminæ speciei *P. fulvotincta* dictæ, alis longioribus, gutture albidiore, abdomine flavicantiore distinguenda. Al. ♂ 86·6, ♀ 84 mm., culm. 26, caud. 66·5.

Hab. Sumba.

PITTA MARIA, sp. nov.

Rather close to *Pitta irena*, Müll., but somewhat darker brown below, the black of the throat reaching lower down, the red colour in the middle of the abdomen evidently not mixed with black on its upper part, and the wing, instead of having a large white speculum on the outer six or seven primaries, is only ornamented with a small concealed spot of white on the fifth quill. Culm. 23 mm., wing 109, tars. 35·6.

Hab. Mountains of Sumba. Named in honour of Miss Maria de Korte.

Mr. HOWARD SAUNDERS gave a short account of a visit made by Col. H. W. Feilden and himself to the Pyrenees, chiefly the Eastern districts. Continuously unfavourable weather and heavy falls of soft snow hampered their movements, but they managed to obtain some interesting facts regarding distribution of birds. Inasmuch as Catalonia, the chief

province visited, is the most prosperous and highly cultivated portion of Spain, birds of prey and other conspicuous species could hardly be expected there, while the lagoons and swamps on the Gulf of Rosas, which make so brave a show on the map, are either drained and cultivated, or are peaty pools and mere bog-holes. Investigation indicated that the asserted existence of *Tetrao tetrix*, even in the *Eastern* Pyrenees, is an error; that *Bonasa betulina* is seldom, if ever, found to the eastward of Luchon, and chiefly to the westward of Gabas; while *Tetrao urogallus* is more abundant in the spruce-fir woods than is generally supposed. There is no evidence that *Gyps fulvus* nests anywhere within the French frontier. A line of migration of some importance appears to pass from Catalonia, over the Col de Puymorens (6300 feet), to the valley of the Ariège, in France; and Turtle-doves, Willow-Warblers, &c. were found above snow covered with footprints of the Ptarmigan.

This was the last Meeting of the Session.

The next Meeting of the Club will probably take place at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, October 21st: the dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,
Chairman.

HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Sec., Treas., & Acting Editor.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

EDITED BY

R. BOWDLER SHARPE, LL.D.

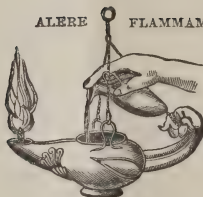
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R. H. PORTER, 7 PRINCES STREET, CAVENDISH SQUARE.

SEPTEMBER 1897.

ALERE FLAMMAM.



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PREFACE.



As will be seen from the list supplied by our Secretary and Treasurer, the number of Members of the B. O. U. who recognize the practical utility of the B. O. C. is increasing, and the rota has now reached the number of 118. The communications made to our monthly gatherings show no signs of diminution in interest or importance.

(Signed)

R. BOWDLER SHARPE,

Editor.

September 20th, 1897.

ERRATUM.

Page xliii, line 10, for *Heterhyphantes stephanophorus* read *Sycobrotus insignis*.

R U L E S
OF THE
BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.
(As amended 20th June, 1894.)

I. This Club was founded for the purpose of facilitating the social intercourse of Members of the British Ornithologists' Union. Any Member of that Union can become a Member of this Club on payment (to the Treasurer) of an entrance fee of *Five Shillings* and a subscription of *Five Shillings* for the current Session. Resignation of the Union involves resignation of the Club.

II. Members who have not paid their subscriptions before the last Meeting of the Session shall cease, *ipso facto*, to be Members of the Club, but may be reinstated on payment of arrears, *and* a new entrance fee.

III. No Member of the B. O. U. can attend the Meetings of the Club as a Visitor, unless his usual residence is outside the United Kingdom. Every Member of the Club introducing a visitor shall pay *One Shilling* to the Treasurer*.

IV. The Club shall meet, as a rule, on the Third Wednesday in every Month, from October to June inclusive, at such hour and place as may be arranged by the Committee. At these Meetings papers upon ornithological subjects shall be read, specimens exhibited, and discussion invited.

* The latter portion of this Rule is at present (1897) in abeyance, owing to the prosperous condition of the finances.

V. An Abstract of the Proceedings of the B. O. C. shall be printed as soon as possible after each Meeting, under the title of the 'Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club,' and distributed gratis to every Member *who has paid his subscription*. Copies of this Bulletin shall be published and sold at *One Shilling* each.

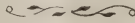
VI. The affairs of this Club shall be managed by a Committee, to consist of the Editors of 'The Ibis,' the Editor of the 'Bulletin,' and the Secretary and Treasurer, *ex officio*, with three other Members, one of whom shall be changed every year. The Committee shall have power to make and alter the Bye-laws.

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[Members are requested to keep the Secretary informed of
 any changes in their addresses.]

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BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XXXVIII.

THE thirty-seventh Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 21st of October, 1896.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present:—BOYD ALEXANDER, E. BIDWELL, J. L. BONHOTE, PHILIP CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, Dr. F. D. DREWITT, E. A. S. ELLIOT, JOHN GERRARD, W. GRAHAM, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, G. H. CATON HAIGH, J. E. HARTING, OSWIN A. J. LEE, Major A. P. LOYD, P. H. MUNN, R. NESHAM, C. E. PEARSON, H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, T. DIGBY PIGOTT, C.B., HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), W. B. TEGETMEIER, Major HORACE TERRY, N. F. TICEHURST, H. M. WALLIS, JOHNSON WILKINSON, LIONEL P. WILLIAMS, C. A. WRIGHT.

Visitors:—H. TABOR BROOKS, Dr. CROSSE, J. EARDLEY HILL, R. H. HUNTER, Dr. TRAQUAIR.

The Treasurer announced that the Members of the Club were now 117 in number.

Mr. FRANK PENROSE was elected on the Committee, in

[October 31st, 1896.]

place of Mr. P. Crowley, who retired by rotation. Mr. P. L. SCLATER was unanimously elected Chairman, and Messrs. P. CROWLEY and W. GRAHAM were appointed Vice-Chairmen for the present Session.

The Chairman gave his annual Address to the Club, and made the following remarks :—

“ On commencing the proceedings of the Fifth Session of the British Ornithologists’ Club, I cannot refrain from offering a few preliminary remarks on the flourishing condition of our Association. It has increased in number regularly year by year, and now embraces, with very few exceptions, the most active and energetic Members of the British Ornithologists’ Union. I think that the founders of the Club may be well congratulated upon the undoubted success which, in the face of some sinister prophecies, has attended their efforts.

“ Passing on to other topics, I must first call your attention to the very serious losses that have occurred in the ranks of Ornithology since I had the honour of addressing you a year ago. The deaths of Lord Lilford and Mr. Seebohm have made vacancies which it will be hard indeed to fill up. I need not on the present occasion attempt to speak of the events of their lives, which have been treated of elsewhere ; but I will remind you that both of them worked up to almost the last moments of their existence, and left behind them publications unfinished at the times of their decease. Lord Lilford’s excellent ‘ Coloured Illustrations of the Birds of the British Islands ’ was nearly at its termination when the death of the author took place. We are pleased to know that some well-qualified friends have arranged to do the little that is necessary to render these beautiful volumes complete. As regards Mr. Seebohm’s work on British Birds’ Eggs, which was announced to be in preparation some time ago, we are glad to learn that Dr. Bowdler Sharpe has completed it for publication, and this, we are told, has not been a difficult task. The same, however, is not likely to be the case with Seebohm’s ‘ Monograph of the Thrushes,’ which the energetic

Editor of our 'Bulletin' is likewise prepared to see through the press. Although the plates of this work, as we understand, have mostly been already drawn and coloured under Seeböhm's superintendence, I fear that in this case, as regards the letterpress, the Editor will have a long and by no means easy task to perform.

"Passing on to other ornithological publications which have been issued since the commencement of our last Session, I may point out that three additional volumes of the British Museum Catalogue of Birds, which, when I spoke to you last year, I alluded to as being nearly ready, have all been published, and that volume xxvi. (to contain the Herons, Pelicans, Grebes, Divers, and Penguins) is now only required to complete this most important work. Captain Shelley's first volume of his work on African ornithology has also been published. Other important ornithological works lately brought out are the new edition of Mr. Ridgway's 'Manual of North-American Birds' and Dr. Mivart's beautifully illustrated 'Monograph of the Lories.'

"As regards ornithological books in course of preparation or in contemplation (besides the posthumous works of which I have already spoken), I am pleased to say that the Index to the 4th, 5th, and 6th series of 'The Ibis' (1877-94) is making good progress, the first portion of it being already in type. Mr. Beddard has been hard at work on his 'Anatomy of Birds' all the year, and hopes to have it ready for the press in 1897. Mr. Joseph Whitaker is projecting a volume on the Birds of Tunis, in which he will put together the results recently achieved by himself and other collectors in that interesting district of North Africa.

"Perhaps the most remarkable event in ornithology that has lately been divulged to us is the characterization of the gigantic bird of the *Diprotodon*-beds of South Australia, which, as announced in the last number of 'The Ibis,' Dr. Stirling has named *Genyornis newtoni*. We are not yet in possession of a full account of this extinct monster, but have only been told that it is, in fact, a gigantic Emu, just as the *Diprotodon* of the same epoch is an exaggerated

Kangaroo. As regards extinct birds, we may also rejoice that (as already announced in 'The Ibis') the Trustees of the British Museum have acquired for this country the whole collection of remains of the so-called Order Stereornithes got together by Dr. Ameghino, of Buenos Aires. The study of these fossils, which has been assigned to Mr. Andrews, of the Geological Department of the British Museum, will, we have no doubt, throw a flood of light upon the real relations of this series of remains of a former bird-world, which has been recently revealed to us.

"Now, and lately, as is usual, a large number of British ornithologists are scattered over the earth's surface, some temporarily, others as quasi-permanent residents. As shown by Mr. Ogilvie Grant in the last number of 'The Ibis,' Mr. Whitehead is continuing his most successful investigations in the highlands of the Philippine group, while Mr. A. Everett has been making similar researches in the mountains of Celebes, and Messrs. Rickett and De La Touche are always busy in China. Mr. Alexander Whyte (Sir Harry Johnston's naturalist at Zomba) has lately carried out a most successful foray into the Nyika plateau of Northern Nyasaland, and we may shortly expect his collections in this country, while Mr. Lort Phillips is planning another winter-expedition into the northern parts of tropical Africa. As regards the New World, our young friend Mr. Graham Kerr (the former naturalist of the abortive Pilcomayo Expedition) has departed on a scientific mission into Western Paraguay, where there is an ample field for discovery. Mr. Fitzgerald's new expedition to ascend Aconcagua and other giants of the Andes will be accompanied by Mr. Philip Gosse, who is said to be a competent collector. In the Australian region Mr. North at Sydney, Mr. Le Souef at Melbourne, and Mr. De Vis in Queensland are ever at work on ornithology; while in New Zealand Sir Walter Buller promises us a new and complete manual of the birds of that island-group, bringing up the subject to the present date, and in the Sandwich Islands Mr. Perkins is still hard at work among the mountains. Thus it may be truly said

of the British ornithologist, as of the British engineer, that his proud motto is 'Ubique.'"

Mr. OSBERT SALVIN communicated the following description of an apparently new species of American Partridge:—

DENDRORTYX HYPOSPODIUS, sp. n.

D. leucophryi similis, sed corpore subtus minime rufo guttatus, pectoris et hypochondriarum plumis saturate griseis, stria rhachali nigra; fronte, superciliis et gutture sordide albidis; scapularibus et secundariis extus fere unicoloribus indistincte vermiculatis, maculis majoribus cervinis nullis; pedibus, ut videtur, obscurioribus, tarsis postice fere nigricantibus. Long. tota circa 12·0 poll., alæ 5·9, caudæ 5·0, tarsi 2·0, dig. med. cum ungue 2·05.

Hab. Azalias de Cartago, Costa Rica, 8th May, 1896 (C. F. Underwood).

Mr. Underwood has recently sent to us a single male specimen of this *Dendrortyx*, which differs in several points from *D. leucophrys* of Guatemala, its nearest ally. The species has been before noticed in Costa Rica, and appears in Mr. Boucard's list (P. Z. S. 1878, p. 42) as *D. leucophrys*. His specimen was also obtained in the volcano of Cartago, in the month of May.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent the following description of a new Parrot from New Guinea:—

PSITTACELLA PICTA, sp. n.

♂. Top of the head chestnut-rufous; sides of the head greyish brown; an orange-yellow collar on the hind neck; sides of neck with a chestnut-rufous spot. Above green; lower rump and upper tail-coverts deep red; back and rump with black cross-bars; wings blackish, outer webs of quills green, the primaries with yellow edges towards the tip; throat brown, with a bluish wash; under tail-coverts red; rest of underparts green; upper breast dark blue, a blue tinge along the middle of the abdomen; under wing-coverts green, bend of wing bluish. Bill bluish, tip whitish. Wing 112 mm., tail 70, culmen 15.

♀. Throat and sides of the head greenish blue, no orange-yellow collar; cross-bars above more numerous; breast yellowish, with broad black cross-bands; abdomen with indistinct yellowish and dusky cross-bars. Otherwise like the male.

Hab. Mount Victoria, in the Owen Stanley Range, British New Guinea, at elevations of from 5000 to 7000 feet.

Types in the Tring Museum.

Professor MENZBIER forwarded the description of an apparently new species of Tawny Owl from Transcaucasia, with the following remarks:—

“In the summer of 1894 a friend of mine, Mr. Willkousky, in Batum, received a nestling of an Owl in down, captured in the marsh near that town. Some time after, the Owl assumed its adult dress, which was remarkable for its very dark brown general colour, with some ferruginous marks on the scapulars; and now, after new moulting, the bird is as dark as before, and even darker, always with a white bill. At first I thought that this specimen was but a merely individual melanism of *Syrnium aluco*; but in the spring of this year I received from Mr. Willkousky a skin of another specimen coloured in the same manner as the first, which had been obtained in a vineyard in the district of Shushov. After a careful examination of this specimen, I am now convinced that this Owl is a very good new species, differing from *Syrnium aluco* both in its general colour and character of markings, as may be seen from the following diagnosis. I have named the species after Mr. Willkousky:—

“*SYRNIUM WILLKOUSKII*, sp. n.

“*S. magnitudine S. aluconis*, remigibus, ut in *S. alucone*, denticulatis. Obscure fuscum, facie pedibusque fusco-atris, supra indistincte nigro striatum; subtus magis ferruginescens, striis dilutis longitudinalibus fusco-atris. Remigibus rectricibusque rufescenti-fuscis, haud transfasciatis. Collari albo vel cinereo nullo loco præsentis. Rostro albido, iridibus fusco-atris. Long. 12'' 3''', caud. 7'' 5'''.

“*Hab.* Transcaucasia.”

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE exhibited skins of two new species of East-African birds, for which he proposed the following names :—

SERINUS FAGANI, sp. n.

S. similis S. angolensi, sed mento gulaque purè albis, minimè nigro maculatis: torque gutturali e maculis magnis nigris formata distinguenda. Long. tot. 4·2 poll., alæ 2·55, caudæ 1·35, tarsi 9·5.

CISTICOLA HINDII, sp. n.

C. similis C. terrestri, et caudâ eodem modo picturatâ, sed uropygio dorso concolori, minimè rufescente, distinguenda. Long. tot. 3·8 poll., culm. 0·4, alæ 2·1, caudæ 1·2, tarsi 0·85.

These new species were discovered at Machakos Station, in British East Africa, by Dr. S. L. Hinde. The other species in his collection were *Lamprocolius sycobius*, *Spreo superbus*, *Buphaga erythrorhyncha*, *Vidua principalis*, *Penthetria laticauda*, *P. eques*, *Drepanoplectes jacksoni*, *Pyromelana flammiceps*, *P. xanthomelæna*, *Lagonosticta brunneiceps*, *Hyphantornis spekii*, *Miraфра africana*, *Pyrrhulauda leucoparæa*, *Anthus rufulus*, *Macronyx croceus*, *Nectarinia kiliensis*, *Cinnyris gutturalis*, *Lanius collurio*, *L. caudatus*, *L. humeralis*, *Phylloscopus trochilus*, *Cisticola erythrogenys*, *C. lugubris*, *Centropus superciliosus*, *Coracias garrula*, *Irisor erythrorhynchus*, *Elanus cæruleus*, *Limnocorax niger*, *Oxyechus tricollaris*.

“The station of Machakos,” writes Dr. Hinde, “is situated on the edge of a grass plain which stretches for some miles coastwards. The plain is dotted with thorn-trees about 100 to 300 yards apart, and these small thorns are the only trees in the neighbourhood. The nearest forest is at Kikuyu, about 45 miles away. On the east side of the station is a valley about 500 yards wide through which runs a stream about 2 feet wide and 3 inches deep. The whole valley and patches of the plain are cultivated. On the east side of the stream the mountains rise abruptly, some points being over 2000 feet above the station, which is itself 5300 feet above the sea-level.”

Dr. SHARPE exhibited, on behalf of Mr. Ruskin Butterfield, the specimen of the Wall-Creeper (*Tichodroma muraria*) described by Mr. Butterfield, in the 'Zoologist' for August 1896, as having been shot near Winchelsea.

Mr. W. R. OGILVIE GRANT exhibited a fine series of skins of birds collected by Mr. John Whitehead in the Philippines, among them being examples of the two new species of Thrushes described in the current number of 'The Ibis,' and of the new *Turnix whiteheadi*, described by him in the second volume of his 'Handbook to the Game-Birds.'

Mr. G. H. CATON HAIGH exhibited a specimen of *Phylloscopus viridanus* shot by himself on the 5th of September at North Cotes, Lincolnshire. This Asiatic species was new to Great Britain, but had occurred three times on Heligoland.

Mr. L. BONHOTE exhibited a series of skins of the Common Linnet (*Fringilla cannabina*), showing the gradual change of colour on the breast-feathers of the male. He also described the nesting of the Corn-Crake (*Crex pratensis*) in captivity, and remarked that both captive and wild birds of this species moulted the whole of their quills directly after the young were hatched, and that both male and female were then incapable of flight.

Mr. Bonhote also exhibited a remarkably large skin of a Nightingale, shot in August in Cambridgeshire, which measured 7 inches in length and had a wing of 4.5 inches.

Mr. SCLATER read some extracts from letters received from Mr. J. Graham Kerr (B.O.U.), who had recently left England for Western Paraguay. They contained many notes on the birds observed during his voyage up the La Plata and Paraguay Rivers to Asuncion, where he had arrived on Sept. 13th. As regards the alleged occurrence of a second species of Cormorant on these rivers (Aplin, Ibis, 1894, p. 152), he was inclined to refer all the numerous specimens he had hitherto

seen to *Phalacrocorax brasilianus*. On Sept. 12th he observed immense numbers of alligators along the banks, and several flocks of *Chauna cristata*, amongst one of which were some individuals of *Cathartes atratus*. Near the mouth of the Paraguay was passed an enormous flock of the Maguari Stork (*Euxenura maguari*), with 4 or 5 Jabirus (*Mycteria americana*) amongst them. Other birds noted on the Paraguay were *Ceryle amazona*, *C. torquata*, *C. americana*, *Pyrocephalus rubineus*, *Furnarius rufus*, *Aramides ypecaha*, *Ardea cocoi*, *A. egretta*, *Cairina moschata*, and *Dendrocycna fulva*. Mr. Kerr was expecting to leave Asuncion for Concepcion, on the Upper Paraguay, on the 23rd September.

Mr. SCLATER exhibited a pair of the Great Nuthatch (*Sitta magna*) from the Shan States, Burmah, collected by Major Rippon. The species was only previously known from a female example described by Major R. G. Wardlaw Ramsay in 1876.

Mr. W. B. TEGETMEIER exhibited some snail-shells (*Helix nemoralis*), forty-eight of which had been taken from the crop of a Pheasant.

Mr. OSWIN A. J. LEE exhibited a series of photographs of nests and eggs of British birds, as well as coloured photographs of eggs of some Raptores and Alcidae. These pictures were very much admired by the members present, and a cordial vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Lee for their exhibition.

The next Meeting of the Club will take place on Wednesday, the 18th of November, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Chairman.	Editor.	Sec. & Treas.

BULLETIN
OF THE
BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XXXIX.

THE thirty-eighth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 18th of November, 1896.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—O. V. APLIN, E. BIDWELL, F. C. CRAWFORD, P. CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, Dr. F. D. DREWITT, Col. PAGET W. L'ESTRANGE, R.A., A. H. MACPHERSON, Rev. H. A. MACPHERSON, J. G. MILLAIS, R. NESHAM, C. E. PEARSON, H. J. PEARSON, FRANK PENROSE, E. LORT PHILLIPS, H. LEYBORNE POPHAM, R. H. READ, HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), E. CAVENDISH TAYLOR, N. F. TICEHURST, A. B. R. TREVOR-BATTYE, H. M. WALLIS, WATKIN WATKINS, JOHNSON WILKINSON, LIONEL A. WILLIAMS, JOHN YOUNG.

Visitors : J. HOWARD DAVIES, Dr. C. I. FORSYTH MAJOR, H. STEVENS, S. YARDLEY, C.M.G., J. J. BALDWIN YOUNG.

Mr. ROBERT READ exhibited and made remarks on some interesting nests of birds from Sweden, a nest of the Honey-Buzzard being among the specimens exhibited.

[December 5th, 1896.]

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE stated that Professor Smit, the Director of the Stockholm Museum, had kindly forwarded to England, for his inspection, the type specimen of *Plangus næogæus* of Sundevall (Œfv. K. Vet.-Akad. Forh. Stockholm, 1874, p. 28). Since the species had been described and made the type of a distinct genus, no one had attempted to determine its identity, and it was interesting to find that *Plangus næogæus* was in reality the young of *Harpyhaliaëtus coronatus*.

Dr. Sharpe also exhibited a specimen of the Pied Wagtail (*Motacilla lugubris*), shot near Wandsworth on the 18th of October by Mr. Henry Grant. The changes through which the bird was passing were clearly, according to Dr. Sharpe, those of pattern in the feather rather than those of moult.

Mr. SCLATER exhibited a chick of the Black-winged Peafowl (*Pavo nigripennis*) which had been bred in Mr. Blaauw's garden in Holland, and remarked that he still strongly maintained the validity of this species, which in the 22nd volume of the 'Catalogue of Birds' had been classed only as a "well-marked variety," and was confident that its native habitat would be ultimately discovered. Not only was the male of this species different from that of *P. cristatus*, but the females were quite different, and so was the young, as shown by the specimen now exhibited.

Mr. Sclater read the following notes from Mr. Blaauw on this subject :—

"In answer to your questions about the breeding of *Pavo nigripennis*, I can state that I have bred these birds for the last six years, having had between 10 and 20 young birds every year. These birds have *never* shown any signs of variation.

"The chicks when they leave the egg are always of a silky yellowish-white colour all over. The flight-feathers, when they begin to appear, are always yellowish white at the end and brownish at the base, especially so on the inner web. The tail-feathers also are dark at the base, with whitish tips.

The birds then gradually get the well-known light plumage of the *Pavo nigripennis* hen. If the young bird is a male, the plumage soon becomes mottled with dark feathers, and in autumn many greenish and bluish feathers are visible. In the second autumn the male comes into full colour, except the long train, which comes a year later.

“As I four times lost my old breeding-cock, I had to replace it as many times and got birds from different places, and the offspring from these cocks never showed any variation either as chicks or as adult birds. If *Pavo nigripennis* is not a species it certainly is a wonderfully constant variety.

“I may add that the bill and legs of chicks are of a pale flesh-colour.”

MR. SCLATER called attention to the “Act to amend the Wild Birds’ Protection Act, 1896,” passed during the last Session of Parliament, whereby the Secretary of State was enabled, on application, for special reasons, to make an order prohibiting the taking or killing of particular kinds of wild birds during the whole year. Mr. Sclater suggested that advantage should be taken of this power to render penal throughout the year the destruction of such birds as the Hoopoe and the Golden Oriole, which might be reasonably expected to breed in some of the southern counties of England if they were not molested.

MR. SCLATER gave a short account of his 48-hours’ visit to Spitsbergen in the Orient s.s. ‘Garonne’ in August last, and mentioned, as some of the more interesting birds he had noticed there, the Snow-Bunting, the Purple Sandpiper, the Ivory Gull, and Buffon’s Skua. An example of the Spitsbergen Ptarmigan (*Lagopus hemileucurus*) had been shot by one of the party while they were in Ice Fiord, but the bird was stated to be rare there.

The Rev. A. H. MACPHERSON exhibited two interesting hybrids of *Lagopus scoticus* and *Lyrurus tetrrix*.

Colonel L'ESTRANGE drew attention to some of the points relating to the law as it affected bird-catching.

The next Meeting of the Club will take place on Wednesday, the 16th of December, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER, R. BOWDLER SHARPE, HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Chairman. *Editor.* *Sec. & Treas.*

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XL.

THE thirty-ninth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 16th of December, 1896.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—BOYD ALEXANDER, G. E. H. BARRETT-HAMILTON, E. BIDWELL, J. L. BONHOTE, P. CROWLEY, Dr. F. D. DREWITT, H. J. ELWES, J. GERRARD, W. GRAHAM, W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT, Col. P. W. L'ESTRANGE, E. G. B. MEADE-WALDO, R. NESHAM, C. E. PEARSON, H. J. PEARSON, FRANK PENROSE, H. SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), Rev. H. H. SLATER, E. C. TAYLOR, Major HORACE TERRY, N. F. TICEHURST, W. F. URWICK, L. A. WILLIAMS, C. A. WRIGHT, JOHN YOUNG.

Visitors : W. P. CRAKE, F. CURTIS, Hon. ALFRED HOOD, F. E. MUGFORD, F. TURNER.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent the description of a new Bird of Paradise :—

LOBOPARADISEA, gen. n.

The type of this new genus differs from all others in having two wattles, which entirely cover the basal half of

[December 30th, 1896.]

the beak, except a narrow ridge on the culmen. Size small; bill very broad at base, and short; feathers of underparts and rump decomposed and with a strong satiny gloss. No lengthened ornamental plumes. Tip of tail rounded.

LOBOPARADISEA SERICEA, sp. n.

Head brown; hind neck and back rufous-chestnut, with a slight olive tinge; rump bright yellow, with a beautiful silky sheen. Wings and upper wing-coverts ruddy chestnut; primaries broadly tipped with black and having the shafts brick-red; tail and upper tail-coverts reddish chestnut. Underside bright yellow and most beautifully silky. Thighs olive-brown. Under wing-coverts and underside of primaries brownish cinnamon. Bill with two large wattles reaching halfway down from the base, dull blue with yellow tips. Wing 91 millim., tail 58, bill 21.

Bought from natives at Koeroedoe, Dutch New Guinea.

Mr. W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT exhibited specimens of several interesting birds from the island of Samar, amongst which the following appeared to be new to science:—

PITHECOPHAGA, gen. n.

Probably most closely allied to *Harpyhaliaëtus*, of South America.

Bill very deep and much compressed; the ridge of the culmen much curved, forming a perfect segment of a circle; nasal opening a vertical slit at the margin of the cere; lores and fore part of the face and cheeks covered with bristles only; a full occipital crest of long lanceolate feathers; legs and feet very powerful. Tarsi mostly naked, with a row of large scutes down the front; sides and back reticulate, hexagonal scales on the planta very large, and terminating in three large scutes above the base of the hallux; soles of the feet covered with rough papillæ; claws very strong and curved. Wings comparatively short and rounded, the primaries being very little longer than the secondaries, the first primary-quill much the shortest, and the fifth probably

the longest (tip broken). Tail very long, composed of twelve feathers and slightly wedge-shaped, the middle pair being about an inch longer than the outer pair.

1. PITHECOPHAGA JEFFERYI, sp. n.

Top of the head pale whitish buff with dark middles to the feathers, which are rather narrow and pointed, especially those on the occiput, which form a long full crest. General colour above rich brown, most of the feathers with paler margins, especially the quill-feathers and wing-coverts; tail-feathers dark brown, the two median pairs with wide dark bands; shafts of quills and tail-feathers creamy white; underparts uniform creamy white, the thighs and long flank-feathers with reddish-brown shaft-stripes.

Total length about 33·0 inches; bill, greatest depth measured from base of cere to ridge of culmen 1·5, from base of cere to tip 1·5; wing 20·5; tail 15·0; tarsus 4·65; middle toe without claw 2·7, claw (measured in a straight line from base to tip) 1·45; hind toe without claw 1·8, claw 2·0.

“ Iris dull creamy brown, with an outer ring of brownish red, the two colours melting into one another and not sharply defined; face and base of bill dull french blue, tip of bill black; legs and feet dull yellow; claws black.”
(*J. Whitehead.*)

2. RHABDORNIS MINOR, sp. n.

Adult male. Differs from the male of *R. mystacalis* in having the general colour of the upper parts *reddish brown*, almost like those of the female, instead of dark greyish brown, and the bill much shorter. “ Iris reddish brown; bill black; feet dusky ” (*J. Whitehead.*)

Total length 5·5 inches, culmen 0·82, wing 3·1, tail 1 6, tarsus 0·72.

Adult female. Similar to the female of *R. mystacalis*, but smaller and with the culmen much shorter. From the male of *R. minor* it is only distinguished by the ear-coverts being brown instead of black.

3. RHABDORNIS INORNATUS, sp. n.

Adult male. Easily distinguished from *R. mystacalis* and *R. minor* by having the bill altogether stouter and stronger, the top of the head and nape uniform dull greyish brown; mantle brown, with whitish shafts only to the feathers; the lesser and median wing-coverts with well-marked white shaft-stripes; chin, throat, and fore neck greyish white; the margins of the sides and flank-feathers much narrower and browner. "Iris dark brown; bill and feet black" (*J. Whitehead*).

Total length 6·2 inches, culmen 0·74, wing 3·2, tail 2·0, tarsus 0·8.

4. ZOSTERORNIS PYGMÆUS, sp. n.

Adult male and female. General colour above brownish olive, brownest on the crown, each feather of which has a narrow whitish shaft-stripe; lores whitish; feathers above and below the eye blackish with white shafts; chin whitish; throat, fore neck, and chest grey, with white middles to the feathers, most marked on the throat; breast and belly white, shading into greyish on the sides, flanks, and under tail-coverts. "Iris bicoloured, outer ring red, inner pale yellow; bill slate-blue, black at tip; feet slate-grey" (*J. Whitehead*).

Total length 4·0 inches, culmen 0·5, wing 2·1, tail 1·55, tarsus 0·65.

This is much the smallest of the five species of *Zosterornis* now known.

Mr. F. PENROSE called the attention of the Club to some letters which had recently appeared in the 'Field.'

On November 28, 1896, the following paragraph occurred amongst the "Notes and Queries on Natural History":—
 "Swallows wintering in England.—A pair of Swallows remained the whole of the last mild winter at the farm of Mr. T. Whipp, Elton Wold, East Yorkshire, making an old large barn their headquarters. They could be seen out every fine day. The birds remained till joined by their friends from the south in the spring. On inquiry, I find none have been seen for some time this season.—G. C. SWAILES (Beverley)."

And the following paragraph in the next week's issue, December 5th :—

“Two Swallows hibernated last winter in a cowhouse at Healey Vicarage, near Masham, and the birds were frequently handled by members of the vicar's family. This is the only instance of such an occurrence that I have heard of in this locality.—JAMES CARTER (Masham, Yorks).”

Mr. Penrose thought that these two statements, and particularly the second, were of very great interest, so he wrote to the Rev. T. Powell, Vicar of Healey, to ask him for further particulars, and received the following reply :—

“I have pleasure in giving you the facts with regard to the hibernating of the two Swallows here last winter (1895-6). They were members of a very late brood of four hatched in a nest under the slates inside our cowhouse. I may here mention that a pair of Swallows nest every year in the same place. The two Swallows in question were seen flying about by members of my family long after the other Swallows had disappeared. They finally lodged above the lintel of the cowhouse door, squeezing themselves into a small hole in the stonework, and thus escaping the draught. When I saw them the tail was the only part of their bodies that was at all conspicuous. My eldest son, then 16 years old, had them both in his hands at the beginning of last Christmas holidays, soon after his return from Bradford Grammar School. They were in a drowsy condition, and did not attempt to fly when he gave them the chance. On very fine days, as he informs me, he saw them flying about for about two hours in the middle of the day from 11 to 1 o'clock.

“One of the Swallows died some time in spring, the other left its winter-quarters shortly before the return of the Swallows (in April) and was a conspicuous object among its fellows during spring and early summer through having lost one of the forks of its tail. It mated with another Swallow, and they attempted to nest in the pigsty, which joins the cowhouse, but this came to nothing—the lowness of the roof of the pigsty most likely causing them to desist from

the attempt. It is hardly necessary to add that last winter hereabouts, in common with the rest of England, was very mild."

Mr. CHARLES E. PEARSON exhibited an interesting clutch of the eggs of the Common Whitethroat (*Sylvia cinerea*), which showed a remarkable pink tinge. These eggs had been obtained by Mr. F. B. Whitlock near Nottingham.

Mr. SCLATER read some extracts from a letter received from Mr. Graham Kerr, dated Villa Concepcion, Paraguay, Oct. 17th, 1896 (*cf.* Bull. B. O. C. above, p. viii). Mr. Kerr had arrived there from Asuncion about three weeks before, and was then about to leave for a Missionary station in the Gran Chaco, where *Lepidosirens* (the primary object of the expedition) were said to be abundant. A small steamer would convey him and his companion (Mr. Budgett) 12 leagues up the Paraguay to Carayá Vuelta, whence they would strike across the Chaco (some six days' journey) westward to their destination. Of birds, Mr. Kerr had observed in the neighbourhood of Concepcion (all quite common) *Geothlypis velata*, *Tachycineta leucorrhoa*, *Tanagra sayaca*, *Paroaria capitata*, *Coryphospingus cristatus*, *Amblycercus solitarius*, *Cassicus albirostris*, *Aphobus chopi*, *Cyanocorax chrysops*, and *C. cæruleus* among the Oscines. Of the Tracheophonæ the most ordinary forms were *Tænioptera nengeta*, *T. irupero*, *Fluvicola albiventris*, *Pitangus bolivianus*, *Pyrocephalus rubineus*, *Myiarchus ferox*, *Milvulus tyrannus*, *Furnarius rufus*, *Phacellodomus striaticollis*, *Xiphocolaptes major*, *Picolaptes angustirostris*, and *Thamnophilus radiatus*. The commonest Picarians were *Colaptes agricola*, three species of *Ceryle*, *Crotophaga ani*, *C. major*, *Diplopterus navius*, and *Ramphastos toco*. The ordinary Parrots were *Chrysotis æstiva* and *Bolborhynchus monachus*. *Polyborus tharus* and *Cathartes atratus* were plentiful, and also five species of Herons. Amongst the Water-birds Mr. Kerr had noted *Phimosus infuscatus*, *Ajaja rosea*, *Chauna cristata*, and four species of Ducks, besides some well-known Rails, Plovers, and other Waders.

A diving-bird, apparently *Plotus anhinga*, was very common all along the river. The heavy rains during the stay of the party at Concepcion had filled up all the swamps on the Chaco, which had previously experienced a prolonged drought of several months.

Mr. SCLATER exhibited a skin of a chick in down, a few days old, of the Crested Screamer, *Chauna cristata*, which had been presented to him by Mr. A. Holland, of the Estancia Sta. Elena, Argentine Republic, and remarked upon its great general similarity to the young of the Anatidæ. Mr. Holland had noted the bill as dark brown, tip yellowish, iris black, and feet flesh-colour.

The next Meeting of the Club will take place on Wednesday, the 20th of January, 1897, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XLI.

THE fortieth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 20th of January, 1897.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—G. E. H. BARRETT-HAMILTON, E. BIDWELL, Lieut.-Col. C. T. BINGHAM, F. E. BLAAUW, J. L. BONHOTE, P. CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, Dr. F. D. DREWITT, H. O. FORBES, E. HARTERT, Sir HERBERT MAXWELL, Bart., R. NESHAM, H. J. PEARSON, H. SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), R. B. SHARPE (*Editor*), W. B. TEGETMEIER, N. F. TICEHURST, A. B. R. TREVOR-BATTYE, WATKIN WATKINS, H. M. WALLIS, C. A. WRIGHT, J. YOUNG.

Visitors : Sir ANDREW N. AGNEW, Bart., J. ALLAN, J. CYRIL CROWLEY, C. B. GEDGE, PERCY JAQUES, Col. H. MURRAY.

Mr. W. R. OGILVIE GRANT described a new Francolin, discovered by Mr. F. J. Jackson in the Kikuyu district, British East Africa, as follows :—

FRANCOLINUS KIKUYUENSIS, n. sp.

Most nearly allied to *F. levillanti*, but the middle of the throat suffused with chestnut; the feathers of the superciliary stripes and the stripes from the gape along the sides of the throat pale rufous, with narrow black edgings, very different from the boldly-marked black and white

[January 31st, 1897.]

stripes in *F. levaillanti*. The patch of black and white feathers so conspicuous on the fore neck and upper part of the chest in *F. levaillanti* are represented by a much smaller patch with the ground-colour rufous white. The breast and underparts are buff, barred with black, especially on the sides and flanks, the chestnut markings so conspicuous in *F. levaillanti* being at most merely represented by one or two scattered red spots on the outside flank-feathers.

Total length about 12 inches, culmen 1·45, wing 6·8, tail 3·1, tarsus 2·0.

A letter was read from Professor MENZBIER, correcting some errors which had appeared in the account of the new *Syrnium* described by him at the Meeting of the Club on October 21, 1896 (see Bull. B. O. C. vi. p. vi). The name of the species should have been printed *Syrnium willkonskii*, and the sentence "collari albo vel cinereo, etc." should read "colare albo vel, etc."

Mr. HOWARD SAUNDERS exhibited, on behalf of Mr. J. T. Proud, of Bishop Auckland, a specimen of the Roseate Tern (*Sterna dougalli*) and two clutches of the eggs, obtained by the latter gentleman on the coast of Wales last year.

A paper was read from Dr. SHUFELDT on the attitudes of Loons and Grebes when on land. This paper was intended for publication in 'The Ibis.'

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent for exhibition by Mr. Hartert the type of *Loboparadisea sericea*, which had been described at the last meeting of the B. O. Club, and which would be figured in the 'Novitates Zoologicæ'; also an adult and a young male of the remarkable *Nemophilus macgregoriae* (De Vis), and a series of skins of *Loria loriae*, respecting which he sent the following note:—

"Dr. Bowdler Sharpe, in Part VI. of his 'Monograph of the Paradiseidæ,' still leaves the identity of *Loria mariae* (De Vis) and *Loria loriae*, Salvad., an open question. Since he had my series for comparison, I have had two more males,

one from Mount Victoria, Owen Stanley Range, and one from the Arfak Region. The Mount Victoria bird shows the naked line very large and distinctly, and also that the apparent presence or absence of this character is entirely due to preparation. Thus I think no one can any longer doubt the identity of De Vis and Salvadori's species, which must stand under the name of *Loria lorix*, Salvadori."

Mr. ERNST HARTERT exhibited specimens of *Nucifraga brachyrhyncha* and *N. macrorhyncha* of C. L. Brehm. The latter was the typical form resident in Europe. The former—*i. e.* the slender-billed form—inhabited Siberia and was an irregular migrant to Europe.

Mr. HARTERT also exhibited and drew attention to *Certhia familiaris*, L., and *C. brachydactyla*, C. L. Brehm, the former being paler above, purer white below, and having a shorter bill. *C. brachydactyla* was darker and browner above, not so pure white below, and had generally a much longer beak. The former was the usual form in East Prussia, where Mr. Hartert had collected many specimens which were all true *C. familiaris*, while on the Lower Rhine, near Wesel, where the bird was very common, over 40 specimens, shot at different times of the year, were all typical *C. brachydactyla*. Also all the birds examined from Holland and Northern Westphalia were *C. brachydactyla*. But not everywhere were they so definitely separated. Even in East Prussia, *C. brachydactyla* had been found recently; and in Hesse, in Saxony, and in Silesia both occurred close to each other. At Schloss Berlepsch the true *C. familiaris* was found on the hills, but *C. brachydactyla* occurred in the valley, on the willows and poplars along the river. Mr. Kleinschmidt thought the former was an inhabitant of pine-forests, the latter more a bird of leafy woods, such as oak and beech, and of parks and gardens. This explanation was probably right, but in some places the forms did not seem to be so well separated as they were in Prussia and Holland, for example. However, as the note of the two birds was certainly different (as already

proved by Brehm, Homeyer, Kleinschmidt, and others), and as the eggs of *C. brachydactyla* were mostly, though not always, more thickly blotched, they would at present better stand as species than as subspecies, until it might turn out that they intergrade completely in certain places. The British bird was *C. brachydactyla* in a slightly differentiated form, and *C. familiaris* did not seem to occur in England at all.

Mr. SCLATER read an extract from a letter received from Mr. Graham Kerr, dated Waikthlatimungyalwa, in the Chaco Boreal of Paraguay (lat. 23° 30' S. approx.), in which he stated that his time had been fully occupied since he had arrived there (from Concepcion) with researches upon *Lepidosiren*, which was very abundant. He had, however, observed many birds, amongst which were *Turdus rufiventris*, *Polioptila dumicola*, *Tanagra sayaca*, *Saltator cærulescens*, *S. aurantiirostris*, *Molothrus badius*, *Agelaius ruficapillus*, *A. cyanopus*, *Tænioptera nengeta*, *T. irupero*, *Machetornis rixosa*, *Hapalocercus flaviventris*, *Leuconerpes candidus*, *Colaptes agricola*, *Picus cactorum*, *Rhamphastos toco*, *Conurus acuticaudatus*, *C. nanday*, *Pyrrhura vittata*, *Urubitinga zonura*, *Cathartes atratus*, *Ortalis canicollis*, and *Cariama cristata*, besides many others, and numerous Herons and Ducks. After the pressing work of collecting specimens of the *Lepidosiren* was over, he proposed to make some bird-skins, but, on the whole, the avifauna here appeared to be poorer than on the Pilcómayo.

Mr. SCLATER exhibited a specimen of a new Paradise-bird sent to be figured in 'The Ibis' by Mr. De Vis, and proposed to be named *Macgregoria pulchra*. It had large eye-wattles like *Paradigalla carunculata*, but quite different in shape, and the front was not naked, but covered with erect bristles. This species had been discovered by Sir William Macgregor on Mount Scratchley during his recent expedition across British New Guinea at an altitude of from 10,000 to 12,000 feet.

Mr. SCLATER exhibited a drawing, by Mrs. Frederick White, of Georgetown, British Guiana, representing the nest

and egg of the Demeraran Cock-of-the-Rock, *Rupicola crocea*, of natural size, being one of the specimens obtained by Mr. C. A. Lloyd on the Pizara River (see 'The Ibis,' 1896, p. 429, quoted from 'Timehri'). Mr. Sclater observed that the egg of *Rupicola peruviana* had been described and figured by Goudot (Mag. de Zool. 1843, Ois. pl. 37) and by Salmon (P. Z. S. 1879, p. 519), but that he was not acquainted with any previous information as to the nesting of *R. crocea*, except that of Schomburgk ('Reise,' ii. p. 432).

As regards the drawing, Mr. Quelch remarked:—"It is of the exact natural size in every respect. The fibres and twigs of which the nest is composed are clearly shown, together with the outer gum-like lining, which serves to bind the edges of the nest together and to attach it to the rocks. The blotches on the egg are also very carefully represented."

Mr. SCLATER also exhibited a coloured drawing representing the nest of a Guianan Swift (*Panyptila cayennensis*) of the natural size, drawn by Mrs. George Garnett, of Georgetown, and forwarded to him by Mr. Quelch. He called attention to its resemblance to the nest of *P. sancti-hieronymi*, Salvin, figured in the P. Z. S. for 1863, p. 191, and read the following notes upon it, extracted from Mr. Quelch's letter:—

"This nest is also of the exact natural size and shape. They are built attached on the top to a beam, pendent vertically, the aperture being at the bottom.

"The material used in two nests observed was the fine silky fibres from the dried fruit or seed of one of the silk-cotton-trees (*Eriodendron*, sp. inc.), the nest being very soft and warm. The eggs are placed in a little cup-like shelf on one side, at the very top, where the birds would almost touch the few fibres against the beam. There were two young ones in the nest when taken, and one escaped, being strong enough to fly.

"The cross section of the nest is not round, but oval, and the eggs lie on a shelf in one of the sharp curves. One curious thing in connection with one of the nests was that there were

no silk-cotton-trees from which the silky hairs or fibres could be obtained for a distance of some miles from its position. The nest was taken from under a house in Leguan (an island in the estuary of the Essequibo) by Mr. H. Straker, sub-immigration agent."

Mr. W. EAGLE CLARKE sent an account of the occurrence of the Frigate-Petrel (*Pelagodroma marina*) on the west side of Scotland. The bird, a female, was captured alive on 1st January of this year, by the margin of a stream on the west side of the island of Colonsay. Having been forwarded in the flesh to Edinburgh and identified by Mr. Clarke, it is now in the Scottish National collection, in the Museum of Science and Art in that city. The closing week of December last had been remarkable for a succession of south-westerly gales. This was the second recorded occurrence of this Petrel in European seas; and it was interesting to note that the first record was also for the west coast of Britain, namely, at Walney Island, in Morecambe Bay, where a specimen was washed ashore dead in November 1890.

Mr. W. B. TEGETMEIER exhibited a hybrid between the Pheasant and Black Grouse and a curious spangled variety of the Common Partridge.

The Club passed resolutions of sympathy with the family of Herr Gaetke on the death of that eminent ornithologist, and with Mr. J. A. Harvie-Brown on the loss of the ornithological collections at Dunipace by fire.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on the 17th of February, 1897, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER, R. BOWDLER SHARPE, HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Chairman. Editor. Sec. & Treas.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XLII.

THE forty-first Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 17th of February, 1897.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—E. BIDWELL, F. C. CRAWFORD, PHILIP CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, DR. F. D. DREWITT, W. GRAHAM, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, G. E. B. MEADE-WALDO, R. NESHAM, HEATLEY NOBLE, T. PARKIN, F. PENROSE, HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), A. B. R. TREVOR-BATTYE, H. M. WALLIS, LIONEL A. WILLIAMS, JOHN YOUNG.

Visitors : REGINALD BARRATT, R. A. CROWLEY, RUSSELL JAQUES, M. E. SIMON (Paris).

Mr. H. M. WALLIS exhibited a sketch, accompanied by notes from his diary, of a bird believed by him to be a Diver, which he had observed sitting in an upright position. In the discussion which ensued, the opinion of the ornithologists present was, that the Divers never assumed an erect attitude. Mr. Sclater said that, in the experience of Mr. A. D. Bartlett, none of the many Divers which had lived in the Zoological Gardens had ever attempted to stand upright. This was confirmed by Mr. Meade-Waldo, who had also kept several Divers in captivity.

[February 27th, 1897.]

MR. T. PARKIN exhibited an egg which had been dredged by a trawler in Rye Bay, Sussex (*cf.* 'Field,' May 26th, June 2nd and 9th, 1894), and supposed to be that of the Velvet Scoter, because birds of that species had recently frequented those waters. Mr. Parkin stated that, after a comparison of this egg with those of *Æ. fusca* in the Natural History Museum, it was evident that it did not belong to this species.

MR. OSBERT SALVIN sent the following descriptions of two new species of Humming-Birds, specimens of which had been obtained by Mr. O. T. Baron during his recent expedition to Peru :—

DIPHLOGÆNA EVA, sp. n.

D. hespero proxima, sed supra rufescentiore viridi, nucha et cervice postica nitente saturate rubris nec intense nigris, abdomine parte postica latiore rufa et cum tectricibus subcaudalibus pallidiore; rostro quoque longiore differt.

Hab. Succha, E. Peru, January to March 1894 (*O. T. Baron*).

In my paper on Mr. Baron's birds (Nov. Zool. ii. p. 15), I referred several specimens of a *Diphlogæna* from Succha, with doubt, to the Ecuadorean *D. hesperus*, Gould. None of them were quite adult. Mr. Baron's recent collection contains additional specimens, and amongst them one fully-adult bird which has the characteristic lilac thoracic spot.

The dark shining red colour of the nape and back of the neck in the new bird is in strong contrast to the deep black of these parts in *D. hesperus*, and, with the other minor points mentioned above, proves *D. eva* to be a distinct species.

The true *D. iris* occurs further to the eastward in Peru, and Mr. Baron obtained specimens of it at Leimebamba.

ERIOCNEMIS CATHARINA, sp. n.

Nitenti-viridis, cervice postica, dorso antico et tectricibus alarum aureo lavatis, dorso postico et tectricibus supra-caudalibus nitide cæruleo-viridibus, his lætioribus, fronte cæruleo tincta: subtus micanti-viridis, gutture toto aureo lavato, abdomine medio cæruleo tincto, subcauda-

libus nitide purpureo-cyaneis; cauda omnino viridinigra; rostro nigro. Long. tota circa 4·5, alæ 2·75, caudæ rectr. med. 1·3, rectr. lat. 1·75.

♀ mari similis, gutturis plumis ad basin albis plaga terminali magna viridi.

Hab. Leimebamba, E. Peru, July 1894 (*O. T. Baron*).

Obs. *E. luciani* similis, sed uropygio et abdomine medio cyanescentioribus, cauda multo minus furcata facile distinguenda.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT stated that the names of the two *Nucifragæ* had been reversed in the note published in the last number of the 'Bulletin,' and that to avoid further misunderstanding he wished his full statement to be inserted verbatim :—

"Long ago C. L. Brehm had separated the *Nucifraga caryocatactes* of Linnæus into two forms, which he called *N. brachyrhynchus* and *N. macrorhynchus*, his *N. brachyrhynchus*, however, being the typical *N. caryocatactes* of Linnæus. British ornithologists generally, almost with the sole exception of Seebohm, who had acknowledged the two forms, had never believed in them. Prof. Newton, for example (*Dict. B.* p. 647), had declared that, 'as in the case of the *Huia*, this was now supposed to depend on the sex,' a statement which was certainly not right. Dr. Sharpe (*Brit. B. i.* p. 17) had said he had 'never been able to appreciate the supposed differences.' Mr. Hartert had frequently met with the thick-billed form in North-east Prussia, where he found their nests and eggs, and had collected a large series and they were *all* thick-billed. This was *N. caryocatactes*, L. The same was the case with birds from Scandinavia, the Alps, and the Hungarian mountains. All these birds were resident throughout the year and *did not wander*, while the thin-billed form, *N. macrorhynchus*, C. L. Brehm, which alone inhabited Siberia, frequently wandered in a south-westerly direction, and sometimes occurred all over Germany in great numbers. The differences of the beaks alone were sufficient to separate the two forms, but there were some other differences between them."

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent the following description of a new *Rhamphocelus*, which he proposed to call

RHAMPHOCELUS INEXPECTATUS, sp. nov.

Chin, sides of neck, head, hind neck, interscapulium, wings, with upper and under coverts, tail, centre of abdomen, and thighs black; rest of plumage bright yellow. This yellow is much darker than that of the rump in *Rh. icteronotus*, Bp., but not orange as in *Rh. chrysopterus*, Bouc. On the occiput are a number of scattered feathers bordered with yellow; this may or may not be the remains of immature plumage. Total length 155 mm., wing 82, tail 70, culmen 16, tarsus 20.

Hab. Panama.

Mr. SCLATER made some remarks on the specimens of bones of *Genyornis newtoni* exhibited to the Zoological Society by Prof. Stirling at their last meeting.

Mr. A. TREVOR-BATTYE made some remarks on the Bernacle Goose (*Branta leucopsis*), Brünnich's Guillemot (*Uria bruennichi*), and other species of birds observed by him in Spitsbergen.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on the 17th of March, 1897, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER, R. BOWDLER SHARPE, HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Chairman. *Editor.* *Sec. & Treas.*

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XLIII.

THE forty-second Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 17th of March, 1897.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—E. BIDWELL, F. C. CRAWFORD, P. CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, A. H. EVANS, JOHN GERARD, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, J. G. MILLAIS, P. W. MUNN, E. NEALE, R. NESHAM, HEATLEY NOBLE, C. E. PEARSON, H. J. PEARSON, H. L. POPHAM, H. SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), W. B. TEGETMEIER, N. F. TICEHURST, A. B. R. TREVOR-BATTYE, H. M. WALLIS, WATKIN WATKINS.

Visitors : C. E. FAGAN, E. F. FENWICK, H. WARRAND, RONALD WEBBER, JOHN WHITEHEAD.

The Treasurer informed the meeting of the death of an esteemed member of the Club, Mr. William Graham. It was unanimously voted that a letter of condolence should be sent to Mr. Graham's family.

Mr. H. L. POPHAM exhibited some interesting birds and eggs from the Yenesei River, including those of *Bernicla ruficollis*, *Limosa lapponica*, *Phalaropus fulicarius*, *Emberiza*

[March 31st, 1897.]

pusilla, *Turdus fuscatus*, *Geocichla sibirica* (probably), and *Stercorarius pomatorhinus*, the eggs of the last-named bird being almost the first authentic ones ever shown. Mr. Popham also showed the eggs of the Wood-Sandpiper laid in an old Fieldfare's nest, with a specimen of the bird shot therefrom.

Mr. J. G. MILLAIS exhibited a male *Phasianus colchicus* assuming female plumage, an extremely rare occurrence. He also showed a Wigeon (*Mareca penelope*) and some Common Redstarts (*Ruticilla phœnicura*) in which the same phenomenon was apparent.

Mr. JOHN WHITEHEAD, who was warmly welcomed by the Members on his return from his successful expedition to the Philippines, gave an account of his travels in Luzon.

Mr. WHITEHEAD also described a new Fruit-Pigeon from the highlands of Negros, as follows :—

PTILOCOLPA NIGRORUM, n. sp.

Similis *P. griseipectori* (Bp.), sed plagâ præpectoralis nigrâ, nec cinereâ, facillè distinguenda. Long. tot. 13·0 poll., alæ 8·3, caudæ 4·8, tarsi 0·85.

Hab. Negros, Philippine Archipelago.

The adult female was shown to be similar to the female of *P. griseipectus*. The soft parts were as follows :—“Base of bill coral-pink, tipped with dull white; iris pale straw-yellow; feet coral-pink.”

Mr. HUGH WARRAND exhibited a specimen of *Perdix montana*, shot by Mr. Peacock Edwardes in Nairnshire.

Mr. OGILVIE GRANT exhibited the female of the Luzon Hemipode (*Turnix whiteheadi*).

Mr. SCLATER explained two new technical terms, “Topomorph” and “Lipomorph,” which he had recently used in his papers on geographical distribution. He proposed to denominate natural groups that were restricted to limited districts—and therefore characteristic of them by their presence—as “Topomorphs,” and those natural groups that

on the contrary characterized districts by their absence as "Lipomorphs." Thus, in the class of Birds, *Struthio* and *Indicator* were topomorphs of the Ethiopian Region, and *Rhea* of the Neotropical Region. In the Australian Region the family of Woodpeckers (*Picidæ*) was a lipomorph, and *Menura* was a topomorph, &c.

Mr. SCLATER called attention to the issue of the first part of the division Aves (edited by Dr. Reichenow) of 'Das Tierreich.' It contained the *Podargidæ*, *Caprimulgidæ*, and *Macropterygidæ*, an excellent synopsis of which three families, together with an index, had been compressed by Mr. Hartert, the author of this section, into ninety-eight pages. Mr. Sclater lamented the use of the German language in this great undertaking, as it would render the book almost useless to many ornithologists in England and the United States. It would, in his opinion, have been much better to have employed Latin—the universal language of science, known to every properly educated person in the world—in a work of this cosmopolitan character.

The next Meeting of the Club will take place on Wednesday, the 21st of April, 1897, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

R. BOWDLER SHARPE,
Editor.

HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Sec. & Treas.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XLIV.

THE forty-third Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 21st of April, 1897.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present:—PHILIP CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, ERNST HARTERT, SIR HERBERT MAXWELL, Bart., M.P., DR. ST. GEORGE MIVART, F.R.S., H. J. PEARSON, FRANK PENROSE, HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), W. B. TEGETMEIER, W. F. URWICK, JOHN YOUNG.

Visitors: Admiral the Rt. Hon. Sir JOHN DALRYMPLE HAY, Bart., K.C.B., DR. CUTHBERT CHRISTY, F. E. MUGFORD.

Mr. OSBERT SALVIN, F.R.S., who had recently examined the collection of Tufted Owlets in the British Museum, communicated the following descriptions of species believed by him to be undescribed:—

SCOPS INGENS, n. sp.

Similis *S. brasiliano*, et eodem modo coloratus, sed ubique saturatior et valdè major. Long. tot. 10·5 poll., alæ 8·2.

Hab. Ecuador.

SCOPS SANCTÆ-CATARINÆ, n. sp.

Similis *S. guatemalæ*, gastræo absque colore flavo insignis, pectoris colore clarè definito, sed ab hac specie et a

[April 30th, 1897.]

S. brasiliense plumis auricularibus longis, harum pogonio interno pallido facilè distinguendus. Long. tot. 10·5 poll., alæ 7·8.

Hab. Southern Brazil.

SCOPS RORAIMÆ, n. sp.

S. similis S. guatemalæ, sed minor, et ab hac specie et a *S. brasiliense* maculis quadratis albis primariorum distinguendus. Long. tot. 8·0 poll., alæ 5·9.

Hab. Roraima, British Guiana.

Mr. SALVIN also wished to describe a new species of *Selasphorus* from Costa Rica as

SELASPHORUS UNDERWOODI, n. sp.

S. ardenti similis, reatricibus mediis ferè ad apicem utrinque rufo marginatis, areâ medianâ angustiore purpureo-nigricante et ad apicem viridi leviter lavatâ; rostro multo brevior. Long. tota circa 2·9 poll., alæ 1·45, caudæ 1·05, rostri a rictu 0·55.

Hab. Irazu, Costa Rica (*C. F. Underwood*).

Obs. Mr. Underwood has sent us a single male specimen of this *Selasphorus*, which he shot on the Volcano of Irazu on the 20th Nov., 1896. At first I thought it a fully adult specimen of *Selasphorus ardens*, but its short bill (0·55 instead of 0·65) and slightly differently coloured tail have convinced me that it is a local form of that bird which may well be separated. The colouring of the throat is slightly tarnished, that of the type of *S. ardens* being very bright, some of the feathers not being fully grown; they are, however, rather longer in the present bird, due, no doubt, to their being fully grown. The types of *S. ardens*, which, I believe, are still the only examples known, came from Castillo, in the State of Panama.

On behalf of Mr. G. H. CATON HAIGH, Mr. SAUNDERS exhibited a specimen of the Water-Pipit (*Anthus spipoletta*), shot near the mouth, and on the Carnarvonshire side, of the Glaslyn, North Wales, on the 5th of this month by Mr Haigh. This was the first recorded occurrence for the west side of Great Britain. Mr. Saunders called attention to the fact

that there was white at the tips of the *second* pair of tail-feathers (as well as on the first pair) at all ages in the Water-Pipit, but never so in *Anthus obscurus*, nor in the Scandinavian *A. rupestris*.

Mr. PHILIP CROWLEY exhibited an interesting albino specimen of a Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) which had been shot at Merstham, near Reigate, on the 28th of February last.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT exhibited an example of a new species of Humming-Bird, which he described as follows :—

PHAETHORNIS STUARTI, n. sp.

Top of the head brown, with more or less of a metallic green gloss. Hind-neck, interscapulum, back, and upper wing-coverts metallic green. Rump and upper tail-coverts rusty cinnamon. Rectrices dark purplish brown, with dark bronzy-green bases and white tips, the central pair about 10 millimetres longer than the next, and nearly all bronzy green with white tips. Wings deep purplish brown. Chin and upper throat buffy white or whitish buff. Rest of under surface tawny ochraceous, the under tail-coverts lighter, almost white. Breast with a bunch of broad and elongated feathers of a bronzy-brown colour, with paler edges and a sub-terminal darker line. Auriculars black. A whitish-buff superciliary line, beginning above the eye, but not before. Maxilla and tip of mandible black; mandible, except the tip, yellowish flesh-colour (in skin). Total length about 95 mm.; wing 41-42; tail—central rectrices 38-39, next pair 9-10 mm. shorter, lateral pair only about 15-17; bill 22-23.

Mr. Hartert made the following remarks :—

“This new species belongs to the section of the genus *Phaethornis* which most authors separate as *Pygmornis*. In the *Pygmornis* section it must be grouped with the species which have a dark pectoral zone (Section *b* in the ‘Key’ of *Pygmornis*, Salvin, Cat. B. xvi. p. 280). From the three forms in that section described in the ‘Catalogue of Birds’ it differs principally in having broad *white* tips to the rectrices, and in its *large size*. The tail beneath is darker

and more blackish, the under tail-coverts light, the chin and upper throat whitish. It differs from *P. riojæ*, Berlepsch, principally in having no black on the chin at all.

“Several examples of this new species were collected at Salinas, on the Beni River in Eastern Bolivia, by Mr. Arthur Maxwell Stuart, in whose honour it was named. The same gentleman found *Phaethornis pygmæus nigricinctus* (Lawr.) in the hills of San Augustin, in Eastern Bolivia, at about 3500 feet elevation.”

MR. ERNST HARTERT exhibited some of the new species of birds which were in the collection recently sent by Mr. Alfred Everett from Flores, viz.: *Pachycephala nudigula*, Hartert, a species remarkable for a large bare red spot on the throat; *Pnoepyga everetti*, Rothschild, which further extended the distribution of that genus; *Zosterops crassirostris* and *Z. superciliaris*, Hartert, two fine and very distinct forms of the large genus *Zosterops*; *Micræca oscillans*, Hartert, a new Flycatcher of, at present, somewhat doubtful affinities; *Brachypteryx floris*, *Orthnocichla everetti*, and *Cryptolopha montis floris*, subsp. nov., very closely allied to *C. montis*.

THE HON. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent for exhibition a specimen of *Æstrelata hæsitata* (Kuhl), a male, killed at Verona Beach, on Oneida Lake, N.Y., on August 28th, 1893, by the Rev. G. A. Biederman, of Utica, N.Y., who had presented it to Mr. Alex. H. Moore, by whom it had been mounted.

MR. ROTHSCHILD also sent a skin of *Paradisea intermedia*, De Vis. This form was intermediate between *Paradisea augustæ-victoriæ*, Cab., which it resembled on the upper surface, and *P. raggiana*, ScL., to which it was similar below. Specimens of the two latter species were shown for comparison.

MR. ROTHSCHILD further sent for exhibition skins of *Ruticilla erythrogastra*, Güld., from the Caucasus, and *R. grandis*, Gould, from Central Asia; species which had generally

(for example, by Dresser, Jerdon, Seebohm, and Oates) been confounded, but which proved to be distinct. Further notes on these species would be found in the forthcoming number of 'Novitates Zoologicæ.'

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE exhibited a skeleton of *Paramythia montium*, which had been forwarded to the British Museum by Mr. De Vis, of the Brisbane Museum. Sir Wm. Macgregor had procured two specimens of this species from Mount Scratchley, where it was not uncommon, and had sent them to Mr. De Vis in spirits.

Paramythia montium was described by Mr. De Vis in 1892, and was referred to the *Sturnidæ*, but the characters of the genus appeared to be so aberrant that in a notice of the genus published by Dr. Sclater in the 'Ibis' for 1893 (p. 243) the latter gentleman proposed that a separate family, *Paramythiidae*, should be established for it, "coming nearest to the *Ampelidæ* and some of the *Dicaeidae*." About the same time, and quite independently, Dr. Sharpe (Zool. Rec. xxix. Aves, p 50) had also relegated *Paramythia* to a distinct family near the *Eulabetidae*.

The wings were not perfect in the specimen examined by Dr. Sclater, who came to the conclusion that there were only nine primary-quills; but that this was a mistake has already been shown by Mr. Hartert (Nov. Zool. iii. p. 13), and in the wing now exhibited by Dr. Sharpe it was clearly perceptible that the first primary was present, though very minute, and attended by a smaller covert. Thus *Paramythia* was evidently a ten-primaried bird and had a Starling-like wing. An examination of the base of the skull showed that in the form of this portion of the cranium the palate was Starling-like and had a spinous process on the exterior edge of the palatines: indeed, the skull of *Paramythia* was extremely like that of *Calornis*.

Thus, although the genus *Paramythia* appeared to be an aberrant kind of Starling, with long slender legs and an unbroken lamina on the front aspect of the tarsus, yet the structure of the skull and the number of primaries seemed

to refer *Paramythia* to the neighbourhood of *Calornis*, which, however, had very big feet and a scutellated tarsus. In appearance there was much which made *Paramythia* resemble a Cuckoo-Shrike, and one genus of *Campophagide*, viz. *Campochera*, suggested a sort of relationship, as it had also the sheath of the tarsus entire; but, on the other hand, there were no spiny shafts to the feathers of the rump in *Paramythia*, so that the latter could never be called a Campophagine bird. The skull, too, of *Graucalus* was somewhat of a Laniine type, with the spinous process of the hinder part of the palatine bones developed on the inner posterior angle, though this process appeared to be very broad and blunt in *Graucalus*.

DR. SHARPE exhibited a specimen of Chernel's Wood-Lark (*Lullula cherneli*), which had been sent to him for examination by Mr. Georg von Almásy, who had written a paper on the form called *Alauda arborea cherneli* by Prazák, in 'Aquila' (vol. iii. p. 209). The characters of this supposed race of *Lullula arborea* were the paler coloration of the upper parts, with less admixture of rufous, the white eyebrow, chin, breast, and abdomen, the whiter edgings to the primaries, upper wing-coverts, bastard-wing, and the whiter spots on the tail-feathers. The bill was also said to be longer.

Specimens agreeing with the Hungarian example of *L. cherneli* sent by Mr. von Almásy were in the British Museum from the following localities:—Gozna, Taurus, Jan. 1 (*C. G. Danford*); Anascha, Taurus, March 18, April 7 (*C. G. D.*); Alamut, Anatolia, Feb. (*C. G. D.*); Seville, Spain, Feb. 20 (*H. Saunders*); Gibraltar, April 21 (*L. H. Irby*); Tangiers, June (*S. G. Reid*).

Dr. Sharpe drew attention to the fact that these pale-coloured specimens had nearly all been shot in spring and summer, when the plumage is rather bleached and worn, and that the colour of the specimens killed in other parts of Europe *in autumn and winter* was certainly darker, but that it was impossible to distinguish a male killed *in July* in Southern

Norway from the series of *L. cherneli*. Dr. Sharpe was driven to the conclusion that *L. cherneli* had been founded on specimens in bleached plumage from somewhat arid localities, and he believed that winter-killed individuals in freshly moulted plumage would resemble the ordinary *L. arborea*, while breeding specimens of the latter certainly were not to be distinguished from *L. cherneli*.

Dr. SHARPE exhibited some Weaver-Birds from British Central Africa, sent by Mr. F. J. Jackson from Mau. The female had been described as *Heterhyphantes stephanophorus* in 1891 by Dr. Sharpe, and now Mr. Jackson forwarded the male, which had a rufous head, and was apparently identical with *Symplectes croconotus* of Sjöstedt, from the Cameroons. Of the difference of the sexes in this Weaver-Bird Mr. Jackson said "there is not the slightest question," and he had sent two pairs procured at different places. The presence of a West-African form like *S. croconotus* was less astonishing than appeared at first sight, as Mr. Jackson's collection also contained a specimen of the West-African *Lanicterus quiscalinus*.

Mr. JOHN WHITEHEAD sent a description of a new Flycatcher from the island of Negros, Philippines:—

MUSCICAPULA NIGRORUM, n. sp.

♂ *adult*. Most nearly allied to *M. luzoniensis*, Grant. The general colour of the upper parts less grey, but dark slaty blue as in *M. hyperythra*. The chin is pure white, the rest of the underparts richer orange-buff; belly white.

♀ *adult*. General colour of the upper parts dull slate-grey, and not greyish olive-brown as in the female of *M. luzoniensis*; lores and feathers round the eye whiter; breast and underparts as in the male of *M. luzoniensis*.

Hab. Canloan Volcano, 6000 ft., Central Negros, Philippines.

Mr. TEGETMEIER exhibited a very large egg of a Goose with another perfect egg inside it.

[The TREASURER gave notice that he should be absent, in Norway, during May and June. His duties had been kindly undertaken by Mr. EDWARD BIDWELL, to whom all communications should be addressed, at 1 Trig Lane, Upper Thames Street, E.C.]

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on the 19th of May, 1897, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XLV.

THE forty-fourth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 19th of May, 1897.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Vice-Chairman : P. CROWLEY.

Members present :—E. BIDWELL, W. E. DE WINTON, Dr. F. DREWITT, E. HARTERT, G. E. LODGE, Sir HERBERT MAXWELL, Bart., M.P., R. NESHAM, E. W. OATES, F. PENROSE, E. LORT PHILLIPS, R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), E. CAVENDISH TAYLOR, W. B. TEGETMEIER, N. F. TICEHURST, H. M. UPCHER, H. M. WALLIS, W. WATKINS, L. P. WILLIAMS, C. A. WRIGHT.

Visitors : F. CURTIS, E. A. FITCH, A. J. FITCH, DONALDSON GUNN, ARTHUR HOLLAND, F. C. SELOUS, H. E. S. UPCHER.

Dr. F. PENROSE alluded to the loss which the Club had recently sustained by the death of its Member, C. BYGRAVE WHARTON.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent some skins of the common Yellow-plumed Bird of Paradise (*Paradisaea minor*, Shaw), of which he recognized three sub-species. The typical form inhabited Dutch New Guinea, and he possessed a good series from Arfak, Etna Bay, and Kapaur. It was a small bird, with the wing about 177–189 mm., the tail 130–136, the ornamental plumes from 400 to 460 mm.

[May 29th, 1897.]

The second form, from Jobi Island in Geelvink Bay, differed in its larger size and longer and fuller side-plumes; the wing measured 196–200 mm., the tail 145–150, the ornamental plumes 530–610 mm. in length. Mr. Rothschild proposed to call this form *P. minor jobiensis*, subsp. nov., and of this bird he had five skins, collected by Dr. Guillemard and others.

The third was the bird from German New Guinea. It was of the size of the typical form, from which it differed in being darker vinous-brown on the breast, while the chest-feathers were more crisp and produced a slight shield-like appearance. The yellow bar on the wing was also less distinct in this form. This was the *P. finschi* of A. B. Meyer, although the characters given by him for its distinction were apparently not the most striking. Mr. Rothschild had a number of specimens collected by the late Mr. Kubary and Captains Webster and Cotton.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT exhibited the second known specimen of a rare Humming-Bird (*Iolæma luminosa*, Elliot), the type of which, hitherto unique, was in the British Museum.

Mr. E. HARTERT also exhibited a remarkable variety of the Waxwing (*Ampelis garrulus*) from Lapland, with the wax-like tips to the secondaries yellow instead of red.

Mr. E. LORT PHILLIPS exhibited some specimens of birds collected by him during his recent trip to the Goolis Mountains in Somaliland. Among the interesting species obtained by him were the following:—*Hyphantornis spekii*, *Irania gutturalis*, *Ruticilla semirufa*, *Monticola rufocinerea*, *Zosterops habessinica*, *Anthus sordidus*, *Mirafra gilletti*, *Sylvia blanfordi*, *S. nana*, *Burnesia somalica*, *Lophoceros mediana*, and *Pternistes infuscatus*.

He described the following species as new to science:—

CALENDULA FREMANTLII, n. sp.

C. rostro crasso insignis: rufescens, notæi plumis latè nigricanti-brunneo striatis: pileo vix cristato: regione paroticâ rufescente, maculâ magnâ albâ notatâ: lineâ nigrâ per

oculos ductâ : gutture et colli lateribus albis, striâ malari nigrâ distinctâ : subtùs pallidè isabellina, pectore et hypochondriis rufescentibus, vix brunneo vel rufo striatis : maculâ nigrâ distinctâ ad latera præpectoris positâ. Long. tot. 5·7 poll., culm. 0·7, alæ 3·6, caudæ 1·75, tarsi 0·7.

RHYNCHOSTRUTHUS LOUISÆ, n. sp.

Similis *R. socotrano*, sed minor, rostro debiliore et genis cinerascens nec albis distinguendus. Long. tot. 5·0 poll., culm. 0·5, alæ 3·05, caudæ 1·6, tarsi 0·65.

TRICHOLEMA BLANDI, n. sp.

T. simile *T. stigmatothoraci*, sed maculâ rubrâ pectorali nullâ, pileo et gutturi plumis distinctè albido terminatis facilè distinguendum. Long. tot. 4·6 poll., culm. 0·6, alæ 2·5, caudæ 1·3, tarsi 0·8.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE described a new species of Francolin from the Wagga Mountains in Somaliland, obtained by Mr. Lort Phillips at a height of 9000 feet :—

FRANCOLINUS LORTI, n. sp.

F. similis *F. gutturali* et *F. uluensi*, plagâ albâ ad latera colli, nigro punctatâ : maculis præpectoralibus saturatè castaneis, rachidibus angustè nigris : hypochondriis saturatè castaneo notatis. Long. tot. 12·5 poll., alæ 6·6.

Dr. SHARPE described two species of Owls as follows :—

SYRNIUM NIGRICANTIUS, n. sp.

S. simile *S. woodfordi*, sed suprâ nigricanti-brunneum, vix albo stellatum : superciliis et facie laterali purè niveis : præpectore nigricanti-brunneo, vix albo aut fulvo fasciato. Long. tot. 13·5 poll., alæ 9·8.

Hab. Mpapwa, E. Africa. Typus in Mus. Brit.

NINOX EVERETTI, n. sp.

Similis *N. reyi*, sed maculis pallidis primariorum paucis fulvescentibus, minimè albo quadratim notatis, et abdomine, hypochondriis et tibiis ochrascenti-fulvis, nec albis brunneo maculatis, distinguenda. Long. tot. 9·5 poll., alæ 7·7.

Hab. Siassi Island, Sulu Archipelago (*A. H. Everett*).]

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE exhibited the skin of an apparently new species of *Dicæum* from Mount Masarang in Northern Celebes, collected by Mr. Charles Hose. It was an intermediate form between *D. nigrimentum*, Salvad., and *D. pryeri*, Sharpe. The name proposed was

DICÆUM HOSII, n. sp.

D. similis D. nigrimento, sed gulâ superiore totâ nigrâ distinguendum. Long. tot. 3·2 poll., alæ 1·8.

Dr. SHARPE also exhibited some specimens of birds recently sent by Mr. F. J. Jackson from Uganda, amongst them being several typical West-African forms. The West-African element in the regions of the Upper Nile district had already been demonstrated by Dr. Sharpe in his account of Bohndorff's collections in the Niam-niam country (Journ. Linn. Soc. xvii. pp. 419-441), and by Dr. Reichenow in his treatise on the birds collected by Dr. Stuhlmann and Emiu Pasha on the Victoria Nyanza (J. f. O. 1892, pp. 1-60). Mr. Jackson had, however, been able to add several West-African species to the Avifauna of Uganda, among them being the following:—*Campophaga phænicea* (N'tebi), *Bias musicus* (N'tebi), *Nicator chloris* (Busoga, N'tebi), *Malimbus rubricollis* (N'tebi), *Melocichla mentalis* (N'tebi), *Burnesia leucopogon*, &c.

The following species were described by Dr. SHARPE as new:—

DRYODROMAS RUFIDORSALIS, n. sp.

D. similis D. smithii, sed pileo et notæo toto rufescente, illo saturatiore distinguenda. Long. tot. 5·3 poll., alæ 2·0.
Hab. River Tsavo, Sept. 20, 1894 (*F. J. Jackson*).

LAMPROTORNIS BREVICAUDUS, n. sp.

L. similis L. porphyroptero, sed valdè minor et caudâ conspicuè breviorè distinguenda. Long. tot. 11·5 poll., alæ 5·8.

Hab. Elgeyu (*F. J. Jackson*).

The differences in the length of the tail between the

Abyssinian birds and those from British Central Africa were so well marked that they seemed to constitute two distinct forms. The tail of *L. porphyropterus* measured 7·7–7·8 inches, but that of *L. brevicaudus* only reached 5·05–5·9 inches. (Cf. Sharpe, *Ibis*, 1891, p. 240.)

Mr. JOHN WHITEHEAD sent for exhibition a series of specimens of the genus *Dendrophila* from the Philippine Islands, and pointed out the following interesting facts:—

The Philippine species of *Dendrophila* could be divided into two sections, viz. those with a white loreal spot and a greenish bill, and those with black lores and a red bill. To the last section belonged the birds from Palawan and Balabac, called *D. frontalis* by Sharpe. *D. corallipes* from Borneo, with its red bill and red legs, was quite distinct.

All the Philippine birds had a white loreal spot, greenish bill, and dark greenish-brown legs. Two species had been described, *D. aenochlamys*, Sharpe, and *D. mesoleuca*, Ogilvie Grant. The former had been described from a Guimaras specimen of Prof. Steere's. Mr. Whitehead showed that the same form was found in Cebu, Negros, and Panay, but that in Samar, Leyte, and Basilan a very much darker form occurred, which was worthy of separation on account of the suffusion of dark lilac over the whole of the under surface of the body. He proposed to call the Samar form

DENDROPHILA LILACEA, n. sp.

D. similis D. aenochlamydi, sed gastræo toto vividè lilascenti-vinaceo, nec lilascenti-brunneo, distinguenda.

Mr. Whitehead also showed that *D. mesoleuca* from the highlands of Luzon looked, at first sight, distinct enough; but on comparing a series from different elevations, it was clear that the bird from the coast-region and the lower elevations of the mountains showed very little difference from *D. aenochlamys*, but that, as higher elevations were reached, there appeared more and more white on the back, and more white on the breast, until typical *D. mesoleuca* was reached.

Messrs. C. B. RICKETT and J. DE LA TOUCHE sent for exhibition the following apparently new species of birds from China :—

BRACHYPTERYX SINENSIS, Rickett, n. sp.

♂ similis *B. crurali* ♂, sed ubique pallidior : subtus pallidè cinerea : loris et fasciâ latâ anteooculâri cinereis nec nigris distinguenda. Long. tot. 5·5 poll., culm. 0·6, alæ 2·6, caudæ 1·9, tarsi 1·15.

♀ similis *B. crurali* ♀, fronte, facie laterali et supercilio olivaceo-brunneis, nec rufescentibus : caudâ olivaceo nec rufo lavatâ distinguenda. Long. tot. 5·4 poll., alæ 2·6.

Hab. Kuatun, N.W. Fohkien.

PROPARUS GUTTATICOLLIS, De La Touche, n. sp.

Similis *P. striaticolli*, Verr., sed loris albis, pileo nuchaque brunneis concoloribus, minimè nigro notatis, fasciâ fumosâ circumdatis. Long. tot. 4·6 poll., culm. 0·5, alæ 2·05, caudæ 2·1, tarsi 0·95.

Hab. Kuatun.

YUHINA PALLIDA, De La Touche, n. sp.

Y. similis *Y. nigrimento*, sed ubique pallidior : notæo cinerascete : subtus candida, vix fulvescente tineta.

Hab. Kuatun. (Cf. H. H. Slater, *Ibis*, 1897, p. 173.)

LEPOCESTES SINENSIS, Rickett, n. sp.

♂ [vix ad.]. Similis *L. pyrrhotidi*, Hodgs., sed pileo pallidè brunnescenti-fulvo, nec castaneo, striolato : interscapulio nigro, fasciis angustis rufescenti-fulvis notato : remigibus et rectricibus pallidè castaneis, fasciis equidistantibus nigris transversim notatis. Long. tot. 11·2 poll., culm. 1·7, alæ 5·7, caudæ 3·3, tarsi 1·1.

Hab. Kuatun.

Mr. SCLATER exhibited a set of fourteen photographs containing figures of the eggs and nests of the birds of North Queensland which had been transmitted to him by Mr. D. Le Souëf, of Melbourne, and called special attention to those representing *Podargus papuensis*, *Lalage leucomelæna*, and *Sterna anæsthera*, the last being placed under a *Pandanus* palm. These photographs had been sent by Mr. Le Souëf

to illustrate his papers on new or rare Australian birds' eggs to be published in 'The Ibis.'

Mr. N. F. TICEHURST exhibited a specimen of the Icterine Warbler (*Hypolais icterina*) shot on the 1st of May, 1897, at Burwash, in Sussex.

Dr. F. PENROSE exhibited a beautiful example of an albino Skylark (*Alauda arvensis*) obtained on Salisbury Plain during the past winter.

Mr. H. E. S. UPCHER exhibited some eggs of the South-African Goshawk (*Astur tachiro*) taken in the Drakensberg Mountains in Natal.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on the 16th of June, 1897, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER, <i>Chairman.</i>	PHILIP CROWLEY, <i>Vice-Chairman.</i>	R. BOWDLER SHARPE, <i>Editor.</i>
E. BIDWELL, <i>Acting Sec. & Treas.</i>		

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XLVI.

THE forty-fifth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 16th of June, 1897.

Chairman: Dr. F. PENROSE.

Members present:—E. BIDWELL, W. F. BROCKHOLES, Dr. F. D. DREWITT, Dr. H. O. FORBES, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, E. HARTERT, Col. P. W. L'ESTRANGE, G. E. LODGE, A. H. MACPHERSON, E. NEALE, R. NESHAM, H. NOBLE, C. E. PEARSON, Hon. L. W. ROTHSCHILD, Hon. N. C. ROTHSCHILD, H. F. WITHERBY, J. YOUNG.

Visitors: Captain BACON, W. W. FOWLER, Dr. E. GWYNN, Prof. F. WERNER, C. A. WITCHELL.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD exhibited a specimen of Cory's Bittern (*Ardetta neoxena*, Cory), from Canada. It was believed to be the only specimen in any museum in England. Some ornithologists had regarded this bird as a melanism of *Ardetta exilis*, but it was now generally admitted to be a distinct species. (See A. O. U. Check-List, 1895, p. 70.)

Mr. ROTHSCHILD exhibited a pair of *Eclectus cornelia*, Bonap. This fine Parrot had hitherto been known only from females which had died in captivity; but recently Mr. W. Doherty and Mr. A. H. Everett had collected a

[June 30th, 1897.]

series, including examples of both sexes, in the interior of the island of Sumba.

Mr. W. ROTHSCHILD also showed skins of *Psitteuteles weberi*, Büttik., and *P. euteles*. Numbers of the latter species had been collected by Dr. A. R. Wallace both in Timor and Flores, while the former had been first obtained in Flores by Prof. Weber, and more recently by Mr. Everett. Prof. Mivart, in his 'Monograph of the Loriidæ,' had united the two species, because both occurred in Flores. It seemed remarkable that both species should inhabit the same island, and it was suggested that possibly Dr. Wallace's specimens of *P. euteles* bore an erroneous locality; but, in either case, the two species were perfectly distinct, differing much in colour and size.

Mr. ROTHSCHILD made further remarks on Prof. Steere's type of *Paradisea minor*, var. *albescens*, Musschenbr. It was shown to be a "made up" specimen—part being a male of the typical *P. minor*, showing the white abdomen characteristic of the immature bird, to which had been added the long side plumes of a male of *P. minor jobiensis*, Rothsch.

Mr. ROTHSCHILD likewise informed the Meeting that he had purchased the collection of the late Christian Ludwig Brehm. This once-celebrated collection of one of the fathers of German ornithology had unfortunately suffered from neglect, being kept in a small country house, but it still contained nearly all the types of the many "species" and "subspecies" made by C. L. Brehm. It had been customary among British and Continental authors to place Brehm's numerous names as synonyms of our well-known European species; but, although this might be right in the majority of cases, recent investigations had shown that some of Brehm's forms, such as *Nucifraga*, *Parus*, *Certhia*, *Galerita*, and others, deserved subspecific and even specific rank.

This was the last Meeting of the Session.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on the 20th of October, 1897, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street ; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

F. PENROSE,
Chairman.

W. R. OGILVIE GRANT,
Acting Editor.

E. BIDWELL,
Acting Sec. & Treas.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

EDITED BY

R. BOWDLER SHARPE, LL.D.

VOLUME VII.

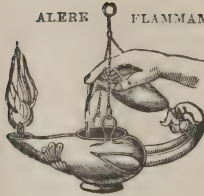
SESSION 1897-8.

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JULY 1898.

ALERE FLAMMAM.



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PREFACE.

ALTHOUGH the Club has sustained the loss of two of its most eminent members in Mr. Osbert Salvin and Mr. Alfred Everett, as well as of a very promising recruit in Mr. Daniel Meinertzhagen, the number of Members continues to increase, so that the names on the rota have reached the satisfactory number of 123.

The Club is again to be congratulated on the number and importance of the contributions which have been discussed at its Meetings.

(Signed)

R. BOWDLER SHARPE,

Editor.

July 30th, 1898.

ERRATA.

Page iv, line 27, for *Osculatia purpurea* read *Osculatia purpurata*.
" xix, " 3, for *Gallinula major* read *Gallinago major*.

RULES

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

(As amended 20th April, 1898.)

I. This Club was founded for the purpose of facilitating the social intercourse of Members of the British Ornithologists' Union. Any Member of that Union can become a Member of this Club on payment (to the Treasurer) of an entrance fee of *Five Shillings* and a subscription of *Five Shillings* for the current Session. Resignation of the Union involves resignation of the Club.

II. Members who have not paid their subscriptions before the last Meeting of the Session shall cease, *ipso facto*, to be Members of the Club, but may be reinstated on payment of arrears, *and* a new entrance fee.

III. Members of the B. O. U. can attend the Meetings of the Club as Visitors, but every Member of the Club introducing a Member of the B. O. U. as a Visitor (to dinner or to the Meeting afterwards) shall pay *One Shilling* to the Treasurer on each occasion.

IV. The Club shall meet, as a rule, on the Third Wednesday in every Month, from October to June inclusive, at such hour and place as may be arranged by the Committee. At these Meetings papers upon ornithological subjects shall be read, specimens exhibited, and discussion invited.

V. An Abstract of the Proceedings of the B. O. C. shall be printed as soon as possible after each Meeting, under the title of the 'Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club,' and distributed gratis to every Member *who has paid his subscription*. Copies of this Bulletin shall be published and sold at *One Shilling* each.

VI. The affairs of this Club shall be managed by a Committee, to consist of the Editors of 'The Ibis,' the Editor of the 'Bulletin,' and the Secretary and Treasurer, *ex officio*; with three other Members, one of whom shall be changed every year. The Committee shall have power to make and alter Bye-laws.

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[Members are requested to keep the Secretary informed of
 any changes in their addresses.]

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BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XLVII.

THE forty-sixth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 20th of October, 1897.

Chairman : PHILIP CROWLEY.

Members present :—A. V. APLIN, E. BIDWELL, J. L. BONHOTE, A. M. CHANCE, W. E. DE WINTON, H. E. DRESSER, Col. H. W. FEILDEN, F. W. FROHAWK, the Earl of GAINSBOROUGH, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, G. H. C. HAIGH, E. HARTERT, Major A. P. LOYD, A. H. MACPHERSON, E. NEALE, R. NESHAM, E. W. OATES, C. L. PEARSON, H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, M.D., T. DIGBY PIGOTT, C.B., H. L. POPHAM, P. RENDALL, M.D., H. SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), Rev. H. H. SLATER, W. B. TEGETMEIER, N. F. TICEHURST, A. B. R. TREVOR-BATTYE, H. M. WALLIS, L. A. WILLIAMS, C. J. WILSON, H. F. WITHERBY, C. A. WRIGHT.

Visitors : W. AULD, A. BEAUMONT, Count von BERLEPSCH, R. A. CROWLEY, F. CURTIS, C. E. FAGAN, H. GRÖNVOLD, A. E. HAMERTON, Rev. A. P. MORRES, W. NEWALL.

The TREASURER announced that the first business of the evening was to elect the officers of the Club for the ensuing

[October 30th, 1897.]

year, and the following were unanimously elected by a show of hands :—

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.
Vice-Chairmen : { PHILIP CROWLEY.
 H. J. PEARSON.

Mr. EUGENE W. OATES was elected a Member of the Committee in the place of Mr. T. Digby Pigott, C.B., who retired by rotation.

The TREASURER also made a few remarks on the present status of the Club, and was pleased to be able to tell the Members that its financial position was highly satisfactory.

The Annual Address was postponed until the next Meeting of the Club, owing to the absence of the Chairman in consequence of domestic bereavement. An unanimous vote of sympathy with Dr. Sclater on the loss of his son, Capt. Bertram Sclater, was passed by the Meeting.

Mr. H. L. POPHAM, who was warmly applauded by his brother-members of the Club, made some remarks on his recent journey to the Yenesei, and exhibited a clutch of four eggs of the Curlew Sandpiper (*Ancylochilus subarquatus*) which he had taken, along with the female bird shot from the nest. These were the first authentic eggs on record.

Mr. H. J. PEARSON and Colonel FEILDEN, who also received a hearty welcome from the members, gave a brief account of their expedition to Novaya Zemlya during the summer, a full account of which will appear in 'The Ibis' for January 1898. Mr. Pearson exhibited a series of clutches of the eggs of the Little Stint (*Tringa minuta*), as well as some beautiful photographs of nests and eggs of the various birds observed on the voyage. The narrative of the trip was related by Colonel Feilden, and was rendered more than usually interesting by the ample set of photographs taken by Mr. Pearson.

COUNT VON BERLEPSCH exhibited his unique specimen of *Pipra opalizans*, Pelz., a wonderful bird from Pará, which will be figured in the next number of the 'Ibis'; also a set of skins of the interesting *Idiopsar brachyurus*, Cass., hitherto unique in the U.S. National Museum at Washington, and also a fine skin of *Chrysolampis chlorolæmus*, Elliot (= *Lampornis calolæma*, Elliot), of which the true locality had been unknown till now. It was received direct from Bahia, and was stated to be the third specimen known in collections. These birds will be spoken of at length in an article to be published by Count von Berlepsch in the next number of the 'Ibis.'

COUNT VON BERLEPSCH also laid on the table specimens of three species from S.W. Colombia, viz., a new *Carpodectes*, a new Parrot of the genus *Pionopsitta*, and a new *Myiadestes* allied to *M. leucotis*, Tsch. These will be described in an article to be published in the forthcoming number of the 'Journal für Ornithologie.'

Lastly, Count von BERLEPSCH exhibited a fine new Tanager of the genus *Buthraupis*, recently sent by Mr. F. W. H. Rosenberg from North-western Ecuador, and named in honour of the Hon. Walter Rothschild. The unique specimen belongs to the Tring Museum.

He diagnosed it as follows:—

BUTHRAUPIS ROTHSCILDI, sp. n.

B. corpore supra subtusque cum alis caudaque extus obscure nigro-cyaneis, uropygio lætiore; capite gulaque nigrescentibus, torque jugulari lato pulchre aurantio-flavo; tectricibus, subalaribus subcaudalibusque necnon hypochondriis pure flavis; rostro pedibusque nigris. Al. 94 mm., caud. 53, culm. 16 $\frac{3}{4}$, tars. 23.

Hab. Cachabé, N.W. Ecuador (500 feet).

This bird was stated to be allied to *B. edwardsi* of Elliot from S.W. Colombia, but is quite different in showing the back and belly blue-black, the sides of the head black, and the under tail- and wing-coverts bright yellow, all these

parts being olive-green in the other species, and in having a broad band of fine orange-yellow on the breast, there being but a small yellow spot in the middle of the latter in *B. edwardsi*.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT drew attention to the fact that there was in the British Isles a species of Tit hitherto overlooked by all observers. This was the *Parus salicarius* of C. L. Brehm, which had been only quite recently rediscovered in Germany by Herr Kleinschmidt, who had not only found old specimens in the British Museum, but the Tring Museum had recently been able to get several fresh specimens from England. *Parus salicarius* differed from the Common British Marsh-Tit in having the crown of a less glossy and more brownish black, the flanks strongly washed with rufous, and the dimensions of beak, wings, and tail were slightly different; its call-note also was different, and it seemed to keep strictly to dark, shadowy, and swampy places. These differences were, as Kleinschmidt rightly said, comparatively not smaller than those between a Carrion-Crow and a Rook, which nobody now thought of uniting. It was Mr. Hartert's opinion that *P. salicarius* was a distinct species; but Kleinschmidt seemed to think that the British *P. salicarius* might be superficially separated from the continental form; this, however, seemed still an open question.

Mr. HARTERT further exhibited a skin of the beautiful Pigeon called *Osculatia purpurea*, Salvad., from N. Ecuador. Only the type in the British Museum was hitherto known.

He also stated that Mr. Albert Meek had found *Paradisaea intermedia* at Collingwood Bay in the north-eastern part of British New Guinea; and that Mr. Rothschild had received some more skins of *Macgregoria pulchra* from Mt. Scratchley.

He also exhibited a skin of a new species of *Tephras* from

the island of Ruk, in the Caroline group, which he characterized as follows:—

TEPHRAS RUKI, sp. n.

♂ ♀. Entirely sepia-brown, the inner webs of the remiges and under wing-coverts lighter, inclining to whitish; the primaries darker, the outer webs bordered with the same colour as the back. Bill black; iris red; tarsi and feet orange-rufous; claws mouse-brown. Total length 135–140 mm., wing 79–80, tail 52–53, culmen 21, tarsus 21. The female is a little smaller: wing 77–78 mm., tail 50, culmen 19. Native name “Nikildon.”

A new species of *Leptotriccus* was also exhibited by Mr. HARTERT, and described by him as follows:—

LEPTOTRICCUS FLAVIVENTRIS, sp. n.

Quite different from the other two known species of the genus, *L. sylviola*, Licht., of Southern Brazil, and *L. superciliaris*, ScL. & Salv., of Central America. It differs from both in being of a uniform sulphur-yellow colour below, and in having two broad yellow bars across the wing, formed by the yellow tips to the longest and median wing-coverts. The crown is olive-green like the back, as in *L. sylviola*, while *L. superciliaris* has the head and nape of a dark plumbeous shade. In the markings of the head and in other respects it agrees with its two congeners.

Hab. Ejido and Merida, Venezuela, April 1897 (*Mocqueries*).

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent for exhibition three new species of birds from Northern Ecuador, which he described as follows:—

CRYPTURUS BERLEPSCHI, sp. n.

Entirely brownish black, the abdomen and thighs vermiculated and washed with dull rufous brown; the under tail-coverts rusty red. Total length 300 mm., wing 180, tarsus 60, culmen 33.

Hab. Cachabé, N. Ecuador, 500 feet.

ODONTOPHORUS PARAMBÆ, sp. n.

♀ *ad.* Forehead, superciliary band, ear-coverts and a band under the eye, breast and abdomen bright chestnut; top of head, nape, wings, back, rump, and tail brownish black, irregularly vermiculated all over with yellowish brown; scapulars with a number of black patches; under wing-coverts brownish grey; flanks, thighs, and under tail-coverts dark brown, vermiculated and edged with rufous; chin, throat, and upper breast black, crossed on the lower throat by a broad white band. Total length about 200 mm., wings 145, tail 40, tarsus 42, culmen 24.

Hab. Paramba, N. Ecuador, 3500 feet.

NEMOSIA ROSENBERGI, sp. n.

Head, neck, and back scarlet, fading into paler orange-scarlet on the rump; upper tail-coverts dull scarlet; wings dark brown, the wing-coverts, outer webs of the primaries and secondaries rufous; under wing-coverts white, the inner edges of the quills salmon-pink. Under surface of body white, the centre of the abdomen and under tail-coverts bright orange-pink. Maxilla black, mandible whitish; feet greenish; iris brown. Total length about 120 mm., wing 69, tail 54, tarsus 15, culmen 15.

Hab. Cachabé, N. Ecuador, 500 feet.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE described the following species of birds from British East Africa:—

BURNESIA UGANDÆ, sp. n.

B. similis B. leucopogoni, Cab., sed abdomine imo et hypochondriis pallidè fulvescentibus, his minimè cinereis distinguenda. Long. tot. 2·7 poll., alæ 2·3, caudæ 2·45.

Hab. Ntebi, Uganda (*F. J. Jackson*). Tingasi (*Emin Pasha: Mus. Brit.*).

SYLVIELLA BARAKA, sp. n.

S. similis S. virenti, sed pileo fusciscenti-brunneo, supercilio pallidè isabellino, facie laterali fusciscente minimè rufâ, gutture vix rufescente, et hypochondriis clarè schistaceis distinguenda. Long. tot. 3 poll., alæ 2.

Hab. Ntebi, Uganda (*F. J. Jackson*).

SYLVIELLA JACKSONI, sp. n.

S. similis S. micruræ, sed major, saturatiùs grisea, et facie laterali, mento et corpore subtùs toto saturatè vinaceis, abdomine quoque cervino distinguenda. Long. tot. 3·7 poll., alæ 2·5.

Hab. Kamassia (*F. J. Jackson*).

XENOCICHLA PALLIDIGULA, sp. n.

X. similis X. flavicollis, sed gulâ dilutè flavâ, remigibus retri-cibusque grisescenti-brunneis, olivascenti-viridi marginatis, nec rufescenti-brunneis : subtus pallidè olivascens, gastræo medio albido, plumis medialiter griseo striolatis, hypochondriis et subcaudalibus pallidè olivaceis, his latè albido marginatis distinguenda. Long. tot. 9 poll., alæ 4·45.

Hab. Ntebi (*F. J. Jackson*).

BARBATULA JACKSONI, sp. n.

B. similis B. bilineatæ, sed gutture et pectoris summi lateribus schistaceo-griseis, tectricibus alarum et secundariis pallidè sulfureo marginatis, et hyponchondriis ochrascenti-brunneis distinguenda. Long. tot. 4·4 poll., alæ 2·4.

Hab. Mau (*F. J. Jackson*).

UROBRACHYA NIGRONOTATA, sp. n.

U. similis U. phæniceæ, sed tectricibus alarum majoribus cinnamomeo-rufis, latè nigro apicatis distinguenda. Long. tot. 6·5 poll., alæ 3·6.

Hab. Witu (*F. J. Jackson*).

Dr. SHARPE exhibited, on behalf of Mr. Claude W. Wyatt, a nest and eggs of the Reed-Bunting (*Emberiza schœniclus*), which had been taken at Basford, near Banbury, in 1894. The season was a very wet one, and the birds had provided the nest with a lid made of horsehair, apparently for the better protection of the eggs.

Dr. SHARPE also exhibited a skin of *Lanius ludovicianus*, which had been procured in Andros Isl., Bahamas, by Mr. Neville Chamberlain.

In a few remarks on the present status of the Collection

of Birds in the British Museum, Dr. SHARPE informed the meeting that he had, on the 11th September last, completed his twenty fifth year of service in charge of the bird-collection of the British Museum, and that he estimated that the collection of skins had increased during that time from about 40,000 to 370,000, and the collection of eggs from about 6000 to 49,000 specimens.

Mr. TEGETMEIER exhibited a skin of a Pheasant, which he considered to be a hybrid between *Thaumalea picta* and *Phasianus colchicus*.

The Rev. H. H. SLATER exhibited and made remarks upon a sixth British example of the Barred Warbler (*Sylvia nisoria*), which he had obtained on the Norfolk coast on the 27th of August last. It was an adult female, which had evidently bred during the last season, as was shown by the condition of the ovary and oviduct. He thought that by careful search the Barred Warbler might be found to be a breeding species in the Eastern Counties.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 17th of November 1897, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

PHILIP CROWLEY,
Chairman.

R. BOWDLER SHARPE,
Editor.

HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Sec. & Treas.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XLVIII.

THE forty-seventh Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 17th of November, 1897.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—E. BIDWELL, J. L. BONHOTE, W. FITZHERBERT BROCKHOLES, P. CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, Dr. F. D. DREWITT, E. N. F. FENWICK, J. GERRARD, E. HARTERT, J. E. HARTING, J. G. MILLAIS, H. MUNT, E. NEALE, R. NESHAM, E. W. OATES, Dr. F. PENROSE, Major R. G. WARDLAW RAMSAY, H. E. RAWSON, R. H. READ, Dr. PERCY RENDALL, H. SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), E. CAVENDISH TAYLOR, W. B. TEGETMEIER, W. F. URWICK, H. M. WALLIS, WATKIN WATKINS, L. A. WILLIAMS, H. F. WITHERBY.

Visitors : J. W. CASTLE, C. DUNN, F. G. JACKSON, W. H. URWICK.

After offering his heartfelt thanks to the Club for their resolution of sympathy passed at the last Meeting, the CHAIRMAN gave the following address :—

“There is probably no greater test of the interest taken in a particular subject in these days than the establishment of a journal or periodical specially devoted to its cause. This fact is so obvious that I need not stop to give instances of this being the case. On this occasion, therefore, I propose

[November 29th, 1897.]

to offer you a few remarks on the present state and progress of the Journals devoted to the special interests of the Class *Aves* throughout the civilized world, and shall begin with the three which, I think, must be acknowledged by all of us to be the leading authorities on the subject, viz.—(taking them in the order of seniority), the ‘Journal für Ornithologie’ of Berlin, ‘The Ibis’ of London, and ‘The Auk’ of the United States of America.

“The ‘Journal für Ornithologie’ was founded by the veteran ornithologist Dr. Jean Cabanis in 1853, and carried on by him with unflinching success for a period of forty-one years. In 1894 it passed into the possession of the ‘Allgemeine deutsche ornithologische Gesellschaft,’ and has since that date been not less successfully conducted for that Society by our Honorary Member, Dr. Anton Reichenow, who is personally well known to many of us. The ‘Journal für Ornithologie’ is, I may fairly say, to a considerable extent occupied with contributions relating to the Avifauna of Central Europe, but, on glancing over its pages, excellent articles will be found throughout the work which relate to the birds of other parts of the world. The newly-founded German colonies have naturally attracted a large share of attention in the Fatherland, and Dr. Reichenow’s memoirs on the birds of Togo-land, on the avifauna of German East Africa and on that of Kaiser-Wilhelms-land, recently published in the ‘Journal,’ may be mentioned specially as being of very great importance. But the German ornithologists by no means confine themselves to the range of their own colonies. German collectors range over the whole world, and German taxidermists are to be found in nearly every museum as well of the New World as of the Old, and not unfrequently become contributors to the information collected in their national Journal of Ornithology. In other branches of our subject, such as Anatomy, Pterylosis, Nomenclature, and Classification, the ‘Journal für Ornithologie’ will be found to be likewise replete with information.

“To sing our own praises is a somewhat delicate task,

but I think I may say that 'The Ibis,' which was founded by the B.O.U. in 1859, six years later than the 'Journal für Ornithologie,' has, in some respects, had even a more striking career than its sister Journal. This of course is mainly owing to the unfailing support it has received from the Members of the B.O.U., now upwards of 300 in number, who have grudged neither time nor money in promoting its success. We have now published Six Series of 'The Ibis,' each extending over a period of six years, and two 'Index' volumes, which greatly facilitate references to the work, while of a Seventh Series the third volume is already complete, bringing up the work to the close of the present year. Glancing over the set in our libraries we notice at once that the more recent volumes have evidently increased in bulk, and, we may also hope, have not diminished as regards the value of their contents. The special feature that distinguishes 'The Ibis' is, I think I may say, its cosmopolitanism. Englishmen, as we know, and especially English ornithologists, are scattered over the whole world. Their motto, like that of the Royal Engineers, is 'Ubique'; and although there are always a certain number of communications in 'The Ibis' relating to 'British' Birds, the majority of the memoirs either come from correspondents in foreign countries, or are devoted to the description of collections transmitted to headquarters from travellers in distant lands. For example, taking a look for a moment at the recently completed volume for 1897, we find articles on the Birds of British Burmah, Chili, Marocco; the Pyrenees, Siberia, Guiana, Argentina, China, the Red Sea, the Philippine Islands, San Domingo, Central Madagascar, New Guinea, Zulu-land, Nyasa-land, Oudh, and Spitsbergen. It will be seen that our claim to be cosmopolitans in science, although we are at the same time all British patriots to the backbone, have not been put forward without reason. I will not now stop to describe what has been written in 'The Ibis' in other branches of ornithological research during recent years, but I can assure you that the Editors have done their very best to keep the Journal up to the highest standard.

“The third leading journal in Ornithology—‘The Auk’—was established by the American Ornithologists’ Union in 1884, and the editorship was assigned to Prof. J. A. Allen, under whose well-ordered sway it still continues. As would naturally be expected, ‘The Auk’ is mainly devoted to promoting a knowledge of the Birds of the New World, and the greater number of its articles relate to what I am pleased still to call the Nearctic Region, although the zoo-geographers of the United States seem to have lately entered into a conspiracy to abolish the use of that convenient term. Of the activity and intelligent zeal of our American brethren in the cause to which we are all devoted there can be no question. Owing to their enthusiasm, of which ‘The Auk’ itself is a product, there is probably no part of the world the native birds of which are now so well known as the United States of America. In every part of the Union collections have been made by the correspondents and emissaries of the A.O.U. and transmitted to headquarters, where the specimens have been studied and the results recorded with the utmost diligence. Of late years the American ornithologists have extended their researches into Mexico and Central America. They have also closely surveyed nearly every island of the West Indian Archipelago, and have begun to make winter excursions into the northern borders of South America. On looking into the 14th volume of ‘The Auk,’ which contains the memoirs published in 1897, we find articles on the birds of Mexico, Guatemala, the Kurile Islands, Venezuela, and Alaska, not to speak of numerous valuable contributions to the study of such questions as nesting-habits, dichromatism, nomenclature, abnormal plumages, and almost every other subject that comes within the grasp of the ornithologist. I may also, perhaps, venture to call special attention to the valuable criticisms on recent literature given in every number of ‘The Auk,’ which may be always read with profit, even though we may not altogether coincide with the views of the writers.

“Having said so much about the three principal ornithological journals which at the present epoch are devoted to general Ornithology—*i. e.* to the whole subject, and not to

any particular part of it,—I think I need hardly trouble you with disquisitions on the recent progress of journals with a less extended object. There are a considerable number of such publications, as a search in the well-stocked library of the Zoological Society will show to those who wish to consult them; and many of them are making valuable contributions to the knowledge of our favourite science. Amongst these I may specially mention ‘Ornis,’ the organ of the permanent International Ornithological Committee, hitherto edited by Prof. Dr. H. Blasius, and published at Brunswick (it is now in its ninth year of publication); the ‘Ornithologisches Jahrbuch’ of Victor, Ritter von Tschusi zu Schmidhoffen, published at Hallein, now in its eighth year; and ‘Aquila,’ the organ of the Hungarian Central Bureau for Ornithological Observations, which was commenced in 1894. It is singular that, so far as I know, there has never been a purely ornithological journal started in France; but Italy has lately started an ‘Avicula’—*parva sed omnino Italica!* With hearty wishes for success, in which I am sure you will join me, to this youngest, and likewise to every other member of the confraternity of ornithological journals, I have only to ask your kind excuses for having so long occupied your attention.”

The CHAIRMAN submitted the following list of Ornithological Journals, now in the course of publication, of which there are copies in the Library of the Zoological Society of London:—

AMERICA.

1. The Auk, a Quarterly Journal of Ornithology. Vols. I.—XIV.
8vo. *Boston and New York*, 1884–97.
2. The Osprey. An Illustrated Monthly Magazine of Ornithology.
Vol. I. Nos. 1–7. 8vo. *Galesburg, Ill.*, 1897.

AUSTRIA.

3. Ornithologisches Jahrbuch.—Organ für das paläarktische Faunengebiet. Jahrg. I.—VIII. Hefte 1–5. Royal 8vo. *Hallein*, 1890–97.
4. Mittheilungen des ornithologischen Vereines in Wien. Jahrg. I.—XXI. Nos. 1–3. 4to. *Wien*, 1877–97.

GERMANY.

5. *Journal für Ornithologie*. Jahrg. I.-XLV.
8vo. *Cassel and Leipzig*, 1853-97.
6. *Ornithologische Monatsberichte*. Jahrg. I.-V. Nos. 1-10.
8vo. *Berlin*, 1893-97.
7. *Zeitschrift des ornithologischen Vereins in Stettin*. Jahrg. I.-XXI.
Nos. 1-10. 8vo. *Stettin*, 1877-97.
8. *Ornithologische Monatsschrift, des deutschen Vereins zum Schutze
der Vogelwelt*. Band XI.-XXI., XXII. Nos. 1-10.
8vo. *Werseburg and Gera*, 1886-97.
9. *Die gefiederte Welt*. Wochenschrift für Vogelliebhaber. I.-XXVI.
4to. *Berlin and Magdeburg*, 1872-97.

GREAT BRITAIN.

10. *The Ibis, a Quarterly Journal of Ornithology*. Vols. I.-XXXIX.
8vo. *London*, 1859-97.
11. *The Avicultural Magazine*. Vols. I.-III. 8vo. *Brighton*, 1894-97.
12. *Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club*. Vols. I.-VI.
8vo. *London*, 1893-97.

HUNGARY.

13. *Aquila. A Magyar Madártani Központ Folyóirata*. Jahrg. I.-IV.
Nos. 1-3. 4to. *Budapest*, 1894-97.

ITALY.

14. *Avicula: Giornale ornitologico Italiano*. Anno I. Fasc. 1, 2.
4to. *Siena*, 1897.

Mr. F. G. JACKSON, whose return to England was heartily welcomed by the members of the Club, gave an interesting account of the birds observed by him during his three years' residence in Franz Josef Land, and referred especially to the nesting of the Ivory Gull (*Pagophila eburnea*). Specimens of the various species collected by the Jackson-Harmsworth Expedition were exhibited, and Mr. Howard Saunders, in his remarks on the collection, drew special attention to the occurrence of the Lapland Bunting (*Calcarius lapponicus*) at Cape Flora in June, this being the first record of the species in the Franz Josef group of islands.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT exhibited, on behalf of the Hon. Walter Rothschild, some skins of highly interesting species

of birds from the Tring Museum : *Macgregoria pulchra* and *Astrapia splendidissima* (with the hitherto undescribed female) from New Guinea, *Myiadestes coracina* from Colombia, *Zosterops babelo* from the Talaut Islands, *Scops alfredi* from Flores, and a female of *Eudynamis honorata*, in nearly complete barred plumage, but retaining still some black feathers of the first plumage, when both males and females are entirely black.

Mr. Hartert was also able to announce that good results might shortly be expected from the expeditions despatched by Mr. Rothschild to the Galapagos Islands and the River Orinoco.

Mr. OSBERT SALVIN forwarded descriptions of five species of South-American birds: four of them from British Guiana, whence the specimens had been sent by the late Henry Whitely and received in this country after his death. The fifth was from Mr. Pratt, who is now exploring in the Cauca Valley, Colombia, and was sent in a collection of birds made at a place called Valparaiso, not far from Antioquia, and 3800 feet above the sea-level.

PLATYRHYNCHUS GRISEICEPS, sp. n.

P. seni similis, sed capite summo multo grisescentiore, dorso pallidiore, et abdomine flavescentiore distinguendus.
Long. tota 4.2 poll., alæ 2.6, caudæ 1.4, tarsi 0.55.

Hab. Aunai, British Guiana (*H. Whitely*).

Obs. In his last collection the late Henry Whitely sent several specimens of this species. It is closely allied to *P. senex*, Scl. & Salv., of Eastern Ecuador, and, like the latter, has the concealed spot of the crown pure white, but differs in the points mentioned above.

TODIROSTRUM PICTUM, sp. n.

Suprà olivaceum, dorso medio indistinctè nigro striato; pileo toto, nuchâ et capitis lateribus nigerrimis; loris dimidio superiore, et striâ latâ sub oculos ductâ, albis; gulâ albâ, distinctè nigro striatâ; gastræo reliquo flavo, pectore distinctè et hypochondriis indistinctè nigro striatis; alis nigris, secundariis flavo limbatis, tectricibus majoribus et mediis quoque flavo maculatis; caudâ

nigricante, extrorsum flavo limbatâ; subalaribus albis: rostro et pedibus nigricantibus. Long. tota circa 3·5 poll., alæ 1·6, caudæ 1·2, rostri a rictu 0·6, tarsi 0·6.

Hab. Aunai, British Guiana (*H. Whitely*).

Obs. This species is apparently allied to *T. guttatum*, and has a similar black head, but there is no broad post-orbital yellow stripe, and the throat and area under the eye are white and not yellow as in *T. guttatum*, in which the chin alone is white.

A single specimen was contained in Whitely's last collection.

HAPALOCERCUS STRIATICEPS, sp. n.

H. flaviventri similis, sed multo minor, dorso magis olivaceo et fusco indistinctè striato; capite summo striato, plumis singulis saturatè fuscis fulvo limbatis, areâ infraoculari nigricante; alis fuscis, sordido albo bistriatis et remigibus eodem colore extrorsum limbatis: rostri maxillâ corylinâ, mandibulâ pallidâ, pedibus corylinis. Long. tota circa 4·0 poll., alæ 1·6, caudæ 1·6, tarsi 0·65, rostri a rictu 0·5.

Hab. Aunai, British Guiana (*H. Whitely*).

CAPSIEMPIS CAUDATA, sp. n.

C. flaveolæ affinis, sed subtus multo pallidior; torque cervicali et gutture fulvo tinctis; notæo fusco olivaceo tincto; loris et fronte strictè albis; alis fuscis, remigibus albido limbatis, tectricibus majoribus et mediis sordido albido terminatis, fasciis duabus distinctis formantibus; caudâ fuscâ, reetricibus externis in pogonio externo et apicibus albidis; rostro et pedibus nigricantibus. Long. tota circa 4·0 poll., alæ 1·95, caudæ 1·85, tarsi 0·7, rostri a rictu 0·5.

Hab. Ourumee, British Guiana (*H. Whitely*).

Obs. Allied to *C. flaveola*, but readily distinguished by the light outer webs and tips of the outer tail-feathers and by other characters.

CAPITO HYPOLEUCUS, sp. n.

Suprà niger; pileo medio et fronte coccineis; nuchâ sordidè albâ; scapularibus utrinque albicantibus ad dorsum medium convergentibus: subtus albus; torque pectorali pallidè fuscâ; hypochondriis leviter flavo lavatis; sub-

alaribus albis; remigibus intus pallidè fuscis: rostro flavido, apice corneo; pedibus plumbeis. Long. tota 8·0 poll., alæ 3·5, caudæ 2·25, tarsi 1·0, rostri a rictu 1·2.

Hab. Valdivia, State of Antioquia, Colombia (alt. 3800 feet) (*A. E. Pratt*).

Obs. This remarkable *Capito* has no near allies. In having a wholly white throat it resembles *C. maculicoronatus* ♂, but has not the spotted flanks of that species. Its red crown and the white lines along the scapulars and the dusky band across the chest are also points of difference.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE exhibited two skins of an apparently new species of *Sturnopastor* from Pachim and Tahkamen in Siam, collected by Mr. Stanley S. Flower, the Director of the Royal Museum at Bangkok. He proposed for it the name of

STURNOPASTOR FLOWERI, sp. n.

S. similis S. superciliari, sed suprâ niger, dorso pileo concolore nec brunneo: gutturis nigredine magis extenso, regione præpectoralis quoque nigrâ: corpore reliquo subtùs albo, nec vinaceo-griseo adumbrato. Long. tot. 9·0 poll., culm. 1·3, alæ 4·8, caudæ 2·75, tarsi 1·45.

Dr. SHARPE also made some remarks on the Black-headed Orioles of Africa, and pointed out that the Oriole of Gaboon had been hitherto confounded with *O. brachyrhynchus*, from which it differed in being smaller and in having a conspicuous yellow collar, the yellow also being spread over the mantle. He proposed to call it

ORIOLOUS LÆTIOR, sp. n.

Mr. J. I. S. WHITAKER sent for exhibition some specimens of *Sturnus unicolor* procured in Marocco in the spring and summer of the present year. It was evident that the birds killed in June were in the fullest breeding plumage and had *black* bills, whereas specimens killed in winter and early spring had *yellow* bills.

Mr. WHITAKER also sent for exhibition skins of two appa-

rently new species of birds from Marocco, which he described briefly as follows :—

GARRULUS ŒNOPS, sp. n.

G. similis G. minori, sed minor, et facie laterali et gutture toto vinaceis, minimè albis, distinguendus: pileo latè nigro striolato. Long. tot. 12·2 poll., alæ 6·4.

RHODOPECHYS ALIENA, sp. n.

R. similis R. sanguineæ, sed rostro debiliore, superciliis et torque collari cineraceis, nec fulvescenti-albis vel roseis: gutture pallidè roseo, nec cinnamomeo-brunneo distinguenda. Long. tot. 6·0 poll., alæ 4·1.

The CHAIRMAN exhibited an interesting autograph letter of John Latham, addressed to M. Olivier of Paris, and referring to a copy of his ‘General History of Birds.’ The letter was dated “Dartford, Kent, Nov. 10, 1789,” and had been presented to the Chairman by Dr. Jean Cabanis.

He also made some remarks on birds observed by him in Russia, and stated that he had been resident for nearly a fortnight, in August and September last, at a country house in the vicinity of St. Petersburg, and, though principally occupied with other matters, had not failed to pay attention to the ordinary birds of the district. Putting aside the ubiquitous Sparrow, the most common Passerine bird to be seen there at this time of the year was certainly the White Wagtail (*Motacilla alba*); Spotted Flycatchers, Larks, Yellowhammers, and Siskins were also abundant. The only Thrush seen was *Turdus musicus*; *T. merula*, it was said, was never met with. The ordinary Crow was *C. cornix*, but the Rook (*C. frugilegus*) was likewise observed in flocks on the cornfields along the Baltic Railway. The Great Black Woodpecker (*Picus martius*) was common in the plantations, and specimens were shot while Mr. Sclater was there; and both the Pied Woodpeckers (*Dryobates major* and *D. minor*) were said to be frequently met with. For further particulars Mr. Sclater referred enquirers to Dr. Büchner’s excellent

memoir 'Die Vögel des St. Petersburger Gouvernement,' published in 1886, as the best authority on the subject. The Double Snipe (*Gallinula major*) was the favourite object of pursuit of the sportsman at this time of year, and it was certainly an excellent bird for the table.

Mr. ROBERT READ exhibited some peculiar varieties of the eggs of the Common Guillemot (*Uria troile*), collected at Flamborough during the past summer, and called attention to the correspondence of their variations with the eggs of the Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*) and other birds which bred in the same locality.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 15th of December, 1897, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dianer at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>

BULLETIN
OF THE
BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XLIX.

THE forty-eighth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 15th of December, 1897.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—E. BIDWELL, J. L. BONHOTE, W. E. DE WINTON, A. H. EVANS, E. N. F. FENWICK, F. W. FROHAWK, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, E. HARTERT, J. GRAHAM KERR, Col. P. W. L'ESTRANGE, R. NESHAM, E. W. OATES, H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, M.D., T. D. PIGOTT, C.B., W. P. PYCRAFT, HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), E. CAVENDISH TAYLOR, Major HORACE A. TERRY, W. F. URWICK, WATKIN WATKINS, L. A. WILLIAMS, C. A. WRIGHT, JOHN YOUNG.

Visitors : MESSRS. H. TABOR BROOKS, BUDGETT, C. E. FAGAN, and F. E. MUGFORD.

The Hon WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent descriptions of the following species of birds from New Guinea :—

CYCLOPSITTACUS MACILWRAITHI, sp. n.

Forehead to middle of crown and line round eyes black, slightly washed with blue. Rest of head, neck, tail, and upper surface, including upper wing-coverts, dark grass-green. Primaries and outer secondaries black with bright blue outer webs; innermost secondaries green, with the inner webs black, bordered with buff. Sides of head and neck and entire breast buff, strongly washed with yellow. Abdomen, flanks, thighs, and under tail-coverts apple-green. Under

[December 29th, 1897.]

wing-coverts apple-green, bright blue along the outer edge. Total length 125 mm., wing 86, tail 37, culmen 16, tarsus 10. Iris brown; bill deep brown.

Hab. North coast of British New Guinea (*coll. Anthony*).

Obs. Named in honour of Mr. MacIlwraith, from whom I received the specimen.

PACHYCEPHALA GAMBLEI, sp. n.

♀. Similar to *P. rufinucha*, Scat., but with larger beak, larger even than in the male of that species, and the rufous nuchal patch extending over the head to the centre of the crown. Frontal white feathers with dark centres; olive colour of back slightly darker. Total length about 170 mm., wing 83, tail 67, culmen 21, tarsus 29.

Hab. Mount Cameron, Owen Stanley Range, 5000 feet (*coll. Anthony*).

Obs. Named in honour of Mr. Robert Gamble.

I take this opportunity of mentioning that Dr. A. B. Meyer described a *Pachycephala sharpii* in 1884; therefore Count Salvadori's *P. sharpii*, described from Loria's collection in 1896, must be re-named, and I have much pleasure in calling it *P. salvadorii*, nom. emend.

EPIMACHUS ASTRAPIOIDES, sp. n.

Head and upper neck brilliant metallic purple. A bare spot behind the eye. Back and rump brownish black, some feathers tipped with metallic greenish blue. Tail black; central tail-feathers one third longer than the second pair, and shining steel-blue glossed with purple. Wings black, outer webs with steel-blue reflections. Chin and throat blackish purple, lower neck metallic coppery red, fading into shining coppery green on the breast. Abdomen green, the basal half of each feather being black. Flank-feathers long, extending beyond the wings, green fading into a coppery olive-green and mixed with some large scale-like feathers, purple with metallic-blue borders. Side plumes short, metallic purple, tipped with brilliant peacock metallic blue. Total length 830 mm., wing 185, tail 595, tarsus 50.

Hab. Dutch New Guinea.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT exhibited a specimen of the rare *Myzomela lafargei*, Hombr. & Jacq., hitherto only known from the type in the Paris Museum. The specimen was from the Solomon Islands, either from Guadalcanar or Bougainville Island.

Mr. SCLATER exhibited an egg of the "Turco" of the Chilians (*Hylactes megapodius*), belonging to the late Mr. Berkeley James's Collection, and obtained by Mr. A. A. Lane at Hacienda Mansel, as described in 'The Ibis' for 1897 (p. 44). The colour was white, but with an earthy brownish stain, and rather smooth texture, the dimensions 1.35 by 1.05. So far as Mr. Sclater knew, this was the first egg of any species of the family *Fteroptochidæ* yet described.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE sent for exhibition some specimens of birds from Christmas Island in the Indian Ocean, where they had been collected by Mr. C. W. Andrews. The species exhibited were *Merula erythropleura* (Sharpe), *Zosterops natalis*, Lister, *Collocalia natalis*, Lister, *Carpophaga whartoni*, Sharpe, *Chalcophaps natalis*, Lister, *Astur natalis*, Lister, *Ninox natalis*, Lister, *Tringoides hypoleucus* (L.), *Limnobænus fuscus* (Linn.), *Mesophoyx plumifera* (Gould), *Demiegretta sacra* (Gm.), *Sula sula* (L.), *Phaëton phaenicurus* (L.), *P. flavo-aurantius*, Lawr. The *Limnobænus* and *Mesophoyx* were additions to the list of Christmas Island birds, as published by Mr. J. J. Lister (P. Z. S. 1888, pp. 517-529).

Mr. W. R. OGILVIE GRANT made some remarks on the Tropic-Bird (*Phaëton flavo-aurantius*, Lawrence) obtained by Mr. C. W. Andrews on the above-mentioned island.

This apricot-coloured form had been figured by Reichenbach [Syst. Av. pl. 30. fig. 852 (1850)] under the name of *P. flavirostris*, Brandt, and subsequently described by Lawrence [Ann. Lyc. N. York, vii. p. 142 (1862)] as a distinct species from a skin of unknown origin. In 1887 Mr. J. J. Lister visited Christmas Island and collected there examples of this "fine golden-pink" Boatswain-Bird, which were entered in his list (*l. c.*) under the name

of *P. flavirostris*. *P. flavo-aurantius* exactly resembled the latter species in the arrangement of the black markings on the plumage, but differed in having the whole of the light parts of a fine orange-salmon or apricot-colour. This tint did not fade after death, nor did it seem due to extraneous colouring-matter. All the examples of this bird obtained and seen at Christmas Island were similarly coloured, and Mr. Grant considered *P. flavo-aurantius*, Lawr., a well-marked subspecies of *P. flavirostris*, Brandt, with which it had hitherto been regarded as synonymous.

Mr. Grant also pointed out that, after comparing large series of skins of *Phaëton*, he found that typical examples of *P. flavirostris*, Brandt, from Ascension, Réunion, Seychelles, Pelew Islands, &c., differed constantly from the Yellow-billed Boatswain-Bird met with at Bermuda and the West Indies, and he proposed to distinguish the birds from the latter localities under the name of

PHAËTON AMERICANUS, sp. n.

Adult male and female. Similar to *P. flavirostris*, Brandt, but differing constantly in the following points:—the black on the outer web of the first primary extending to within half an inch of the extremity, on the second and fourth quills reaching almost to the tip, while the third quill had the outer web entirely black. Bill entirely yellow, except above the nasal opening.

Range. East and south-east coasts of North America, from Bermuda to the West Indies.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 19th of January, 1898, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER, R. BOWDLER SHARPE, HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Chairman. Editor. Sec. & Treas.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. L.

THE forty-ninth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 19th of January, 1898.

Chairman: P. CROWLEY.

Members present:—BOYD ALEXANDER, E. BIDWELL, W. E. DE WINTON, Dr. F. D. DREWITT, E. N. F. FENWICK, J. H. GURNEY, E. HARTERT, Rt. Hon. Sir HERBERT MAXWELL, Bart., M.P., E. G. B. MEADE-WALDO, H. MUNT, R. NESHAM, H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, M.D., W. P. PYCRAFT, PERCY RENDALL, M.D., H. SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), W. B. TEGETMEIER, JOHNSON WILKINSON, H. F. WITHERBY.

Visitors: Hon. R. COKE, R. A. CROWLEY, E. LARKEN.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE exhibited a specimen of *Otus abissinicus*, Guérin, from Somali Land. This individual was obtained by Mr. J. Benet Stanford, and was of great interest as determining a species which had hitherto been unidentified in England. In 1875, when writing the second volume of the 'Catalogue of Birds,' Dr. Sharpe had been unable to determine the species further than by quoting Heuglin's description of it. The late Mr. Gurney had suggested that *Otus abyssinicus* might be identical with *Bubo milesi*, Sharpe; but a comparison of the two birds showed that this was not the case, although the former species was really a *Bubo* and

[January 30th, 1898.]

not an *Asio*, so that its proper title was *Bubo abyssinicus* (Guérin). The shape of the ear-orifice conclusively proved this to be the case, as was admitted by Mr. Pycraft, who had recently made a special study of the Owls.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE also exhibited some specimens of *Turdus tristis*, Swains., and *T. leucauchen*, Sclater, from the Salvin-Godman Collection. Up to the present day these two species had been united together as the extremes of one variable form, and the late Mr. Seebohm believed that every possible intermediate link existed between them, and that they were found side by side in most parts of Central America. Dr. Sharpe pointed out that the splendid series now in the Salvin-Godman Collection proved that *T. tristis* was perfectly distinct from *T. leucauchen*, and was confined to Mexico. It never had a yellow bill, even in summer, and had the tail olive like the back. *T. leucauchen*, on the other hand, had a black tail, and in summer had a grey upper surface and an entirely yellow bill. In autumn and winter the bill was blackish and the plumage brown of various tints, but there was no reason to confound it with *T. tristis* at any time of year. The range of *T. leucauchen* extended from Chiapas to Panama. This simple explanation of summer and winter plumages had only now become possible from a study of the large series of Central American Thrushes collected in every month of the year, as was now the case with the species in the Salvin-Godman Collection, and it would doubtless give the key to the solution of many other knotty questions in the *Turdidæ*. For instance, the black bill of *Turdus daguæ*, Berlepsch (Orn. MB. v. p. 175), was not a specific character, as the describer imagined, but merely an accompaniment of winter plumage, and Dr. Sharpe believed that the last-named bird would have to be united to *T. leucauchen*. *T. phæopygoides* of Seebohm was certainly only *T. phæopygus* in non-breeding plumage.

Mr. HOWARD SAUNDERS exhibited an example of the Water-Pipit (*Anthus spipoletta*) which had been procured

by Mr. Caton Haigh on the 3rd of December in Carnarvonshire.

Mr. BOYD ALEXANDER showed some specimens of the new and rare species discovered by him in the Cape Verde Islands, and exhibited the nest and eggs of the Reed-Warbler of the islands (*Calamocichla brevipennis*), found by him on his second expedition to the Archipelago.

Mr. TEGETMEIER exhibited the skin of a hybrid Pheasant between *Phasianus reevesi* and *Thaumalea picta*. This interesting specimen is described in the 'Field' for Jan. 22, 1897.

Mr. J. H. GURNEY communicated the following description of a new Goshawk :—

ASTUR BUTLERI, sp. n.

Adult male. Whole of the upper parts bluish grey, lightest on the head; breast pink, finely barred with white, one indistinct bar at the end of the tail. No bars on the primaries, secondaries, or under wing-coverts, which are quite white; in this respect, and in its plain tail, greatly differing from *Astur poliopsis* (Hume), which has all the tail-feathers barred except the middle ones. Iris bright orange. Feet yellow. Length 11·7 inches, wing 6·7, tail 5·3, tarsus 1·9.

Immature male. Whole of the upper parts dark chestnut, darker on the nape, each feather having a dark centre. Tail cinnamon-red, with two dark brown bars. Breast and sides reddish brown, blotched with buff. Belly whitish buff, blotched with rufous. Throat buff, with a thin median streak of chestnut. Underside of wing cinnamon. Primaries and secondaries indistinctly barred. Under wing-coverts barred with rufous. Iris greyish white. Feet pale lemon. Bill black, base bluish. Cere pale green. Eyelid greenish (collector's ticket).

Obs. "These Hawks, and two others said to be exactly like them, were shot in September 1897 on the island of Car

Nicobar, in the Bay of Bengal, by Mr. A. L. Butler, and are named after Col. E. A. Butler, of Brettenham Park, Bury. Mr. Butler writes that they are 'not uncommon in forest on Car Nicobar, keeping almost exclusively to the tops of high trees; continually utters a shrill little double cry, exactly like *Astur badius*. Young birds are extremely chestnut in colour. The one I send had one or two filaments of nest-down still hanging to it, proving this to be the first plumage acquired. Young birds have a trick of fluttering on a bough like a broken-legged bird. In September I noticed several rufous-crowned young birds probably bred in March or April, and at the same time both adult cocks killed were in a state of breeding.'

"Dr. Sharpe concurs in thinking they are a species distinct from *Astur poliopsis* and *A. badius*. In the whole of the series at the Natural History Museum there was not one at all approaching the bright chestnut Kestrel-like colour of *Astur butleri* when immature."

MR. ERNST HARTERT exhibited a new Humming-bird, which he described as follows:—

CHALCOSTIGMA PURPUREICAUDA, sp. n.

♂. Above deep green, with a metallic bluish gloss. Tail rich purple, the two lateral rectrices with narrow buff tips, the central pair metallic greenish blue towards the tip. Below dark green, each feather with a rusty-brown border, broader towards the belly, which is almost entirely rusty brown. Under tail-coverts purplish steel-blue, with broad rusty-buff edges. Chin and throat glittering green in the middle. The irregular shape of the glittering spot on the throat and the rusty edges on the underside are probably signs of immaturity. Wing 71 mm.; lateral rectrices 54, central 40; exposed part of culmen 13.5.

One skin, evidently a male, found in a Bogota collection of Humming-birds. The bill is sharply pointed; the mandible is distinctly turned upwards before the tip, reminding one of *Opisthoprora*. The rectrices are very wide, the

lateral and central ones fully 12 mm. The purple tail reminds one somewhat of *Zodalia*, which, however, has the tail much longer.

This species has apparently no very close ally.

Mr. E. HARTERT further submitted some other new South-American birds, collected in Ecuador by Mr. Rosenberg. He characterized them as follows:—

CERCOMACRA ROSENBERGI, sp. n.

♂ *ad.* Above blackish cinereous; a large concealed dorsal spot of white. Wings and tail greyish black; tail without any white tips. Bend of wing mixed black and white. Wing-coverts with rounded white tips. Wing 63 mm., tail 51, bill 19, tarsus 28.

Cachabi, North Ecuador, 500 feet high. Named in honour of the discoverer.

This species is allied to *C. tyrannina* and *C. approximans*, but differs in having no white on the inner edges of the wing, and in having no large white spot on the bend of the wing. The tips to the wing-coverts are rather rounded, the rectrices having no white tips whatever.

PYRIGLENA BERLEPSCHI, sp. n.

Entirely black, with a large concealed dorsal spot of white. Inner aspect of wings blackish brown. Wing 44–46 mm., tail 47, bill 20, tarsus 28.

Cachabi, North Ecuador, 500 feet high. Named in honour of Count Berlepsch, the eminent specialist in South-American birds.

This species differs from *P. ater* chiefly in its considerably smaller size, while *P. picea* has, besides a much larger-sized toe, the inner wing-lining whitish.

THAMNOPHILUS CACHABIENSIS, sp. n.

Above black without any gloss, somewhat more slaty on the crown. Most of the wing-coverts with small white tips. Below slaty black; feathers of the chin, throat, breast, and a few along the middle of the abdomen with white tips. Wing

from below brownish black. Bill and feet black. Wing 67 mm., tail (rather abraded) about 46, tarsus 26.

Cachabi, North Ecuador, 500 feet.

The two skins before me are both marked "♀," which may possibly be correct, as in *T. punctatus*, the nearest known ally to *T. cachabiensis*, though widely different, the sexes are both black and very much alike.

AUTOMOLUS NIGRICAUDA, sp. n.

♂. Above dark brown, somewhat more rufous brown on the crown of the head. Wings deep brown, inner webs with rufous edges. Behind the eyes a clearly indicated rufous superciliary line. Ear-coverts dark brown. Throat rufous, lighter on the chin. Rest of under surface brown; flanks and under tail-coverts deeper brown. Under-wing-coverts dark rufous. Tail from above black, with a slaty tinge, blackish brown below, this latter character distinguishing this species from all its allies, which have a reddish tail. Wing 90 mm., tail 72, bill 24, tarsus 28.

Cachabi, North Ecuador, 500 feet.

POLIOPTILA SCHISTACEIGULA, sp. n.

♂. Above slaty grey; crown of head a little darker. Wings slaty black. Tail black; some of the outer rectrices with narrow white tips, the extent of which cannot be exactly seen, as the tail-feathers are a little abraded. Chin-feathers white, with slate-coloured bases; entire throat and fore-neck slate-colour. Under wing-coverts white, slate-colour near the bend; inner webs of quills with a white margin towards the base. Breast, abdomen, and under tail-coverts white. Wing 50 mm., tail 43, tarsus 16, bill 12.

Cachabi, North Ecuador, 500 feet.

Mr. W. P. PYCRAFT exhibited the skulls of the principal forms of the *Steganopodes*, and pointed out the characters by which these birds could be distinguished, not only by a comparison of the skulls, but also of the pelvis, the shoulder-girdle, and other portions of the skeleton. *Phaeton* appeared

to be the least specialized, and was probably the most archaic of the Order.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 16th of February, 1898, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

PHILIP CROWLEY,
Chairman.

R. BOWDLER SHARPE,
Editor.

HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Sec. & Treas.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LI.

THE fiftieth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 16th of February, 1898.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—BOYD ALEXANDER, G. E. H. BARRETT-HAMILTON, E. BIDWELL, W. EAGLE CLARKE, P. CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, Dr. F. D. DREWITT, J. GERRARD, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, E. HARTERT, J. E. HARTING, G. E. LODGE, E. NEALE, HEATLEY NOBLE, C. E. PEARSON, H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, M.D., H. SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), JOHNSON WILKINSON, L. A. WILLIAMS, H. F. WITHERBY.

Visitors : GEORGE EVANS, E. A. LEARROYD.

THE HON. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent for exhibition the types of the following three new species :—

PITTA DOHERTYI, sp. n.

♂ *ad.* Top of the head and nape brownish red, darker on the forehead, in the middle of which, at the base of the culmen, are a few pale bluish feathers. Entire throat and a ring round the neck black ; the feathers in the middle of the throat having concealed white bases. A broad band across the lower throat and upper back—interrupted on the sides of

[February 26th, 1898.]

the neck—pale blue, followed by a broad black band across the upper breast. Lower breast, entire abdomen, and under tail-coverts red, with white and black bases to the feathers. Back and scapulars olive-green, darker in the middle of the feathers. Least wing-coverts dark olive-green, the remainder pale blue with lighter edges, those near the shoulder with white bases. Rump, upper tail-coverts, and tail pale blue. Quills black, tips brownish with a bluish wash; second to fifth primary with a white speculum. Under wing-coverts brown. “ Iris deep chestnut-brown; feet purplish grey; bill black, gape and tip of culmen dull ochreous.” Wing 99 mm., tail 39, bill 20, tarsus 40.

♀. Throat brownish black. Dimensions a little smaller. Iris white!

The entirely black throat and breast-band and the scaly appearance of the upper parts distinguish this bird at a glance from the other species in which the abdomen is red.

Hab. Sula Mangoli; discovered by Mr. William Doherty, of Cincinnati.

PTILINOPUS MANGOLIENSIS, sp. n.

Belongs to Group A of the arrangement of the genus *Ptilinopus* in the ‘Catalogue of Birds,’ vol. xxi., and resembles *P. subgularis*, Mey. & Wigesw., in the absence of the rust-coloured spot on the abdomen; but it differs from both *P. gularis* and *P. subgularis* in being greenish yellow on the neck and under surface, all the feathers of these parts being light grey with broad greenish-yellow borders. The feathers of the crown have narrow sub-terminal yellowish lines. Wing of the male 165, of the female 156 mm.; tail of male 136, of female 130 mm.

Hab. Sula Mangoli (*W. Doherty coll.*).

PTILINOPUS EVERETTI, sp. n.

This new species may be described as being between *P. cinctus* and *P. albocinctus*. It differs from *P. cinctus* in having the throat and neck white with fine narrow, wavy, very pale grey cross-lines—instead of white washed with lemon-yellow—and in having a wider and lighter terminal bar across the tail-feathers. *P. albocinctus* has the throat

and neck bluish grey, and the abdomen darker, the bar across the tail narrower. *P. lettiensis* differs in having the neck and throat ivory-white, and the end of the tail yellowish white, not pale grey.

P. everetti was found on the island of Alor by Mr. Alfred Everett.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT exhibited specimens of three new Pigeons discovered on the Island of Obi Major (or Obi), Moluccas, by Mr. William Doherty. He characterized them as follows:—

CARPOPHAGA OBIENSIS, sp. n.

Of the same pattern of coloration and the same dimensions as *C. basilica*, of the Northern Moluccas, but the entire head, throat, fore-neck, and breast much deeper vinous, with a greyish wash; hind-neck darker grey, separated from the vinous head by a rusty patch. Abdomen and under tail-coverts deep cinnamon, instead of pale cinnamon.

PTILINOPUS GRANULIFRONS, sp. n.

This remarkable new species entirely agrees in the pattern of its coloration with *P. hyogaster* (Temm.) from Halmahera and Batjan, but differs in the following points:—On the forehead, at the base of the bill, is a mass of fleshy knobs, of which there is no sign in *P. hyogaster*. The green of the back, and especially of the breast, is much more yellowish. The grey of the head is lighter and covers also the occiput. The vent and under tail-coverts are of a paler lemon-yellow. The wing is generally a little shorter, measuring 122–132 mm.

REINWARDTÆNAS REINWARDTI OBIENSIS, subsp. n.

Differs from the smaller form of *Reinwardtænas reinwardti*, of the Northern Moluccas, in having the chin and cheeks washed with yellowish buff.

Mr. G. E. H. BARRETT-HAMILTON exhibited specimens of ornaments made in Canton—the foundation being of silver, with a minute inlaying of blue feathers from several species of birds; the appearance produced being that of enamel.

Mr. E. BIDWELL exhibited a number of photographs of mounted birds in the Hancock Collection at the Newcastle Museum. Some of these birds were among the rarest visitors to Great Britain (*e.g.* the Black Kite and the Red-necked Nightjar), while others (such as the Northern Falcons, the Great Auk, &c.) were fine examples of the late Mr. Hancock's skill in taxidermy.

Mr. W. EAGLE CLARKE called attention to three species of birds hitherto unrecognized in Franz Josef Land. Of these, he exhibited a skin of the Shore-Lark (*Otocorys alpestris*), and also one of Bonaparte's Sandpiper (*Tringa fuscicollis* Vieill.), obtained on June 28th, by Mr. Bruce, of the Jackson-Harmsworth Expedition. The occurrence of the latter species was remarkable, inasmuch as its Arctic range was only known to extend from Greenland westward to Point Barrow, Alaska. The third unrecorded species was the Purple Sandpiper (*Tringa striata* Linn.), the eggs and downy young of which were obtained.

Mr. W. R. OGILVIE GRANT exhibited on behalf of Dr. Bowdler Sharpe (absent, owing to illness), a few skins from a collection of birds made in Mashona-land by Mr. J. Lawrence Sowerby, late of the B. S. A. Co. Police. Among these were examples of several interesting species, including *Melierax meehowi*, *Monticola angolensis*, &c., and a new Barbet, which Dr. Sharpe proposed to call

STACTOLÆMA SOWERBYI, sp. n.

Similis *S. anchietæ*, sed mento albo, gutture et præpectore nigricantibus, gastræi plumis albido apicatis, tibiis albis, distinguenda. Long. tot. 6·6 poll., alæ 3·75.

Mr. GRANT also read descriptions of three new species of birds recently obtained by Messrs. C. B. Rickett and J. de La Touche in the Province of Fohkien :—

1. CRYPTOLOPHA SINENSIS Rickett, sp. n.

Like *C. castaneiceps* Hodgs., but the breast and belly are uniform yellow and only the outermost pair of tail-feathers have the inner web white. Wing 1·85–2·0 inches.

2. *CETTIA SINENSIS* La Touche, sp. n.

Nearest to *C. fortipes*, but the throat, fore-neck, middle of the chest, and breast white; sides, flanks, and vent snuff-brown; no tinge of fulvous on the middle of the belly. Wing 1·9–2·2, tail 1·7–2·05 inches.

3. *CRYPTOLOPHA INTERMEDIA* La Touche, sp. n.

Near *C. tephrocephala* (Anders.) and *C. affinis* (Hodgs.). Differs from the former in having a much shorter bill, and the secondary coverts distinctly tipped with pale yellow, forming a well-marked bar; from *C. affinis* it differs in having a ring of feathers round the eye, yellow. Wing 2·2–2·3 inches.

Mr. SCLATER called attention to the excellent regulations made by Capt. A. H. Cowie, R.E., M.B.O.U., for the preservation of the wild birds in Wolmer Forest, as Hon. Sec. of the Aldershot Game-Preserving Association. All Hawks, Owls, and other birds were preserved as far as possible, and no guns were allowed to be carried by the gamekeepers. The heronry in Wolmer Forest had increased under Capt. Cowie's influence from one or two nests to nearly 20, and about 50 young birds were reared in 1897.

The announcement of the unexpected death of Mr. DANIEL MEINERTZHAGEN on 13th inst., at the age of 22, was received with regret. He was one of the last-elected Members of the B.O.U., and the latest recruit to the B.O.C.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 16th of March, 1898, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,
Chairman.

HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Sec., Treas., & Acting-Editor.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LII.

THE fifty-first Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 16th of March, 1898.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—BOYD ALEXANDER, G. E. H. BARRETT-HAMILTON, E. BIDWELL, F. E. BLAAUW, Dr. J. ROSE BRADFORD, F.R.S., W. E. DE WINTON, Lieut.-Col. W. H. M. DUTHIE, A. H. EVANS, E. N. F. FENWICK, J. GERRARD, G. E. LODGE, E. NEALE, R. NESHAM, E. W. OATES, R. LLOYD PATTERSON, H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, M.D., E. LORT PHILLIPS, T. DIGBY PIGOTT, C.B., W. P. PYCRAFT, A.L.S., H. SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), A. TREVOR-BATTYE, H. M. UPCHER, L. A. WILLIAMS, H. F. WITHERBY.

Visitors : DR. E. GWYNN, REGINALD LODGE.

Mr. W. E. DE WINTON exhibited a specimen of *Perdix daurica*, purchased in Leadenhall Market. Several hundred specimens of this Bearded Partridge were on sale in the market, but their exact origin could not be ascertained. The birds were in excellent condition and had evidently not been shot. That they had come from some Mahomedan district of Asia was equally certain, as every specimen examined at the British Museum was found to have its throat cut!

[March 28th, 1898.]

Mr. HOWARD SAUNDERS exhibited the specimen of the small Shearwater obtained off the island of Valentia, Kerry, on the 11th of May, 1853. For years this specimen had been identified as the Dusky Shearwater, *Puffinus obscurus* (Gm.). Recent investigations by Mr. Ogilvie Grant in the islands near Madeira, as well as Mr. Boyd Alexander in the Cape Verde Archipelago, had aroused a suspicion that there might be an error in the identification of the Irish specimen. The authorities of the Science and Art Museum of Dublin having kindly forwarded the example in question for comparison with the specimens of *P. obscurus* in the British Museum, it is clearly established that this is not *P. obscurus*, but the closely allied *P. assimilis* of Gould, which may be distinguished from *P. obscurus* by its smaller size, by the white or pale centres to the inner webs of the primaries, the white under tail-coverts, and a more decided white line on each side of the neck. The identification is confirmed by Mr. Osbert Salvin. *P. assimilis* breeds in the islands of the Madeira and the Canary groups, as well as in the Cape Verde Islands, while *P. obscurus* breeds in the Bermudas and the Antilles. Both species have a wide range.

Mr. F. W. STYAN sent for exhibition a new Woodpecker from Fokien, which he proposed to call—

CHRYSOPHLEGMA RICKETTI, sp. n.

Adult male. Most nearly allied to *Chrysophlegma pierii*, but differs from that and other allied species in having the primaries coarsely barred with chestnut and black to the extremity; the chin is, moreover, rufous streaked with black, and only the malar region is white with a faint yellowish tinge.

Hab. Ching Ting, Fokien.

Mr. SCLATER brought forward the subject of "Bipolarity," which had been much discussed recently in the debates on the question of the scientific advantages of an Antarctic expedition, and remarked that in the case of the higher Vertebrates, or in that of Birds at least, no sort of "Bi-

polarity" could be stated to exist, whatever might be the case in the lower marine animals. Mr. Sclater exhibited a list (see p. xlii) in which the birds of Arctica, as represented by the known birds of Franz Josef Land (*cf.* Ibis, 1898, p. 249), were contrasted in parallel columns with those of Antarctica (*cf.* Ibis, 1894, p. 494), and pointed out that not only were all the Species different, but nearly all the Genera and most of the Families and Orders. Three species of Passeres were found in Arctica, whereas not one was known from Antarctica, although there were vague rumours about a *Corvus* having been seen there. An Owl and a Hawk were found in Arctica, but no *Accipitres* had yet been met with in Antarctica. At least two species of *Anseres* were found in Arctica, but there were only uncertain reports of a Goose of some kind in Antarctica. Three species of Tringoid *Limicolæ* occurred in Arctica, whereas in Antarctica only the Sheath-bill (*Chionis*), belonging to a peculiar Antarctic Family, was known. Among the *Gaviæ* the correspondence was better, as the genera *Sterna*, *Larus*, and *Stercorarius* were represented in both the Polar Extremities, but the species were in every case different. The order of *Tubinares* was essentially Antarctic, at least ten species having been met with in Antarctica, whereas in the Arctic regions *Fulmarus glacialis* was the sole representative of the group. On the other hand, when we came to the *Pygopodes*, which were essentially an Arctic group, three species were amongst the more abundant of birds in the Arctic regions, and a fourth had occasionally been met with, but not a single form of this group was found in Antarctica. Descending to the *Impennes*, at the bottom of the list, we came again to an essentially Antarctic group, which was absolutely unknown in the Arctic regions, but was well represented by multitudinous individuals of at least four species in Antarctica.

The facts, therefore, as regards Arctic and Antarctic birds might be shortly summarized by stating that no two Avifaunas could be more essentially different, not a single species being identical, and only three genera out of seventeen,

whilst the *Pygopodes* of the North were replaced by the absolutely different Order *Impennes* in the South.

*Birds of Arctica.**Birds of Antarctica.*

I. PASSERES.

1. *Plectrophenax nivalis*.
2. *Calcarius lapponicus*.
3. *Otocorys alpestris*.

Corvus, sp. inc. (?).

II. STRIGES.

4. *Nyctea scandiaca*.

III. ACCIPITRES.

5. *Falco candicans* (?).

IV. ANSERES.

6. *Bernicla brenta*.
7. *Somateria mollissima*.

Chloephaga, sp. inc. (?).

V. LIMICOLÆ.

8. *Tringa fuscicollis*.
9. — *striata*.
10. *Calidris arenaria*.

1. *Chionis alba*.

VI. GAVIÆ.

11. *Sterna macrura*.
12. *Rhodostethia rosea*.
13. *Larus glaucus*.
14. *Pagophila eburnea*.
15. *Rissa tridactyla*.
16. *Stercorarius crepidatus*.

2. *Sterna hirundinacea*.
3. *Larus dominicanus*.
4. — *scoresbyi*.
5. *Stercorarius antarcticus*.
6. — *maccormicki*.

VII. TUBINARES.

17. *Fulmarus glacialis*.

7. *Diomedea fuliginosa*.
8. *Oceanites oceanicus*.
9. *Majaqueus æquinoctialis*.
10. *Thalasseoca glacialoides*.
11. — *antarctica*.
12. *Ossifraga gigantea*.
13. *Daption capensis*.
14. *Prion vittatus*.
15. — *desolatus*.
16. *Pagodroma nivea*.

*Birds of Arctica.**Birds of Antarctica.*

VIII. PYGOPODES.

18. *Colymbus septentrionalis*.
19. *Uria mandti*.
20. — *bruennichi*.
21. *Mergulus alle*.

IX. IMPENNES.

17. *Aptenodytes forsteri*.
18. *Pygosceles adeliæ*.
19. — *tæniata*.
20. *Eudyptes antarctica*.

Mr. BLAAUW exhibited eggs of a Weka Rail (*Ocydromus australis*), laid in his park at Hilvershum, which bore a curious similarity to the eggs of *Aramides ypecaha* laid under exactly the same circumstances. Only a small difference in the shape of the egg distinguished these two Forest-Rails from such distant parts of the world as New Zealand and South America.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 20th of April, 1898, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LIII.

THE fifty-second Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 20th of April, 1898.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—BOYD ALEXANDER, G. E. H. BARRETT-HAMILTON, E. BIDWELL, W. EAGLE CLARKE, PHILIP CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, H. E. DRESSER, Dr. F. D. DREWITT, Lt.-Col. W. H. M. DUTHIE, H. J. ELWES, F.R.S., JOHN GERRARD, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, J. GRAHAM KERR, G. E. LODGE, Rt. Hon. Sir HERBERT MAXWELL, Bart., M.P., HENRY MUNT, R. NESHAM, HEATLEY NOBLE, E. W. OATES, H. J. PEARSON, E. LORT PHILLIPS, T. DIGBY PIGOTT, C.B., H. L. POPHAM, W. P. PYCRAFT, Capt. SAVILE G. REID, H. SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), W. B. TEGETMEIER, N. F. TICEHURST, C. A. WRIGHT, JOHN YOUNG.

Visitors : H. J. BIDWELL, R. A. CROWLEY, R. LODGE, ~~Sir HERBERT~~ MAXWELL, H. C. MONRO, A. E. PRICE, H. G. SAWYER.

The Committee recommended the alteration of Rule III., under which, for reasons which were adequate when the Club was started in 1892, Members of the B. O. U. were not admissible as Visitors. The increased prosperity of the Club seemed to render this restriction no longer desirable. As

[April 30th, 1898.]

amended, Rule III. would be:—"Members of the B. O. U. can attend the Meetings of the Club as Visitors, but every Member of the Club introducing a Member of the B. O. U. as a visitor (to dinner or to the Meeting afterwards) shall pay One Shilling to the Treasurer on each occasion."

The proposed alteration was accepted, *nem. con.*

MR. G. E. H. BARRETT-HAMILTON exhibited some specimens of birds from Kamchatka obtained during his recent trips to the North Pacific, the most interesting being an apparently new species of Nutcracker, which he described:—

NUCIFRAGA KAMCHATKENSIS, sp. n.

N. similis N. caryocacti, sed nigra, nec brunnescens, et remigibus ad apicem albo maculatis vel marginatis.
N. multipunctatæ potiùs æffinis, et maculis albis magnis ornata, sed areâ albâ reetricum terminali minùs extensâ (1·3-1·5). Long. tot. 13·0 poll., culm. 1·85, alæ 7·2, caudæ 4·6, tarsi 1·55.

MR. REGINALD B. LODGE exhibited some of his 'Photographs of Bird Life,' which included figures of many British Birds, as well as of other species from the marshes of Holland and Southern Spain.

MR. HEATLEY NOBLE brought for exhibition the egg of the Great Auk recently acquired by him, and gave the following history of the specimen:—

This egg was acquired by the late Mr. A. D. Bartlett, from either Mr. Dunn or Mr. Hoy, about 1838. It was sold by him in April 1842 to Mr. E. Maunde and repurchased in or about 1851, after which it was sold to Dr. Nathaniel Troughton in 1852 (with a bird for £26) for £5.

On April 27th, 1869, Dr. Troughton's collection was sold at Stevens's Rooms, King Street, and the egg was bought by the second Lord Garvagh for £60 or £64 (Lot 253). After Lord Garvagh's death in 1871 the egg passed into the possession of the Dowager Lady Garvagh, who died in 1891, when it became the property of her daughter, the Hon. Emmeline R. Canning, who died on February 9th, 1898, and

at whose residence, 50 Belgrave Road, Mr. J. E. Harting found it. On April 7th, 1898, it was purchased by me. This specimen was erroneously supposed by Grieve ('History of the Great Auk,' p. 106) to have been broken to pieces through the carelessness of a servant.

At the time of his death Lord Garvagh possessed three eggs, two of which he had purchased from Mr. Potts in May 1853, and it was one of these (now in the possession of Mrs. G. F. Rowley) that had been broken, to replace which he bought this egg in 1869.

The Troughton egg had simply been lost sight of, and remained undiscovered for more than 25 years. Mr. Bidwell has a water-colour sketch made in 1861, before it became the property of Lord Garvagh, which places its identity beyond doubt.

Mr. H. L. POPHAM exhibited some beautiful clutches of eggs of species of Thrushes procured by him during his journey to the Yenesei Valley, among which were series of *Turdus obscurus*, *Geocichla sibirica*, &c.

Mr. JOSEPH I. S. WHITAKER described an apparently new species of Shore-Lark from the Atlas Mountains in Morocco, and proposed the name

OTOCORYS ATLAS, sp. n.

♂. Similis *O. elwesi* et regione nigrâ paroticâ minimè cum fasciâ pectorali conjunctâ: frontis basi nigrâ: tectricibus alarum arenario-brunneis, dorso concoloribus, nec vinaceis: gulâ pallidè sulfureâ ut in *O. alpestri*.

Hab. Glani, Atlas Mts., Morocco.

Mr. SCLATER, having just returned from a short visit to Malta, proposed to say a few words about the Ornis of that Island. According to the last authorities, the birds of the Maltese group were rather over 300 in number. Of these only some twelve were resident species, breeding in the islands, the remainder being either migrants that pass through in spring and autumn, or occasional visitors. Our leading authority on Maltese ornithology is, of course,

Mr. C. A. Wright, whose papers on this subject ('Ibis,' 1864-1870) would be well known to the members of the B. O. C. ; but Prof. Giglioli having included Malta within the scope of his 'Avifauna Italica,' reference should also be made to that work, and likewise to Dr. R. Blasius's lately published 'Ornis v. Malta u. Gozo' (see 'Ibis,' 1895, p. 388).

Mr. Sclater had examined the collection of birds in the Museum of the University of Valletta, which contained from 400 to 500 examples of Maltese Birds. These were, unfortunately, badly mounted and cared for, and imperfectly named, and required thorough rearrangement and renewal. He had also had the pleasure of visiting the private collection of Major Francia, R.M.R., which had only lately been commenced, but contained about 100 nicely mounted specimens, many being of considerable rarity. Mr. Sclater suggested that a Handbook of Maltese Birds brought up to date would be a very useful and easy piece of work, and expressed a hope that some member of the B. O. U. would take up the subject.

Mr. W. E. DE WINTON made some further remarks on the Siberian Partridges (*Perdix daurica*), of which so many had recently come to the London markets.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 18th of May, 1898, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street ; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LIV.

THE fifty-third Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 18th of May, 1898.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present:—G. BARRETT-HAMILTON, R. M. BARRINGTON, E. BIDWELL, P. CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, Dr. F. D. DREWITT, E. N. F. FENWICK, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, J. H. GURNEY, E. HARTERT, R. McD. HAWKER, G. E. LODGE, H. MUNT, E. NEALE, R. NESHAM, E. W. OATES, C. E. PEARSON, H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, M.D., T. D. PIGOTT, C.B., W. P. PYCRAFT, H. SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), E. CAVENDISH TAYLOR, E. P. TENNANT, H. M. WALLIS, WATKIN WATKINS, LIONEL A. WILLIAMS.

Visitors: THE EARL OF LINDSAY, R. B. LODGE.

Mr. SCLATER exhibited a pair of eggs of the South African Thick-knee (*Ædicnemus capensis*), forwarded to him by Mr. J. E. Matcham, C.M.Z.S., of Port Elizabeth, as those of the "Dik-kop" of that district. There was one similar egg of the same species in the collection of the British Museum obtained by Mr. E. L. Layard.

[May 25th, 1898.]

Mr. SCLATER exhibited a second series of beautiful photographs of the nests and eggs of Australian Birds, transmitted to him by Mr. Dudley Le Souëf, C.M.Z.S., Assistant-Director of the Zoological Gardens at Melbourne. Amongst these were figures of the nests of the Victoria Lyre-bird (*Menura victoriae*), the Emu-Wren (*Stipiturus malachurus*), and the rarely-found nest (with one egg) of Jardine's Caterpillar-hunter (*Campephaga jardinii*).

Mr. ERNST HARTERT exhibited the type specimens of two new birds obtained by Mr. A. L. Butler on the Gunong Ijau, Perak, Malay Peninsula, and characterized them as follows:—

SERILOPHUS ROTHSCHILDI, Hartert & Butler, sp. n.

Differs from *S. lunatus*—with which it agrees in the peculiarly shaped tips of the longest primaries—in being darker and greyer above; crown of the head pure grey, not pale rusty brown; ear-coverts grey, with hardly a tint of brown, while they are pale brown in *S. lunatus*, and the rufous colour on the secondaries is deeper; round the eye a narrow ring of white feathers. “Iris greenish brown, mottled with golden specks; eyelid and base of mandible for about $\frac{1}{8}$ inch bright gamboge-yellow; bill pale whitish blue, tip and lateral edges whitish; feet pale greenish chrome, claws milky blue” (*A. L. Butler*).

Hab. Gunong Ijau, 3000 feet. Named in honour of Mr. Walter Rothschild, by Mr. Butler's request.

CRYPTOLOPHA BUTLERI, Hartert, sp. n.

♂ *ad.* Crown of the head dark rufous, with a broad deep brown lateral stripe; sides of the head and back ashy grey; lower back, rump; scapulars, smaller upper-wing-coverts, edges to the primaries and rectrices, yellowish green; larger upper-wing-coverts blackish, with a greenish wash and greenish-yellow tips; throat and fore-neck to the chest pale grey; middle of the abdomen white; sides of body, under wing-coverts, axillaries, vent, and under tail-coverts lemon-

yellow. " Iris reddish brown ; bill dusky, mandible yellowish flesh ; feet brownish yellow " (*A. L. B.*).

Wing 51-54 mm., tail 42-45, bill 6·5-7, tarsus 16-16·5.

Nearest to *C. castaneiceps*, but easily distinguished by its darker rufous crown and grey back, besides other differences. Named in honour of Mr. Butler.

Hab. Gunong Ijau, 4000 feet.

Mr. HARTERT also announced that Mr. A. H. Everett, M.B.O.C., had returned to England, and was at 88 Great Portland Street, W., suffering from his long and arduous labours in tropical climates. It was unanimously resolved that an expression of the sympathy of the Club should be conveyed to Mr. Everett, whose illness would, it was hoped, soon pass away ; meanwhile he was quite able and anxious to receive visits from his brother-ornithologists.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent the following communication :—

The expedition sent out to the Galapagos Islands by Frank Blake Webster, at my suggestion, has been very successful, and the collection is the largest and finest yet made in that group. The collectors stayed one day at Clarion Island and procured 85 birds, among which was a fine series of the new *Sula* described hereafter. Of the 105 species enumerated by Ridgway as occurring in the Galapagos Islands, good series of nearly all were obtained. Several authors have mentioned the breeding-place of an Albatross on Hood Island, but no specimens were ever collected ; while two species of Albatross were mentioned by former visitors to the islands, and Ridgway suggested that they might be *Diomedea exulans* and *D. nigripes*. The present expedition, however, found only one species of Albatross on Hood Island, and that proved to be *Diomedea irrorata* Salvin, of which hitherto only the type in the British Museum was known. The second supposed dark species will probably be the young of the above.

In addition to nearly all the species known to inhabit the archipelago, examples of several more were obtained, some seven or eight of which are new to science.

Mr. Hartert will show you the type specimens of six new species, of which I send you the descriptions. One species is named after Mr. Frank Blake Webster, who arranged and sent out the expedition, and one after each of the collectors.

PHALACROCORAX HARRISI, sp. n.

This is the most remarkable discovery made during the expedition.

Adult: upperside brownish black, bases of feathers blackish grey; scapulars and wing-coverts dark hoary grey, with black borders; a number of white filaments scattered about head and neck. Underside a mixture of pale brown and grey; tail black; quills blackish brown, with greyish tips on outer margin.

This bird is the largest known Cormorant, being if anything bigger than the extinct *Ph. perspicillatus*, and its wings are quite soft and incapable of flight, and of about the same size as the wings of the Great Auk, *Alca impennis*.

Wing of *Ph. harrisi*, 7 to 7·5 inches.

„ . *Alca impennis*, 6·7 inches.

Hab. Narborough Island, Galapagos Islands.

SULA WEBSTERI, sp. n.

Adult, in white plumage closely resembling *S. piscatrix*, having the same hoary-grey on the primaries, but at once distinguishable by its dark brownish-grey tail; the bill is also more slender, and the red at the base of the mandible is more extended. Young in grey plumage somewhat variable, very different from the young of *S. piscatrix*, being not so dark above and the feathers of the back uniform brown, not edged with light grey; below darker than the young of *S. piscatrix*. Size of *S. piscatrix*.

Hab. Clarion Island, Galapagos, and the neighbouring seas.

NESOMIMUS HULLI, sp. n.

Similar to *N. melanotis*, but with the buffy-white tips to the primaries—and still more to the secondaries—decidedly wider, and with a distinct moustache-like line of black spots from the base of the mandible to the neck.

Culpepper Island. A good series.

NESOMIMUS AFFINIS, sp. n.

Near *N. parvulus* from Albemarle, but easily distinguished by its deeper, almost uniform dark brown upper surface and more heavily streaked sides of the body. Chest with a more distinct brownish shade.

Narborough Island. A small series.

CERTHIDEA BECKI, sp. n.

Very closely allied to *C. fusca* Scl. & Salvin, from Abingdon Island, but generally darker above and below, especially the sides of the body and chest more brownish. Bill in many—but not in all—specimens a little shorter; wing considerably longer, in males always above 55 mm. (generally 57–58, never more than 58), in females about 54–55.5 mm.; while in *C. fusca* the wing of the males does not exceed 54 mm. in length, that of the females being only 50–52 mm.

Wenman Island. A good series.

CERTHIDEA DROWNEI, sp. n.

Closely allied to *C. becki*, but generally larger; beak stouter, throat rusty, crown darker. Wing of one, marked male, 62 mm., of another, also marked male, but probably a female, 57 mm.

Culpepper Island. Only two specimens.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD also sent for exhibition two new birds from British New Guinea, which he described as follows:—

IFRITA, gen. nov.

Of doubtful affinities, but probably near *Amalocichla* and *Cinclosoma*, agreeing with the former genus in the form of

the bill, but differing in its softer body-plumage, longer toes, softer tail and wings, and less graduated tail. Agreeing with *Amalocichla* in its soft plumage, but differing totally by the less compressed, shorter, and stouter bill. The wings are evidently of the usual rounded form of *Timeliidæ*, but cannot be described, being in moult. The tail is incomplete, but seems to be almost square; bill a little shorter than the head; the strong tarsus about half as long as the tail.

IFRITA CORONATA, sp. n.

Crown black, with a broad blue circle; lores and a narrow frontal line buff. Above the eye a small rusty buff patch, below the eye a black semicircle. Ear-coverts dark brown, behind the eye a patch of elongated white feathers. Rest of upper parts olive-brown; tail and wings dark olive-brown; quills with more yellowish-brown outer edges and rust-coloured inner edges. Some of the wing-coverts with buff tips. Below pale ochraceous, washed with olive-brown on the flanks and vent; throat lighter, almost whitish. Underwing-coverts bright ochraceous buff. Maxilla deep brown, mandible light-coloured. Wing about 88 mm., tail about 63, exposed part of bill 19, tarsus 29.

Low country east of Port Moresby, Brit. New Guinea.

CHARMOSYNA ATRATA, sp. n.

♂. Bill red; forehead purplish black, centre of crown darker. A patch of elongated lilac-blue feathers on the occiput; neck and upper back black, with a reddish shade; under surface dull black, sides of the breast dark green; back and upper wing-coverts dark green; lower back, rump, and sides of the belly carmine; rump with a large patch of lilac-blue; upper tail-coverts dark purplish green; quills black, outer webs broadly bordered with dark green; lateral rectrices green, with very narrow yellow edges near the tip, blackish towards the base, without any red; central rectrices absent; thighs purplish black; under tail-coverts dark purplish, with deep crimson tips; feet orange, with black claws. Wing 146 mm.

Hab. Mt. Scratchley, British New Guinea.

Mr. R. McD. HAWKER described two apparently new species of birds discovered by himself in Western Somali Land:—

APALIS VIRIDICEPS, sp. n.

A. similis A. flavocinctæ, sed maris pectore haud nigro notato, et pileo viridescente dorso concolore distinguenda. Long. tot. 4·7 poll., culm. 0·5, alæ 2·05, caudæ 2·2, tarsi 0·8.

Hab. Sheik Woolfy, Somali Land.

MIRAFRA MARGINATA, sp. n.

M. similis M. cantillanti, sed marginibus tectricum alarum latissimè arenariis distinguenda. Long. tot. 5·0 poll., culm. 0·5, alæ 2·95, caudæ 1·85, tarsi 0·9.

Hab. Ugiagi, Somali Land.

Mr. Hawker's collection also contained specimens of *Lanius pomeranus*, *Iynx torquilla*, *Falco cenchris*, *Motacilla alba*, and *Anthus campestris*.

Mr. H. J. PEARSON exhibited a case containing specimens of the adults with their young in down of the Reeve, Temminck's Stint, Dotterel, Red-necked Phalarope, and other species, obtained on his expedition to Waigats.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 22nd of June, 1898, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LV.

THE fifth-fourth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 22nd of June, 1898.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—E. BIDWELL, P. CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, W. WARDE FOWLER, J. E. HARTING, Major A. P. LOYD, A. HOLTE MACPHERSON, H. MUNT, R. NESHAM, HEATLEY NOBLE, H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, M.D., W. P. PYCRAFT, R. H. READ, H. SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), Dr. R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), E. CAVENDISH TAYLOR, N. F. TICEHURST, L. A. WILLIAMS, C. A. WRIGHT, JOHN YOUNG.

Visitor : C. F. UNDERWOOD.

THE CHAIRMAN referred to the loss which the Club had recently suffered by the deaths of Mr. OSBERT SALVIN, F.R.S., and Mr. A. H. EVERETT; and expressions of sympathy with the families of the deceased were unanimously passed.

Mr. SCLATER exhibited the skins of two birds obtained by Capt. Wellby at high elevations during his recent adventurous journey across Northern Tibet. These were referred to *Syrnhaptes tibetanus*, shot on June 21st, 1897, in lat. 34° 59',

[June 30th, 1898.]

long. $82^{\circ} 30'$, at an elevation of 17,130 feet, and a Hoopoe (*Upupa epops*), shot on the 28th of July, 1897, in lat. $35^{\circ} 20'$, long. $88^{\circ} 30'$, at an altitude of 16,690 feet.

Mr. H. SAUNDERS made some remarks upon a recent visit to Ireland, in company with Mr. R. J. Ussher, and stated that there did not seem to be any danger of the extermination of the Peregrine or the Chough in the south and west. Eagles were becoming scarce in the west, chiefly owing to poison laid out for foxes and hooded-crows. A considerable number of White Wagtails (*Motucilla alba*) passed along Killala Bay early in May, and an adult, with cotton-grass in its bill, was observed by Messrs. Ussher, Warren, and Saunders on June 10th, near Belmullet, co. Mayo.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent for exhibition some very interesting photographs of places and episodes of bird-life in the Galapagos Islands, which had been taken by the naturalists attached to the recent expedition to the Archipelago.

Dr. R. BOWDLER SHARPE gave a short account of his recent visit to the Smolen Islands in Northern Norway, and exhibited some interesting specimens of the eggs of *Larus canus*; also the photographs he had taken of the different islands and the nests of the birds found thereon.

Mr. W. P. PYCRAFT made a communication concerning the avian "mesopterygoid" of W. K. Parker. This, he showed, did not represent a mesopterygoid, but was really a segmentation of the anterior end of the pterygoid, which, running forward along the internal border of the posterior end of the palatine, terminates over the posterior extremity of the vomer, with which it is often in actual contact. This is the permanent condition of these bones in the *Ratitæ*, where, however, the anterior end of the pterygoid does not segment off from the main body of the bone. In the *Carinatæ*, later

in life the segmented anterior end fuses with the palatine and thus disappears, a true joint being formed behind this, the pterygo-palatine articulation. Thus, the pterygoid of adult modern *Carinatae* represents only the posterior portion of that bone, the anterior portion having fused with the palatine. The matter will be dealt with fully in a forthcoming paper.

Mr. C. F. UNDERWOOD described four apparently new species of birds from Costa Rica and Guatemala :—

TINAMUS SALVINI, sp. n.

T. similis T. fuscipenni, sed multo minor, et secundariis extus pallidè rufo fasciatim notatis; præpectore et pectore summo olivascenti-griseis, fulvo transfasciatis; abdomine albicanti-fulvo, distinctè nigro transfasciato. Long. tot. 10·5 poll., culm. 1·15, alæ 7·2, caudæ 2·0, tarsi 2·0.

Hab. Carrillo, Costa Rica, Nov. 30, 1897 (*C. F. U.*).

CHLOROSPINGUS OLIVACEICEPS, sp. n.

C. similis C. canigulari, Lafr., sed pileo olivaceo dorso concolore distinguendus. Long. tot. 5·0 poll., culm. 0·45, alæ 2·6, caudæ 2·05, tarsi 0·75.

Hab. Carrillo, Costa Rica, Nov. 24, 1897 (*C. F. U.*).

ICTERUS GUALANENSIS, sp. n.

Similis *I. giraudi*, sed capitis nigredine usque ad occiput extensâ. Long. tot. 8·5 poll., culm. 1·0, alæ 4·15, caudæ 4·1, tarsi 1·1.

Hab. Gualan, Guatemala, July 11, 1897 (*C. F. U.*).

PICOLAPTES SATURATIOR, sp. n.

Similis *P. compresso*, sed minor, rostro minore nigricantiore, notæo et gastræo saturatiore brunneis, maculis longitudinalibus conspicuè et latiùs nigro marginatis. Long. tot. 7 poll., culm. 0·95, alæ 3·5, caudæ 3·15, tarsi 0·7.

Hab. Gualan, Guatemala, Aug. 18, 1897 (*C. F. U.*).

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE exhibited some specimens of birds recently received by the British Museum from Mount Albert Edward, in British New Guinea. One of these appeared

to be the interesting Weaver-Finch described by Mr. De Vis as *Oreostruthus fuliginosus* (Ibis, 1897, p. 338; 1893, p. 175), excepting that the tail is described as having "many narrow blackish bars," whereas in the specimen exhibited it is uniform brown.

Two species of *Munia* appeared to be undescribed, and Dr. Sharpe proposed the following names for them:—

MUNIA SCRATCHLEYANA, sp. n.

M. similis M. canicipiti, sed dorso rufescenti-brunneo, præpectore cinereo, pectore et hypochondriis pallidè cervino-rufis distinguenda. Long. tot. 3·8 poll., culm. 0·45, alæ 2·05, caudæ 1·45, tarsi 0·55.

MUNIA NIGRITORQUIS, sp. n.

M. similis M. spectabili, sed torque pectorali nigro et hypochondriis nigris distinguenda. Long. tot. 4·3 poll., culm. 0·5, alæ 2·5, caudæ 1·75, tarsi 0·8.

Mr. W. L. SCLATER sent the description of a new species of Flycatcher from Inhambane, which he proposed to call:—

ERYTHROCERCUS FRANCISI, sp. n.

E. similis E. livingstonii, capite cinereo, sed caudâ nigro terminatâ distinguendus. Long. tot. 4·2 poll., culm. 0·4, alæ 1·85, caudæ 1·9, tarsi 0·7.

Mr. ROBERT READ exhibited some eggs of the British *Turdidæ*, showing an interesting transition from spotless to deeply spotted specimens, especially in *T. musicus*.

The next Meeting of the Club will probably be held on Wednesday, the 19th of October, 1898, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, and the Dinner at 7 P.M.; but due notice will be sent early in that month.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER, R. BOWDLER SHARPE, HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Chairman. *Editor.* *Sec. & Treas.*

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

EDITED BY

R. BOWDLER SHARPE, LL.D.

VOLUME VIII.
SESSION 1898-9.

LONDON:

R. H. PORTER, 7 PRINCES STREET, CAVENDISH SQUARE.

AUGUST 1899.



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PREFACE.

WITH a roll of one hundred and thirty-one active Members and a prospective addition of six more of our newly elected Members of the British Ornithologists' Union, the close of the Seventh Session of the B. O. Club finds the latter in a more satisfactory position than ever. Its financial condition has correspondingly improved, and the Committee have had the satisfaction of presenting to the Members of the Club the very useful 'Index' to the Genera adopted in the 'Catalogue of Birds,' the preparation of which is due to the forethought of Dr. P. L. Sclater, the Chairman of the Club.

The Editor begs to express his sincere regret that the pressure of other engagements has compelled Mr. Howard Saunders to resign the office of Secretary and Treasurer at the end of the present session. Mr. Saunders was one of the original founders of the Club, and has worked in its interests with a loyalty and good fellowship which the Editor cannot too gratefully acknowledge. He is sure that this feeling will be shared by every member of the B. O. Club, which owes so much of its success to the zeal and tact with which its Treasurer has managed its affairs. The office of Secretary and Treasurer will probably be assumed by our excellent member Mr. W. E. De Winton, in whose hands the Editor feels sure that the affairs of the Club will be maintained in the same prosperous condition that exists at present.

(Signed) R. BOWDLER SHARPE,
Editor.

August 20th, 1899.

ERRATA ET CORRIGENDA.

- Page vii, line 13 from bottom, for "NESOMIMUS CARRINGTONI" read "NESOMIMUS
BARRINGTONI."
„ ix, line 9 from bottom, for "*S. nipalensis*" read "*B. nipalensis*."

RULES
OF THE
BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

(As amended 20th April, 1898.)

I. This Club was founded for the purpose of facilitating the social intercourse of Members of the British Ornithologists' Union. Any Member of that Union can become a Member of this Club on payment (to the Treasurer) of an entrance fee of *Five Shillings* and a subscription of *Five Shillings* for the current Session. Resignation of the Union involves resignation of the Club.

II. Members who have not paid their subscriptions before the last Meeting of the Session shall cease, *ipso facto*, to be Members of the Club, but may be reinstated on payment of arrears, *and* a new entrance fee.

III. Members of the British Ornithologists' Union may be introduced as Visitors at the Meetings of the Club, but every Member of the Club who introduces a Member of the B. O. U. as a Visitor (to dinner or to the Meeting afterwards) shall pay *One Shilling* to the Treasurer, *on each occasion*.

IV. The Club shall meet, as a rule, on the Third Wednesday in every Month, from October to June inclusive, at such hour and place as may be arranged by the Committee. At these Meetings papers upon ornithological subjects shall be read, specimens exhibited, and discussion invited.

V. An Abstract of the Proceedings of the B. O. C. shall be printed as soon as possible after each Meeting, under the title of the 'Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club,' and distributed gratis to every Member *who has paid his subscription*. Copies of this Bulletin shall be published and sold at *One Shilling* each.

VI. The affairs of this Club shall be managed by a Committee, to consist of the Editors of 'The Ibis,' the Editor of the 'Bulletin,' and the Secretary and Treasurer, *ex officio*; with three other Members, one of whom shall be changed every year. The Committee shall have power to make and alter Bye-laws.

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[Members are requested to keep the Secretary informed of
 any changes in their addresses.]

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BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LVI.

THE fifty-fifth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 19th of October, 1898.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—G. E. H. BARRETT-HAMILTON, E. BIDEWELL, Hon. R. COKE, A. F. CROSSMAN, R. A. CROWLEY, P. CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, Dr. F. D. DREWITT, E. N. F. FENWICK, Dr. H. O. FORBES, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, G. H. CATON HAIGH, E. HARTERT, Major A. P. LOYD, A. E. MAXWELL, Rt. Hon. Sir HERBERT MAXWELL, Bart., M.P., E. G. B. MEADE-WALDO, H. MUNT, E. NEALE, R. NESHAM, E. W. OATES, H. J. PEARSON, Dr. F. PENROSE, T. DIGBY PIGOTT, C.B., H. L. POPHAM, W. P. PYCRAFT, H. SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), H. SCHERREN, R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), W. B. TEGETMEIER, N. F. TICEHURST, A. B. R. TREVOR-BATTYE, H. M. WALLIS, WATKIN WATKINS, J. I. S. WHITAKER, C. WHYMPER, J. WILKINSON, L. A. WILLIAMS, SCOTT B. WILSON, H. F. WITHERBY, C. A. WRIGHT, J. YOUNG.

Visitors : D. LE SOUËF (*Guest of the Club*), C. E. FAGAN, A. FITCH, E. A. FITCH, D. McDONALD, Dr. DONALDSON SMITH, A. L. STURGE.

The TREASURER announced that the first business of the Meeting was to choose the Officers of the Club for the new

[October 31st, 1898.]

Session, and the following were unanimously elected by show of hands :—

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.
Vice-Chairmen { PHILIP CROWLEY.
 { H. J. PEARSON.

Mr. W. E. DE WINTON was elected a Member of the Committee in the place of Major A. P. LOYD, who retired by rotation.

The CHAIRMAN gave the following address :—

BROTHER MEMBERS OF THE B. O. C.—

On opening the Seventh Session of the British Ornithologists' Club, I will venture to trouble you with a few words.

As the Editors of 'The Ibis' have already remarked in their preface to the volume for the present year, one of the leading ornithological events of 1898 is the completion of the 'Catalogue of Birds.' The twenty-sixth volume of this work, prepared by Dr. Bowdler Sharpe and Mr. Ogilvie Grant, the only one required to finish the series, will, I am assured, be laid before the Trustees at their meeting on the 22nd inst., and be ready for issue very shortly afterwards. Thus, after a period of twenty-five years, this most important piece of ornithological work has been brought to a conclusion. No human product is perfect, and the Catalogue has been, and will be, the subject of many criticisms. One obvious defect in it is its want of uniformity, the various authors having been permitted, owing to the wise discretion of the authorities, very liberal opportunities for the expression of their own views in their respective portions, although a general adherence to one plan has been rightly insisted upon. But when the enormous amount of labour required for this work and the absolute necessity of employing more than one author upon such a huge task are considered, it will be obvious that greater uniformity was practically unattainable. In the case of the 'Catalogue of Reptiles and Batrachians,' where the series of specimens and species was not so large,

the herpetologists are fortunate in having had the whole of the work performed upon a uniform system by the indefatigable energy of a single naturalist.

The 'Catalogue of Birds,' as complete in twenty-seven volumes, gives us an account of 11,614 species of this Class of Vertebrates, divided into 2255 genera and 124 families. It has been prepared by eleven authors, all Members of the British Ornithologists' Union, and with one exception, I believe (who is not a resident in England), now or formerly Members of this Club. I think it will be universally allowed that we have, in this case, a great and most useful undertaking brought to a successful conclusion.

Another good piece of ornithological work, likewise the product of a Member of this Club, which has just made its appearance, is Mr. Beddard's volume on the 'Structure and Classification of Birds.' It seems to me to be a most useful Manual on this subject, profusely illustrated, and full of convenient references to further information on various points which it would have been impossible to compress into a single volume. It will be found to be a mine of wealth to those who choose to dig in it, and contains a good summary, not only of the results arrived at by Mr. Beddard himself, but also by Garrod and Forbes, his illustrious predecessors in the office which he holds.

Mr. A. H. Evans, whose volume upon Birds for the 'Cambridge Natural History' we have been long expecting, informs me that this work is finished, except the index, and will be shortly published. We shall all welcome its appearance with the greatest pleasure. A second work that Mr. Evans, together with Mr. Scott Wilson, is engaged upon is the 'Aves Hawaiienses,' of which we have long been waiting for the final part. This, I am assured, is now in a forward state, and is likely to be issued without further delay.

From information received from Mr. Rothschild, I am pleased to be able to say that his somewhat parallel illustrated work on the 'Avifauna of Laysan,' of which the last part was issued in 1893, will also be shortly brought to a

conclusion, and that the third and final part will be issued in the course of next year. Taken together, these two works will form a most valuable contribution to our knowledge of the Avifauna of the Northern Pacific. I must also not forget to mention, amongst recent contributions to our science, the excellent work of Dr. Meyer and Mr. Wigglesworth on the birds of Celebes—one of the most elaborate and complete ornithological monographs on the birds of a special district ever prepared. Celebes, I may remark, as a debatable land between the Australian and Oriental Regions, was in special need of the full treatment and discussion which it has here received from the authors of this work.

But the brethren of the B. O. C. and their friends, I think I may say, are at present not less active in the field than in the cabinet. We are fortunate in having with us to-night the two principal members of the new expedition to Socotra and Southern Arabia which will leave England on the 28th inst. It will, of course, take up Natural History in every branch, but with Dr. Forbes and Mr. Ogilvie Grant as its leaders, and a trained taxidermist in attendance, we need not fear that the interests of Ornithology will in any way be overlooked. In Socotra itself much has been already done, but little or nothing has been ascertained ornithologically of the southern coast of Arabia, and we know, from Bent's writings, that even in this commonly supposed barren district, bird-life is abundant in certain spots, which we trust may be within reach of the Expedition.

Besides the Socotran Expedition many other explorations by various members of the B. O. U. are in progress or in contemplation. Capt. Boyd Alexander, who has worked so well in the Cape Verde Islands, is struggling through the middle of Africa from the Cape to Cairo. Under present circumstances he seems likely to come out successfully, and will, no doubt, bring information on birds, if not specimens, with him. Mr. Lort Phillips hopes to return to his favourite quarters in Somali-land during the course of the present winter, and expects to get together the supplementary mate-

rials still required for the preparation of his proposed work on the birds of that most interesting country. Mr. John Whitehead, who has added so much to our knowledge of the zoology of the Philippines, proposes to return to the same country very shortly, in order to continue his researches in a field which he knows so well and in which he takes such great interest. Before leaving, he has placed in the hands of the Editors of 'The Ibis' a series of valuable field notes on the birds collected during his last journey. These will appear in the forthcoming volume of our Journal. Mr. Alfred Sharpe, C.B., who is shortly returning to his post in Nyasaland, promises to continue the employment of collectors in different parts of that Protectorate, the zoology of which he, following in the footsteps of Sir Harry Johnston, has already done so much to investigate.

Finally, I may remark that, as will be seen on turning over the pages of contents in the last volume of 'The Ibis,' we have correspondents interested in our favourite subject in nearly every part of the world, and that the great difficulty of the Editors is to compress so many valuable contributions within the compass of an annual volume.

Before resuming my seat, I wish to say one more word. Our Government, in connection with that of Egypt, has just taken possession of an enormous district in Africa, probably nearly equal to half Europe in extent. It sternly warns all intruders off, even when they are alleged to be of "no political influence." When it comes to regulate the administration of these new territories, it is to be hoped that the interests of Natural History will not be entirely overlooked. Although the Upper Nile districts have been traversed and investigated by many well-known naturalists, there is still very much to be done in these teeming regions of animal-life. We Englishmen are ready and willing to undertake, by individual efforts, much work that in other countries is provided for by State-Explorers; but it is not too much to expect that our Government should at least help us by providing adequate facilities and occasional assistance, and even, perhaps, by contributions to the expensive process of

bringing the results thus acquired completely before the world.

A complete copy of the twenty-sixth volume of the 'Catalogue of Birds' was laid on the table by Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE.

Mr. G. H. CATON HAIGH exhibited and made remarks upon a Warbler, *Lusciniola schwarzi* (Radde), which he had shot on the 1st of this month, near North Cotes, Lincolnshire. The large bastard-primary easily distinguished the members of this genus (and those of *Herbivocula*) from the *Phylloscopi*. The summer-home of *L. schwarzi* appeared to be in South-eastern Siberia, and reached about as far west as Tomsk, according to Godlewski, who had mentioned the powerful note of the bird; this was described by Mr. Haigh as disproportionately loud, and it led to the thorough beating-out of the hedge in which the bird was skulking. It would be remembered that easterly winds had prevailed for a considerable time. So far, *L. schwarzi* seemed not to have been previously recorded within the European area. A coloured figure of the specimen would appear in the next number of 'The Ibis.'

Mr. HAIGH also exhibited a specimen of a young female of the Barred Warbler (*Sylvia nisoria*), which he shot near North Cotes on the 5th of September last. This was the thirteenth example obtained in the British Islands.

Mr. N. F. TICEHURST exhibited a Pectoral Sandpiper (*Heteropygia maculata*) obtained between Lydd and Rye, in Kent, on the 2nd of August, 1898.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent a pair of a new *Pitta*, which he described as follows:—

PITTA MEEKI, sp. n.

Superficially resembling the common *P. mackloti* from New Guinea, from which, however, it differs in the absence of the large black spot on the throat, which is only indicated by a dusky shade, the paler and more greyish chin and upper

throat, the light brown (not deep rufous) hind-neck, and the pale greyish-brown (not blackish) crown.

Hab. Rossel Island, where Mr. Albert S. Meek has collected a small series.

Mr. ROTHSCHILD also sent for exhibition a skin of the rare *Pitta novæhiberniæ*, Ramsay. This species had been long ago described by Dr. Ramsay and the differences from *P. mackloti* had been stated in the original description. Count Salvadori afterwards expressed an opinion that it was the same as *P. mackloti*, because he had seen specimens from New Britain which did not differ from *P. mackloti*—evidently in the belief that the ornis of New Ireland was the same as that of New Britain. Now Captain Cayley Webster had sent a series of a *Pitta* from New Hanover which agreed perfectly with the description of Ramsay, and differed much from *P. mackloti* in the absence of the black throat and breast-band, as well as in having the nape and hind-neck bright red. The species must therefore, for the present, bear the name of *P. novæhiberniæ*.

Mr. ROTHSCHILD further described and sent for exhibition, together with its nearest ally, *N. melanotis*, a pair of a new *Nesomimus*, which he described as follows:—

NESOMIMUS CARRINGTONI, sp. n.

Nearest to *N. melanotis*, from which it differs in its longer bill, shorter wing, somewhat paler upper surface, and less heavy black spots on the flanks. Wing, ♂ 110, ♀ 100 mm.; tail, ♂ 110, ♀ 105; culmen, ♂ 34, ♀ 32.

Hab. Barrington Island, Galapagos.

Mr. ROTHSCHILD also sent for exhibition specimens of *Tanysiptera rosseliana*, *Syma megarhyncha*, Salvad., *Strepera rosa-alba*, De Vis (= *Cracticus louisianensis*, Tristr.), *Parotia helenæ*, De Vis, which, with the exception of the *Tanysiptera* and *Cracticus*, had not before been seen in this country, nor shown to the B. O. Club, and a series of *Phonygammus jamesi*, Sharpe, showing the plumage at different ages.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT described the following new birds and exhibited their type specimens, together with examples of allied species for comparison :—

PODARGUS MEEKI, sp. n.

Intermediate in size between *P. intermedius*, Hartert, and *P. ocellatus*, Q. & G., and differing from both in the female not being rufous, but apparently always brownish, and much more heavily marked with black on the under surface than the male and darker above. Wing 190–195 mm., tail 167–180.

Discovered by Albert S. Meek on Sudest Island.

ÆGOTHELES PULCHER, sp. n.

Similar to *Æ. insignis*, Salvad., from Arfak, but differing in its larger size, and by the absence of round buff spots on the back and the middle of the breast. The upper wing-coverts have no blackish bars; the inner webs of the remiges are deep blackish brown, the outer webs chestnut-rufous with some faint blackish spots on the first three primaries, but without light markings. The central rectrices are chestnut-rufous with some narrow blackish cross-bars, but without any light markings. Under tail-coverts pale rufous at base, buffy white at the tip, with a narrow rufous border. Wing 172 mm., tail approximately 150 (very much abraded), tarsus 21.

One specimen from the mountains of British New Guinea.

PACHYCEPHALA ROSSELIANA, sp. n.

Somewhat intermediate between *P. melanura* with a black tail and *P. collaris* with an olive tail, but having the tail blackish, olive at base, the tips and edges seen on the outer webs of the rectrices broader on the central pair. The yellow collar on the hind-neck is narrower than in *P. collaris*, and slightly interrupted in the middle by an olive-green patch. The feathers of the thighs are black at the base, yellow at the tip, and with a white spot on one web before the yellow tip. Female above dark olive-brown, more greenish on the

rump and upper tail-coverts. Tail with the outer webs more olive than in the male. Chin and throat white, with some dusky tips to the feathers; breast and abdomen yellow, separated from the white throat by an ill-defined brownish band. Wing in the male 64-68 mm., tail 68.

Discovered by Albert S. Meek on Rossel Island.

PACHYCEPHALA ALBERTI, sp. n.

Closely allied to *P. griseiceps*, G. R. Gray, but with a longer and more powerful bill; throat and breast with more distinct dark shaft-lines in the adult birds, tail with very distinct dark cross-bars in certain lights, wing and tail longer. Wing 87-89 mm., tail 67-68.

Discovered on Sudest Island by Albert S. Meek, in whose honour it is named. It is, perhaps, only a subspecies of *P. griseiceps*, another very distinct subspecies of which is *P. jobiensis*, Salvad.

CYCLOPSITTACUS INSEPARABILIS, sp. n.

Mr. A. S. Meek has sent a fine series of a new *Cyclopsittacus* from Sudest Island, in which the sexes are alike in coloration, and resemble very much the female of *Cyclopsittacus virago*, Hartert, from Fergusson Island, except that the sides of the head are green and not bluish as in the female of *C. virago*. In the latter species the sexes are widely different.

Mr. OGILVIE GRANT exhibited on behalf of Mr. J. D. La Touche an example of a new species of Short-wing:—

BRACHYPTERYX CAROLINÆ La Touche, sp. n.

Adult male. Very similar to the adult female of *S. nipalensis*, the chest and fore-neck being largely mixed with white. Total length 5·2 inches, culmen 0·48, wing 2·45, tail 1·5, tarsus 1·1.

Adult female. Differs from the male in having the white eyebrow-stripe nearly obsolete, and the fore-neck and chest nearly uniform pale ochraceous-brown. Total length 5 inches, culmen 0·45, wing 2·3, tail 1·35, tarsus 1·1.

As in *B. nipalensis*, the bill is relatively slender; in the

closely allied *B. leucophrys*, from Java and Lombok, the bill is stouter and the upper parts darker.

Hab. Kuatun, N.W. Fohkien.

MR. OGILVIE GRANT exhibited on behalf of Mr. C. B. Rickett the type of a new species of Warbler:—

LUSCINIOLA MELANORHYNCHA Rickett, sp. n.

Adult male. Nearest to *L. russula* (Slater), but at once distinguished by its black bill, differently shaped wing, longer tail, and darker colour, especially on the sides, flanks, and under tail-coverts, which are brown instead of pale buff. The 2nd primary considerably shorter than the 10th, the 5th slightly longer than 4th and 6th. Total length 5·5 inches, culmen 0·4, wing 2, tail 2·3, tarsus 0·75.

Hab. Kuatun, N.W. Fohkien.

Mr. Grant remarked:—"Both this species and the bird described under the name of *Cettia russula* by the Rev. H. H. Slater have twelve tail-feathers and belong to the genus *Luscinicola*, the latter species being nearly allied to *L. intermedia* (Oates). Though *L. russula* superficially resembles *Cettia pallidipes*, with which Mr. Slater compared it, it is structurally very different."

MR. GRANT also exhibited a specimen of the genus *Eulacestoma* of De Vis, from Mt. Albert Edward, in S.E. New Guinea; it was apparently a young individual of *E. nigritorquis*, De Vis, but had no black pectoral collar and a good deal of rufous on the wings.

MR. D. LE SOUËF brought for exhibition the nests and eggs of *Manucodia gouldi*, *Graucalus swainsoni*, and *Ptilorhis alberti*, from Northern Queensland. He also showed, with the aid of a lime-light lantern, a remarkable series of photographs of the nests and eggs of Australian birds taken by himself during his expeditions in that continent.

MR. SCLATER stated that on the 27th of June last he had had the pleasure of visiting a nesting-place of the Spoonbill

(*Platalea leucorodia*) in Holland, which he had not previously seen, and had found about 300 pairs breeding there in the reeds on one side of a lake. The lake was fortunately within a large enclosed area owned by a private individual, and strictly preserved. Neither eggs nor birds were allowed to be disturbed, and there was every prospect of this (believed to be the largest breeding-place of the Spoonbill now existing in Holland) being maintained securely. Two other nesting-places of this bird formerly visited by Mr. Sclater, one on the Nieuwerkerker Platt in 1867 (see Gould's 'Birds of Great Britain,' iv. pl. 22), and the other on the Horster Meer in 1877 (see 'Ibis,' 1877, p. 413), had been destroyed by the drainage of the swamps in which they were situated.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 16th of November, 1898, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LVII.

THE fifty-sixth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 16th of November, 1898.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—E. BIDWELL, A. F. CROSSMAN, P. CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, H. E. DRESSER, Dr. F. D. DREWITT, E. N. F. FENWICK, E. HARTERT, P. H. MUNN, H. C. MUNRO, R. NESHAM, H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, M.D., E. LORT PHILLIPS, R. H. READ, H. SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), H. SCHERREN, R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), Major HORACE A. TERRY, N. F. TICEHURST, J. WILKINSON, L. A. WILLIAMS, H. F. WITHERBY.

Visitors : Dr. P. S. ABRAHAM, W. DRURY, F. D. GRAHAM, C. B. HORSBURGH, A. D. SAPSWORTH, A. F. R. WOLLASTON.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent for exhibition an egg of the "Twelve-Wired Bird of Paradise" (*Seleucides ignotus* or *S. albus*). It had been found in an open nest in the Pandanus-swamp on the Vanapa River in British New Guinea, on a Pandanus tree. The nest was a large structure, about 10 inches across and 6 inches high, consisting externally of dry Pandanus leaves, then of pieces of rotten wood, and lastly of small twigs, the cup being rather flat and by no means softly lined. The single egg found

[November 28th, 1898.]

resembled closely those of other *Paradiseidæ*, and especially those of the genus *Ptilorhis*, being of about the size of a Rook's egg, and of a cream colour, with more or less longitudinal rufous-brown and purplish-grey spots, which were most frequent near the thick end. It measured 40 mm. in length, and 22·5 on its broadest part.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT exhibited four new species of "Thick-heads" (*Pachycephala*) and described them as follows:—

PACHYCEPHALA KUEHNI, sp. n.

Resembles closely *P. cinerascens*, Salvad., from Ternate, Batjan, Tidore, Halmaheira, and Morotai, but the male differs in having the abdomen and breast ochraceous buff, the throat pale brownish, while the abdomen in the adult male of *P. cinerascens* is white, or greyish white, and the throat and breast are ashy grey. The upper surface is slightly more brownish. The female differs from the female of *P. cinerascens* in being browner above, and in having the underside ochraceous buff, without any grey, and the dark streaks along the shafts are much more developed.

Hab. Little Key Island. Named in honour of Mr. Heinrich Kuehn, who has sent a small series of both sexes, adult and young, of this new species.

PACHYCEPHALA EXAMINATA, sp. n.

Differs from *P. lineolata*, Wall., of the Sula Islands, in having the abdomen (which is white with or without a faint ochreous tinge in *P. lineolata*) ochraceous buff, and the under tail-coverts buff instead of white. The wing is a little longer, measuring 81–82 mm. The back is more brownish, the grey cap thus becoming more conspicuously in contrast to the back. In the male the throat is white, the chest washed with grey. The female has the underside uniform ochraceous buff and the wing only about 78 mm. long. (For the name of the Sula form *cf.* 'Novitates Zoologicæ,' vol. iv. p. 131.) If the name *P. griseonota* should be adopted it

could only apply to the Sula bird and not to the bird from Buru, judging from the description.

Hab. Buru.

PACHYCEPHALA MEEKI, sp. n.

♂ *ad.* Similar to *P. leucogaster*, but differs in having the black crown less sharply defined and almost passing into the colour of the back, which is much darker and more blackish than in *P. leucogaster*. The tail and upper tail-coverts are almost pure black and much darker than in the last-named species. The sides of the breast and abdomen are grey, not white. The wing is shorter, measuring only about 82 mm. (against about 90 in *P. leucogaster*). *P. meeki* also differs from *P. arcitorques* in its grey sides and darker back, the latter species being more closely allied to *P. leucogaster* than to *P. meeki*. Measurements of the male: wing 81–82, tail 64, culmen from base 17 mm.

♀ *ad.* Above mouse-brown, more greyish on the upper tail-coverts; an indistinct line over the eyes and ear-coverts rufous-brown; throat buffy white; remainder of under surface rusty buff; chest with some small and narrow blackish shaft-lines; middle of abdomen white; sides of chest and flanks washed with grey; under wing- and under tail-coverts pale buff.

Hab. Rossel Island, Louisiade Archipelago.

PACHYCEPHALA CONTEMPTA, sp. n.

The yellow *Pachycephala* of Lord Howe Island has been treated as the same as *P. gutturalis* in the 'Catalogue of Birds,' vol. viii., where at least three different species or subspecies are united under the title of *P. gutturalis*; but *P. contempta*, as I propose to call the Lord Howe Island form, differs from *P. gutturalis* in having the basal portion of the tail for more than half of its length greenish, often for two-thirds of its length, in having the bill stronger and longer, in having the yellow band on the hind-neck interrupted by pale olive-green in the middle, and in being generally larger. Wing 92–94, tail 83, culmen from base 17–18 mm. Another

closely allied form is *P. occidentalis*, which, however, has the base of the tail grey and the bill rather short.

Mr. HARTERT further described a new Humming-bird, which he called

CYANOLESBIA BERLEPSCHI, sp. n.

This was described as the most beautiful of all the *Cyanolesbiæ*, and perhaps the most distinct species of the genus, being more different than any of those *inter se*. The female was easily recognizable from that of the allied species in having the breast and entire abdomen white instead of cinnamon-rufous. The male seemed to be nearest to that of *Cyanolesbia margarethæ* from Caracas and *C. kingi* from Bogotá, but the outer tail-feathers were longer and much wider, of a peculiar glittering metallic blue; the central rectrices were not green as in *C. margarethæ*, but purplish blue with a greenish glitter at the tips. Wing 71, tail 155, outer rectrices 9–10 mm. wide.

Mr. Hartert stated that the Hon. Walter Rothschild had received a male and four females of this bird from the hills of Cumana in Venezuela, and that there was a second male from Caripé in the British Museum, with the tail not fully grown.

The typical specimens were collected by Mr. Caracciolo and sent to the Tring Museum by Mr. André, of Trinidad.

Mr. HOWARD SAUNDERS exhibited, on behalf of Mr. W. Drury, a specimen of the Wood-Sandpiper, *Totanus glareola*, shot by the latter near Lough Cullin, co. Mayo, on the 5th of September last. Only three examples of this species had been previously recorded from Ireland, and all of them from one locality, viz. in co. Wicklow.

Dr. R. BOWDLER SHARPE exhibited a specimen of the Black-headed Weaver-Finch (*Munia atricapilla*) which had been presented to the British Museum by Mr. G. Hubert Woods, who had shot it out of a flock of twelve individuals in Suffolk on the 26th of October last.

Mr. HARTERT stated that he had also seen a small flock of these Weaver-Finches in the reed-beds on the Tring Reservoir, and that one had been recently shot there.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE read a paper on the present status of the birds in the "British List," which he believed to amount at the present moment to 445. A discussion ensued, in which the Chairman, Mr. Howard Saunders, Mr. H. E. Dresser, Mr. H. J. Pearson, Mr. W. E. De Winton, Mr. Hartert, and others took part. It was decided that the subject should be further discussed at a subsequent meeting of the Club.

Mr. ROBERT READ made some remarks on the apparent variation in the downs of certain species of Ducks at different seasons of the year. Specimens would be exhibited at the next meeting of the Club, when the subject would be further explained.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 21st of December, 1898, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LVIII.

THE fifty-seventh Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 21st of December, 1898.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—E. BIDWELL, Major COWIE, R.E., A. F. CROSSMAN, P. CROWLEY, R. A. CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, H. E. DRESSER, A. H. EVANS, E. N. F. FENWICK, E. HARTERT, Col. PAGET W. L'ESTRANGE, H. C. MONRO, H. MUNT, R. NESHAM, H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, M.D., E. LORT PHILLIPS, W. P. PYCRAFT, H. SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), Major H. A. TERRY, N. F. TICEHURST, W. F. URWICK, L. A. WILLIAMS, H. F. WITHERBY.

Visitors : J. CYRIL CROWLEY, F. CURTIS, C. E. FAGAN, — GREENSTOCK, PERCY L'ESTRANGE, ARNOLD MATHEWS, F. E. MUGFORD, H. STEVENS, L. WIGLESWORTH.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT characterized three new species of birds from the Louisiade Archipelago. He said that this group of islands, situated to the south-east of New Guinea, had been visited by Macgillivray during the voyage of H.M.S. 'Rattlesnake,' when a few birds had then been collected, and that more recently Canon Tristram and Mr. De Vis had described a few new forms from various islands of the group, but no large collections of birds had ever been made there. Mr. Albert S. Meek had recently stayed on various islands

[December 31st, 1898.]

of the group and collected a great number of birds for Mr. Rothschild's Museum. His collections showed that the proportion of species and subspecies peculiar to this group of islands was rather large, and that the various islands were inhabited by different forms. A few new species had already been described at former meetings of this Club, but exhaustive articles would soon appear on the collections in the 'Novitates Zoologicæ,' and were partly in the press. Examples of the following new species were exhibited:—

EDOLIOSOMA ROSTRATUM, sp. n.

♂ *ad.* Bluish slate-colour; ear-coverts darker, almost black; lores, chin, and line at gape black. Wings black, inner webs very broadly white, outer webs bordered with the colour of the back, but lighter. Central rectrices slaty-grey like the back, black along the shaft, broadly tipped with black; the other rectrices black with narrow grey tips, the outermost pair broadly tipped with grey. Bill very large and strongly hooked. Wing 135, tail 115, culmen from base 43-44, bill from nostril to tip 20·5-21 mm.

♀ *ad.* Above greyish brown, the crown bluish ash; a narrow pale rufous superciliary line. Broad stripe behind eye and lores blackish grey; ear-coverts pale rusty brown, with dark greyish stripes. Remiges blackish, outer webs narrowly, inner webs broadly, bordered with pale cinnamon. Central rectrices pale greyish brown, narrowly tipped with pale cinnamon; the rest blackish brown, broadly tipped with cinnamon. Underside pale cinnamon, the sides of neck and breast more or less barred with black.

Hab. Rossel Island.

MYZOMELA ALBIGULA, sp. n.

♂ *ad.* Above dark greyish black, the head and upper tail-coverts with slightly paler edges to the feathers. Tail blackish brown. Remiges blackish brown, outwardly narrowly edged with dusty grey; inner webs with broad pale ashy-white borders. Chin and throat pale brownish grey, with a short, more or less indistinct, dark red line on the lower margin. Chest dark ashy brown; remainder of

underparts a little paler ashy brown, most of the feathers with slightly paler edges, thus producing a faintly streaked appearance. Under wing-coverts whitish grey. Bill, legs, and feet black. Wing 75, tail 58, culmen from forehead 23.5, tarsus 20 mm.

♀ *ad.* Smaller and paler, the abdomen almost whitish; throat whitish, in sharp contrast to the dark chest. Wing 68, tail 53, culmen 21 mm.

Hab. Rossel Island.

MYZOMELA PALLIDIOR, sp. n.

Both sexes alike in coloration and somewhat resembling the female of *M. albigula*, but above slightly more brownish: below lighter, the breast not much darker than the abdomen, the whitish throat not sharply in contrast with the chest. The red streak on the throat is distinct in the male, but not in the female; fore-neck with an ill-defined blackish spot just below the pale throat. ♂, wing 73; ♀, wing 67 mm.

Hab. St. Aignan Island.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent the description of a new subspecies of Cassowary as follows:—

CASUARIUS CASUARIUS INTENSUS, subsp. n.

♂ *ad.* The casque differs from that of *C. casuarius* in being very high and much more erect, the wattles almost entirely blue instead of dark red; the blue of the head and neck uniform and very dark; the orange of the hind-neck much restricted and separated at the upper end from the blue by a black crescent-shaped patch; naked sides of lower neck entirely uniform blue instead of red, bordered anteriorly with blue.

Hab. Unknown.

Mr. Rothschild further sent the description of a new Cormorant:—

PHALACROCORAX TRAVERSI, sp. n.

Adult. No crest; crown, back of neck, and upper parts greenish steel-blue, much duller than in *P. onslowi*, and not

showing a dorsal white patch; white alar bar broad and well-defined; tail-feathers black and twelve in number; throat and all under surface white; middle under tail-coverts black; feet reddish orange in skin. Nasal caruncles well-developed.

This species is exactly intermediate between *P. atriceps* and *P. verrucosus* in the disposal of the black and white on the sides of the head and neck. In *P. atriceps* the ear is situated in the middle of the white area, while in *P. verrucosus* the ear is in the middle of the black area. In the new species the ear is exactly on the border, half in the white and half in the black area.

Wing 305 to 310, tail 145, culmen 65, tarsus 65, outer toe and claw 110 mm.

Hab. Macquarie Islands. Sent by Mr. Henry Travers.

A note was read from Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE calling attention to the differences exhibited by the Robin-Flycatcher (*Petræca leggi*) from Southern and Western Australia. The examples from the latter country seemed to be distinct, and Dr. Sharpe proposed for them the name of

PETRÆCA CAMPBELLI, sp. n.

Similis *P. leggi*, sed fasciâ frontali albâ minore, et albedine alarum magis restrictâ.

Hab. W. Australia.

Mr. F. J. JACKSON sent for exhibition specimens of two apparently new species from Nandi in Equatorial Africa, for which he proposed the names of

PHOLIDAUGES SHARPII, sp. n.

P. purpurascenti-niger: speculo alari albo nullo: gutture albicante, præpectore et corpore reliquo subtùs dilutè cervinis: subcaudalibus quoque cervinis: subalaribus et axillaribus nigris. Long. tot. 72 poll., culm. 0·55, alæ 4·15, caudæ 2·6, tarsi 0·85.

PARUS NIGRICINEREUS, sp. n.

♂. Similis *P. funereo*, Verr., sed tectricibus alarum albido minutè apicatis: capitis plumis schistaceo marginatis:

gutturè toto schistacco-plumbeo, haud nigro, distinguendus. Long. tot. 5·5 poll., culm. 0·5, alæ 3·2, caudæ 2·2, tarsi 0·9.

♀. *Clarius schistacco-plumbea*: gastræo toto schistaceo.

Mr. E. Lort Phillips described two new species of birds from Somaliland:—

CAPRIMULGUS TORRIDUS, sp. n.

C. similis C. nubico et *C. fervido*, sed maculis notæi rufis magnis conspèuis et alis rufescentibus distinguendus. Long. tot. 8·0 poll., culm. 0·55, alæ 6·0, caudæ 4·0, tarsi 0·7.

Hab. Eyk, on the Howd plateau, Somaliland (*J. Bennett Stanford*).

Distinguished from *C. nubicus* (which it resembles in having the white spot on the inner web of the first primary reaching to the shaft) by its much more rufous colour, the back and wings being spangled with large rufous spots at the end of the feathers. The first four primaries and the two outer tail-feathers have large white spots.

The specimen has been shown to Dr. Reichenow, Mr. Oscar Neumann, and Mr. Hartert, who all agree that it was undescribed.

GRANATINA HAWKERI, sp. n.

Similis G. ianthinogastri, sed ubique pallidior: pileo et interscapulo cinnamomeo-rufis: dorso rufescenti-brunneo: faciei colore ianthino minus extenso, et fasciâ angustâ frontali haud continuâ distinguenda. Long. tot. 4·8 poll., culm. 0·4, alæ 2·2, caudæ 2·4, tarsi 0·65.

Hab. Bari (*E. L. P.*), Dabuloc (*R. M. Hawker*), Lahello (*G. V. A. Peel*).

The light cinnamon colour of the head and mantle distinguishes the Somali form of the Hyacinth-bellied Weaver-Finch from the true *G. ianthinogaster* of Masailand, which has the back dark brown, contrasting with the chestnut head. The same light cinnamon colour pervades the throat and neck, and the blue on the face is not so extended.

The narrow frontal line of blue does not continue across the base of the forehead.

Mr. LORT PHILLIPS also exhibited the nest of *Eurocephalus rueppelli*, described by him in the 'Ibis' for 1898 (p. 406).

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE sent the first sheets of a new 'Handlist of Birds,' of which the first volume would shortly be published by the Trustees of the British Museum. In its preparation Dr. Sharpe had already been engaged for the last five years, and he ventured to hope that ornithologists of every country would give him their assistance in endeavouring to make the new 'Handlist' as complete as possible. An attempt would be made in this new edition to incorporate all the fossil birds in their systematic places.

Mr. SCLATER exhibited a skin of a Tanager (*Calliste pretiosa*) which had been obtained by Mr. A. H. Holland at his residence, Estancia Sta. Elena, in the Argentine Republic, on November 15th, 1897. It appeared to be in full adult plumage, and was labelled "♂. Bill, legs, and iris black."

Mr. Sclater remarked that this was the first occurrence of this species in the Argentine Republic, it having been previously known only from Paraguay and South Brazil (see Sclater, Cat. Birds B. M. xi. p. 114).

Mr. PHILIP CROWLEY exhibited some photographs of the nests and eggs of British Birds.

Mr. BIDWELL proposed to bring before the Club, at its Meeting in February, some examples of abnormal nests of British Birds.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 18th of January, 1899, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER, R. BOWDLER SHARPE, HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Chairman. *Editor.* *Sec. & Treas.*

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LIX.

THE fifty-eighth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 18th of January, 1899.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present:—G. E. H. BARRETT-HAMILTON, E. BIDWELL, W. E. DE WINTON, H. E. DRESSER, Dr. F. D. DREWITT, A. H. EVANS, E. N. F. FENWICK, E. HARTERT, J. G. MILLAIS, H. MUNT, E. NEALE, R. NESHAM, E. W. OATES, H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, M.D., W. P. PYCRAFT, H. SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), Dr. R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), Rev. H. H. SLATER, F. W. STYAN, W. B. TEGETMEIER, N. F. TICEHURST, WATKIN WATKINS, JOHNSON WILKINSON, H. F. WITHERBY.

Visitor: EDGAR WILLIAMSON.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE laid on the table a copy of a MS. "Index" to the generic names employed in the 'Catalogue of Birds,' which had been prepared by Mr. F. H. Waterhouse and presented by Dr. Sclater to the Natural History Museum for the use of students in the Bird-room of that institution. The Committee had agreed that this work should be published as an extra volume of the 'Bulletin' of the B. O. C.

Dr. SHARPE exhibited a specimen of a Petrel of the genus *Cestrelata* which had been forwarded to him by Dr. J. von

[January 30th, 1899.]

Madarász, of the Hungarian National Museum at Budapest. This was the specimen which had been determined as *Æ. hesitata* (cf. Eagle Clarke, *Ibis*, 1884, p. 202), and as such had been recorded in many ornithological works as the single instance of the occurrence of the species in Hungary. Dr. Sharpe identified the specimen as *Æ. incerta* (Schl.).

Mr. F. W. STYAN described three new species of Chinese birds, as follows:—

PYCTORHIS GRACILIS, sp. n.

Similis *P. altirostri*, sed minor: sordidè fulvescenti-brunnea, pileo vix rufescentiore: caudâ cinnamomeâ: facie laterali brunneâ, regione paroticâ angustè albido striolatâ: supercilio griseo vix evidente: gulâ et gastræo medio albis: pectore et hypochondriis cervino lavatis: crisso, tibiis et subcaudalibus rufescentioribus. Long. tot. 6·0 poll., culmen 0·4, alæ 2·0, caudæ 2·8, tarsi 0·9.

Hab. Lungan, N.W. Sechuan (10,000 feet).

PROPARUS FUCATUS, sp. n.

Similis *P. cinereicipiti*, sed lætiùs coloratus: capite brunneo, dorso castaneo, uropygio lætè rufo, hypochondriis et subcaudalibus lætè rufescentibus distinguendus. Culmen 0·3 poll., alæ 2·2, caudæ 2·2, tarsi 0·9.

Hab. Ichang, W. Hupih.

SCHÆNIPARUS VARIEGATUS, sp. n.

Similis *S. dubio*, sed minus rufescens, pileo minus rufescente: corporis lateribus olivascientioribus, rostro nigro distinguendus. Long. tot. 6·0 poll., culmen 0·55, alæ 2·3, caudæ 2·8, tarsi 0·95.

Hab. Suiyang, Kweichow.

Mr. STYAN also exhibited some other rare species of birds from the north-west frontier of China, among them *Sitta przewalskii*, *Acredula fuliginosa*, &c.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent for exhibition the nest and egg of a Bird of Paradise, *Cnemophilus macgregori*, De Vis, which was found by native collectors on Mount Knutsford (alt. 11,000 feet), in British New Guinea. The

nest was a well-built structure about 90 mm. high, 150–180 mm. wide, and with an inside cup of from 75 to 85 mm. diameter and a depth of about 53 mm. in the middle. The walls of the nest consisted chiefly of green moss, interwoven with ferns and rootlets, and it was lined with skeletonized leaves and some feathers of *Casuarius*. The single egg—unfortunately damaged—had a very fine shell, was elongato-ovate in shape, white, with an irregular ring of brownish-black spots near the larger end and a few such spots all over, and with some underlying grey patches. It measured about 31.5 mm. in length and 20 mm. in breadth.

This contribution was further illustrated by the exhibition of a pair of adult birds of *Cnemophilus macgregori* and two young birds of the same species.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD also sent the following description of a new subspecies of Cassowary:—

CASUARIUS CASUARIUS VIOLICOLLIS, subsp. n.

This apparently undescribed form of Cassowary was most nearly allied to *Casuarius casuarius salvadorii*, but differed conspicuously in the colour of the naked parts and in the very large size, which fully equalled that of *C. casuarius australis*.

Bill much longer and straighter than in any other species of Cassowary. Casque horny brown, green at base. Face and a broad band running down the side of the bill bluish green. Base of lower mandible dark blue, with a yellow line running along one-third of the length of the mandible on each side. Wattles at base of fore-neck very large, round, and short, $3 \times 2\frac{1}{4}$ inches, pale blue at base, otherwise pink all over, entirely separate for their whole length, but close together. Auricular orifice larger than in any other Cassowary. Throat and fore-neck bright ultramarine-blue. Occiput and upper hind-neck pale greenish or eau-de-Nil blue. Lower hind-neck brilliant orange-scarlet. Naked lower sides of neck magenta-purple, bordered

anteriorly with ultramarine-blue, posteriorly with orange-scarlet; the magenta-purple space deeply carunculated and sharply cut off from the red and blue borders, which are plain and smooth.

Hab. Aru Islands, ?Trangan Island. (Spec. in vivario Rothschildiano.)

Mr. W. B. TEGETMEIER exhibited a very fine specimen of a hybrid Pheasant, *Phasianus reevesi* ♀ × *Phasianus colchicus* ♂.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 15th of February, 1899, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER, R. BOWDLER SHARPE, HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Chairman. Editor. Sec. & Treas.

Notice.—Mr. BIDWELL proposes to exhibit at the next meeting of the Club a series of curious or abnormal nests of British Birds. Any Member who can contribute specimens to this exhibition is requested to communicate with Mr. E. Bidwell, 1 Trig Lane, Upper Thames Street, E.C.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LX.

THE fifty-ninth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 15th of February, 1899.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—E. BIDWELL, Major A. H. COWIE, R.E., A. F. CROSSMAN, P. CROWLEY, R. A. CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, H. E. DRESSER, Dr. F. D. DREWITT, A. H. EVANS, JOHN GERRARD, E. HARTERT, W. H. HUDSON, Col. PAGET W. L'ESTRANGE, G. E. LODGE, Rev. H. A. MACPHERSON, J. G. MILLAIS, H. C. MONRO, E. NEALE, R. NESHAM, HEATLEY NOBLE, E. W. OATES, C. E. PEARSON, H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, M.D., T. DIGBY PIGOTT, C.B., H. L. POPHAM, R. H. READ, H. SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), Dr. R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), Capt. G. E. SHELLEY, F. W. STYAN, Major H. A. TERRY, N. F. TICEHURST, H. M. WALLIS, W. WATKINS, J. WILKINSON, H. F. WITHERBY.

Visitors : H. TABOR BROOKS, A. G. COWIE, F. CURTIS, G. EVANS, C. E. FAGAN, W. MIDDLEMOST, F. C. SELOUS, J. W. SKIPWORTH, A. F. R. WOLLASTON.

Mr. HOWARD SAUNDERS exhibited a specimen of a Levantine Shearwater (*Puffinus yelkouanus*) which had been shot by a wildfowler near Scarborough on the 5th of this

[February 27th, 1898.]

month. The bird was a male, and had been sent in the flesh to the British Museum for determination.

Mr. H. J. PEARSON exhibited, on behalf of Mr. W. Eagle Clarke, a female Grey Phalarope (*Crymophilus fulicarius*) in full breeding-plumage. This specimen had been procured by Mr. W. S. Bruce on Kostin Point, at the southern extremity of Meshdoshapsk Island, off the south coast of Novaya Zemlya, on the 19th of June, 1898. It was one of a pair, which Mr. Bruce was convinced were breeding on the island. This was the first record of the species in any part of Novaya Zemlya.

Mr. E. BIDWELL exhibited a bird's-nesting stick, which had been found to be of great utility in his expeditions along with Mr. H. J. Pearson, who also testified to the excellent results obtained by the invention.

The Rev. H. A. MACPHERSON exhibited a nestling Duck, which was the offspring of a female *Anas boscas* and a male *Dafila acuta*.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent for exhibition the type of a new Thrush, which he described as follows:—

GEOCICHLA DUMASI, sp. n.

This fine new species has been obtained on the Island of Buru by Mr. Dumas, a companion of the late Mr. A. H. Everett, and is perhaps nearest to *G. dohertyi*, from the Lesser Sunda Islands, but is quite distinct.

♂ *ad.* Whole upper surface bright olive-rufous brown, with two tufts of creamy white feathers, one on each side of the rump. Lesser upper wing-coverts like the back; greater upper wing-coverts black, with two rows of large round white spots. Remiges blackish brown; the outer webs of the primaries with narrow, those of the secondaries with broad, olive-rufous borders. All wing-feathers, except the outer three, with large white patches near the base of the inner webs. Tail like the back, but darker. Whole throat and

chest black ; abdomen white ; flanks olive-yellowish brown, some feathers on the side of the breast olive with black tips, as well as some of the white breast-feathers, thus forming a broken irregular band across the breast. Under tail-coverts creamy white. Under wing-coverts mixed black and white. Iris dark brown ; bill black ; feet light. Culmen 23, wing 94, tail 68, tarsus 32 mm.

Hab. Mt. Mada, Buru (3000 feet), August 1898.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT exhibited specimens of six new species of birds from Buru. They had been collected by Mr. Dumas, who had accompanied the late Mr. A. H. Everett during his last expeditions. Mr. Hartert pointed out that some of the forms were of great zoo-geographical interest. The entire collection would be fully discussed in 'Novitates Zoologicae.'

The new forms were described as follows :—

ACANTHOPNEUSTE EVERETTI, sp. n.

♂ *ad.* Top of head greyish brown ; superciliary line pale grey, not very conspicuous. Rest of upperside dark olive-green. Tail and wings blackish brown, edged with the colour of the back. Throat dirty white ; remainder of under surface bright sulphur-yellow ; sides of breast and body washed with greenish olive. Wing 59, tail 42, tarsus 22, culmen 13 mm.

♀ *ad.* Like the male, but a little smaller.

Juv. Throat like the rest of the under surface.

Hab. Mt. Mada, Buru.

PHYLLERGATES EVERETTI DUMASI, subsp. n.

Differs from typical *Phyllergates everetti* of Flores in being slightly more brownish on the nape, and less greenish, more rufous-olive on the back, and in having no indication of white on the outer rectrix.

Hab. Mt. Mada, Buru.

ERYTHROMYIAS BURUENSIS, sp. n.

♂ *ad.* Top and sides of head slate-colour ; upper wing-

coverts brownish slaty; remainder of the upper surface ashy brown. Rectrices and remiges ashy brown, with lighter brown outer edges; quills quite pale on the edges of the inner webs. Chin, throat, chest, and sides of body cinnamon-rufous; flanks washed with brown; middle of abdomen white; under tail-coverts buffy white. Iris olive; feet brown; bill black. Wing 69-70, tail 52, tarsus 21, culmen 16 mm.

♀ *ad.* Like the male, but smaller. Wing 63-64 mm.

Hab. Mt. Mada, Buru (3000 feet).

RHIFIDURA SUPERFLUA, sp. n.

♂ *ad.* Top and sides of head light brown; a line from base of bill to above the eyes brownish buff. Hind-neck and uppermost part of back like the head; remainder of upper parts bright cinnamon-rufous. Remiges brownish black, the inner edges of all whitish buff; outer edges of secondaries bright rufous. Rectrices blackish brown, the base and outer edges of basal part dark cinnamon-rufous; all, including the central pair, broadly tipped with cinnamon, darker on the middle ones. Throat white, with a black patch across the crop; remainder of under surface rufous-buff, the sides washed with brown; under tail-coverts and thighs cinnamon. Wing 68, tail 80, tarsus 18, culmen 13 mm.

♀ smaller, wing about 62 mm.

Hab. Mt. Mada, Buru (3000 feet).

PACHYCEPHALA MELANURA BURUENSIS, subsp. n.

The Thickhead, with golden-yellow under surface in the male, from Buru, has hitherto been considered the same as *P. clio* from the Sula Islands, but it differs considerably from the latter species in being of a much deeper dark greenish-olive colour on the upperside and in having all the upper wing-coverts pure black with narrow olive edges. The golden-yellow collar on the back of the neck is unbroken, the pectoral pure black collar being very wide and broadly united with the black sides of the head. The remiges are edged with the colour of the back; the tail black. The female differs also

from that of *P. clio* of the Sula Islands in the colour of the under surface, which is pale buffish brown, lighter in the middle of the abdomen, darker and browner on the chest, and becoming more greyish on the throat. Under tail-coverts buffy yellow. The young male is more rufous below and darker on the back than the female, which is olive-brown above. ♂ *ad.* Wing 93, tail 73, culmen 18-19 mm.

♀ *ad.* Wing 89 mm.

Hab. Buru.

I consider all these yellow Thickheads to be geographical representatives of one species.

COLUMBA MADA, sp. n.

♂. Bill yellow, red at base. Top of head and neck pure grey, merging into the colour of the rest of the upper surface, which is slate-colour with light grey borders to the feathers. Rectrices deep slaty brown, with narrow pale brownish tips. Bare skin round eyes red. Sides of head, throat, chest, and breast buff, palest on the throat. Abdomen brownish vinaceous; under tail-coverts cinnamon. Feet and iris red. Wing 229, tail 170, exposed portion of culmen 16 mm.

♀. Like the male, but slightly smaller.

Hab. Mt. Mada, Buru.

Mr. HARTERT also exhibited a new Thickhead, and characterized it as follows:—

PACHYCEPHALA PENINSULÆ, sp. n.

♂. Top of the head ashy brown; remainder of upper surface, including tail, olive-green. Remiges blackish; inner webs with whitish borders; outer webs edged with greenish olive. Lores ashy; an indistinct pale buffy eyebrow. Sides of head ashy brown. Throat white. Breast light yellowish grey, with darker shaft-lines; abdomen pale sulphur-yellow, with dark shaft-stripes. Under wing-coverts white, with a faint yellow tinge, those towards the bend of the wing brownish, with a yellow tinge. Iris brown; feet light bluish slate. Bill brown. Wing 78-79, tail 63, culmen 16.5, tarsus 20 mm.

Juv. Head pale brown, not ashy.

Hab. Cape York, N.E. Australia.

This form is very closely allied to and possibly only a subspecies of *P. griseiceps*.

MR. E. HARTERT also made some remarks on the Crested Larks (*Galeridæ*), and observed that there were some of his friends who had expressed to him their disbelief in the many sub-species of *Galerida cristata* recognized in an article in 'Novitates Zoologicæ' about two years ago; but he could assure the sceptics that there were many more forms yet to be discriminated, and that he would shortly describe some more races, examples of which he had recently received. The explanation of the great local variation of *G. cristata* lay entirely in their having absolutely limited areas of distribution. It was possible that one or two of the forms recognized in the above-mentioned article would not stand as good sub-species, but the majority were very distinct, and many more might yet be discovered. There was, however, one mistake in his memoir which he admitted. He had enumerated *Galerida theklæ* as one of the sub-species of *G. cristata*, but he found now that the secondaries, in the adult bird, were so much shorter than in *G. cristata*, and the first (spurious) primary was comparatively so much longer, that it would be necessary to follow Dr. Sharpe in recognizing *G. theklæ* as a distinct species, especially since recent observations had shown that forms of *G. cristata* and *G. theklæ* breed in the same area, while Mr. Hartert formerly supposed that they inhabited different parts of the country. The specific difference of *G. theklæ* had been insisted on by Brehm and Sharpe, and recently again (*in litteris*) by Kleinschmidt, but nobody had ever pointed out the most important characters. There were other features besides, in the form and size of bill and in the colour. *Galerida malabarica* would also have to stand as a species, being after all very different from *G. cristata*. Mr. Hartert hoped to return to the interesting subject of the Crested Larks on a future occasion. He considered that his investigations had, in fact, only just commenced.

Captain G. E. SHELLEY communicated the descriptions of four new species of birds from Nyasa Land :—

MELANOBUCCO MACCLOUNII, sp. n.

Similar to *M. levaillanti*, but with the back of the head and neck black; a large bare patch round the eye, the posterior half of which is surrounded by the white of the entire sides and front of the neck, this also extending over the sides of the back. Total length 7·2 inches, culmen 0·8, wing 3·4, tail 2·6, tarsus 0·85.

CISTICOLA ALTICOLA, sp. n.

Allied to *C. angusticauda*, Reichen., from Uniamwesi, and with the back of neck, back, and wing-coverts uniform ashy grey; quills and tail brown, the latter with white ends, but without dark sub-terminal marks on the feathers, and the underparts white shaded with grey on the flanks. It is distinguished by having the entire ear-coverts, and head above the line of the gape, uniform deep rufous brown. Total length 5·6 inches, culmen 0·5, wing 2·25, tail 2·7, tarsus 0·8.

MALACONOTUS MANNINGI, sp. n.

Nearly allied to *Laniarius melamprosopus*, Reichen., but readily distinguished by the uniform deep grey colouring of the crown, back of neck, and upper back, and the almost entire absence of yellow tips to any of the wing-feathers. Total length 7·5 inches, culmen 0·6, wing 3·7, tail 3·6, tarsus 1·0.

MUSCICAPA NYIKENSIS, sp. n.

Similar to *M. lugens*, with the bill entirely black, but characterized by its large size and by having a narrow white forehead; the space in front of the eyes and the cheeks also white, like the throat. Total length 6·6 inches, culmen 0·5, wing 3·3, tail 3·1, tarsus 0·9.

Hab. Nyika Plateau, 6000 to 7000 feet (*Alexander Whyte*).

Mr. F. CURTIS exhibited a specimen of the Spotted Sandpiper (*Tringoides macularius*), which had been shot on the 2nd of February, at Finea, Co. Longford, Ireland, by

Mr. Frank Roberts. The bird, which proved to be a female, was very tame, and was feeding at the time in a meadow much trodden by cattle by the side of the river Finea, within a short distance of the village.

Mr. J. G. MILLAIS exhibited a remarkable hybrid between a male Red Grouse (*Lagopus scoticus*) and a female Bantam Fowl.

Mr. W. EAGLE CLARKE sent a communication, as follows:— A Bustard was obtained at St. Fergus, on the Pitfour estate, Aberdeenshire, on the 24th of October last, and Mr. J. G. Walker, who shot and owns the specimen, has recently submitted it to me for identification. I found it, as Mr. Walker suspected, to be an example of the Asiatic *Houbara macqueeni*, and a female in immature plumage. This is the fourth British and the first Scottish specimen, and it is the only female that has wandered as far west as Great Britain. The bird was unfortunately recorded by Mr. Walker as a “Little” Bustard in the ‘Annals of Scottish Natural History’ for January (p. 51). A similar fate befell the first English specimen (Zool. [1848] p. 1969).

Mr. E. BIDWELL exhibited a series of nests of British birds built of abnormal materials. The following gentlemen were the contributors to this very interesting exhibition:—

Mr. P. CROWLEY.

Nest of the Chaffinch (*Fringilla cœlebs*), partly covered with scraps of printed paper.

Mr. A. HOLTE MACPHERSON.

Spotted Flycatcher (*Muscicapa grisola*). Nest composed of old wax vestas, cigarette-papers, &c. Taken near Hyde Park Corner, 1898.

Mr. J. GERRARD.

Common Wren (*Anorthura troglodytes*). Nest with open top, built under a bank. From the Shetland Islands.

Mr. H. NOBLE.

Madeira Swift (*Apus unicolor*). Nest with tobacco-paper and feathers worked into the lining. From El Ancon, Teneriffe.

Mr. R. H. READ.

Two nests of the Pied Flycatcher (*Ficedula atricapilla*), and two of the Arctic Tern (*Sterna macrura*).

A nest of the Pied Wagtail (*Motacilla lugubris*), built in a Blackbird's nest, and one of the Redbreast (*Eri-thacus rubecula*), with a Cuckoo's egg, built in an old Thrush's nest.

Mr. F. C. SELOUS.

Nest of the Chiffchaff (*Phylloscopus minor*), built without any lining of feathers.

Mr. E. BIDWELL.

Nest of the Nightingale (*Daulias lusciniæ*), lined with feathers. From Redhill.

Nest of the Sedge-Warbler (*Acrocephalus phragmitis*), lined with feathers. From Walton-on-Thames.

Nest of the Hedge-Sparrow (*Tharrhaleus modularis*), made of sticks and lined with feathers.

Nest of the Chiffchaff (*Phylloscopus minor*), built without feather-lining. From the Lizard, Cornwall.

Nest of the Penduline Titmouse (*Remiza pendulina*). From S. Europe.

Nest of the Chaffinch (*Fringilla cœlebs*), partly covered with scraps of wall-paper.

Nest of the Woodchat (*Enneoctonus pomereanus*), built with flowers. From Malaga.

Nest of the Icterine Warbler (*Hypolais hypolais*), built with feathers. Taken within the Arctic Circle in Northern Norway.

Nest of the Moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus*), with the eggs concealed with paper. River Thames.

Mr. J. WHITAKER.

Nest of the Common Heron (*Ardea cinerea*), partly constructed of wire. From Stoke, Notts.

On the motion of the CHAIRMAN, a hearty vote of thanks was given to Mr. Bidwell for the very interesting exhibition he had prepared.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 15th of March, 1899, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LXI.

THE sixtieth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 15th of March, 1899.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present:—E. BIDWELL, F. E. BLAAUW, A. F. CROSSMAN, W. E. DE WINTON, Dr. F. D. DREWITT, A. H. EVANS, J. GERRARD, W. H. HUDSON, J. McLEAN MARSHALL, E. G. B. MEADE-WALDO, H. C. MONRO, R. L. PATTERSON, C. E. PEARSON, H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, M.D., T. DIGBY FIGOTT, C.B., W. P. PYCRAFT, H. SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), Capt. G. E. SHELLEY, N. F. TICEHURST, Major H. TERRY, W. F. URWICK, C. WHYMPER.

Visitor: J. A. BROOKE.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE sent for exhibition a specimen of an Owl from São Paulo, Brazil, which he was at first inclined to refer to a new genus, but which he found, somewhat to his surprise, to be a *Gisella*, allied to *G. harrisi* of Colombia. The specimen in question had been sent to him by Dr. von Ihering for identification, along with other species.

The position of the genus *Gisella*, according to Mr. Pycraft's recent classification of the Owls, is not with *Syrnium*, as Dr. Sharpe had placed it in 1875, but nearer to *Nyctala*, as had been proposed by Messrs. Sclater and Salvin in the 'Nomenclator' (p. 116). In plumage the species of *Gisella* are not unlike *Nyctala*, but the two genera are evidently distinct; the asymmetry of the ear-openings, a

[March 30th, 1899.]

feature in both, differs in character. The shape of the long aperture is not quite the same in *Gisella* and *Nyctala*; the aperture which is *left* in the ear of *Nyctala* corresponds to that of the *right* in *Gisella*, and *vice versa*. The form of the spinal tract, as far as could be judged from the skin, was similar in the two genera, according to Mr. Pycraft, who has figured that of *Nyctala* in the 'Transactions of the Linnean Society,' (2) vii. pl. 26. fig. 1.

Dr. Sharpe believed that the São Paulo bird was different from *G. harrisi* of Colombia, and proposed for it the name of

GISELLA IHERINGI.

G. similis G. harrisi, sed supracaudalibus maculis ovatis albis ornatis, et caudæ fasciis albis tribus: fasciâ longitudinali auriculari, loris et fasciâ gulari nigerrimis, nec chocolantino-brunneis distinguenda. Long. tot. 9.0 poll., alæ 5.25, caudæ 2.9, tarsi 1.15.

Mr. DIGBY PIGOTT informed the meeting that a Magpie and a Jackdaw had together occupied and repaired an old Magpie's nest in St. James's Park, and that that morning the Jackdaw had been noticed inside the nest with the Magpie in close attendance. He asked whether any Member of the Club was aware of any previous instance of the birds pairing. He had been informed that something of the kind had occurred in Wales, but had heard no particulars.

Mr. W. P. PYCRAFT mentioned that he had recently received from Mr. Frank Finn a specimen of the Blue-throated Barbet (*Cyanops asiatica*) which showed a similar heel-pad to that found in the Wryneck (*Iynx torquilla*). The specimen will be exhibited at the next meeting.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 19th of April, 1899, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER, R. BOWDLER SHARPE, HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Chairman. Editor. Sec. & Treas.

BULLETIN
OF THE
BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LXII.

THE sixty-first Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 19th of April, 1899.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—E. BIDWELL, A. F. CROSSMAN, P. CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, DR. F. D. DREWITT, Lt.-Col. W. H. M. DUTHIE, H. J. ELWES, F.R.S., W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, E. HARTERT, G. E. LODGE, H. C. MONRO, R. NESHAM, HEATLY NOBLE, F. PENROSE, Hon. L. W. ROTHSCHILD, M.P., DR. R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), E. CAVENDISH TAYLOR, N. F. TICEHURST, H. M. WALLIS, J. WILKINSON.

Visitors : T. F. ALTHAUS, C. E. FAGAN, J. R. HATFIELD, R. J. C. MOSTYN.

Mr. W. R. OGILVIE GRANT gave an account of his recent journey to Sokotra, and exhibited a series of specimens obtained by himself and Dr. H. O. Forbes. Among them were examples of the following new birds, full descriptions of which will appear in the 'Bulletin' of the Liverpool Museum :—*Scops socotranus*, *Caprimulgus jonesi*, *Motacilla forwoodi*, *Fringillaria insularis*, *F. socotrana*, *Passer hemileucus*, and *Phalacrocorax nigrogularis*.

[April 29th, 1899.]

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD exhibited a stuffed specimen of *Casuarium casuarium sclateri*, shot by Herr Emil Weiske on the Brown River, S.E. New Guinea.

This form had been originally described by Count Salvadori from a specimen which died in the Zoological Gardens about the year 1875. He had afterwards united the species with *Casuarium casuarium beccarii* (Sclater); but the latter was now known to be confined to Vokau Island, in the Aru group, while *C. c. sclateri* was found all over the south and south-east of New Guinea. The differences of the two forms had been given in 'Novitates Zoologicæ,' vol. vi. no. 1, p. 75, and would be further detailed in the 'Monograph of the Cassowaries,' shortly to be published.

MR. WALTER ROTHSCHILD also exhibited a series of skins of the *P. cinctus* group of the genus *Ptilinopus*, all the species being shown excepting the newly-described *P. alligator*, Collett, of which Mr. Rothschild exhibited a coloured figure. He recognized the following forms:—

P. cinctus. Hab. Timor.

P. albocinctus. Hab. Lombok, Sumbawa.

P. albocinctus baliensis. Hab. Bali.

P. everetti. Hab. Alor, Pantar.

P. lettiensis. Hab. Letti, Dammar, and Babber.

A fine specimen of the wonderful *P. dohertyi* was also brought for exhibition by Mr. Rothschild.

MR. ROTHSCHILD further exhibited several skins of *Lophophorus refulgens*, and added the following remarks:—

"In 1893 (Bull. Soc. Zool. Fr. xviii. p. 19) Dr. Oustalet described two Monaul Pheasants as local forms of '*Lophophorus impeyanus*' under the names of *L. impeyanus* var. *mantoui* and *L. impeyanus* var. *obscurus*, the former having the copper-coloured neck and head replaced by bright blue, the other having all the metallic parts replaced by deep greenish black. I was at first inclined to consider *L. impeyanus* var. *mantoui* a good species; for I procured three skins, all exactly alike. My suspicions were first aroused by finding in a lot of 3000 ordinary Monaul skins

one specimen of *L. impeyanus* with a dull bronze-coloured neck, one *L. impeyanus mantoui*, and two semi-albino birds. My doubts as to these forms were settled on receiving a black Monaul killed by an English sportsman out of a flock of four, together with a cock and three hens of the ordinary Monaul. Mr. Grant, in vol. xxii. of the 'Catalogue of Birds,' says that *Lophophorus refulgens*, Temm., is the correct name for the Common Monaul; so I am obliged to record all the skins exhibited as varieties of *Lophophorus refulgens*."

MR. HARTERT exhibited a specimen of *Geocichla peronii* and a nearly related new species of Thrush which he named

GEOCICHLA AUDACIS, sp. nov.

Similar to *G. peronii* of Timor, but with the upper surface more uniform and of a much deeper chestnut-rufous colour; chest and sides of body darker and more chestnut-rufous than in *G. peronii*; wing shorter, not more than 102-104 mm., while it is at least 110 in *G. peronii*. ♂ and ♀ not materially different.

Hab. Dammar Island, in the south of the Banda Sea. Collected by Heinrich Kühn.

MR. HARTERT also showed a pair of *Erythrura forbesi* from Dammar. This species was hitherto only known from the type specimen in the British Museum, from the Tenimber Islands.

MR. SCLATER stated that he had been staying in the Riviera during the past four weeks, and wished to call attention to the appalling deficiency of bird-life in that otherwise charming country. Although out every day on the hills round Cannes and Nice, and always on the look-out, he had seen but very few birds, and those mostly of the commonest sorts and always shy and timid. Even Sparrows were only occasionally to be met with. In the beautifully kept gardens of the villas not a bird's note was to be heard, and very rarely was a single Tit or Robin to be seen. Mr. Sclater attributed this scarcity of birds (which was deplorable, not

only from an æsthetic but still more from an economical point of view) to the prevalence of the “*chasse*” during the autumn and winter months and the sale of small birds of every sort for food in the markets; and expressed a hope that every Member of the B.O.U. would do all he could to shelter and protect bird-life in the country, lest we should fall into the same condition.

Mr. ROTHSCHILD also made some remarks on the few birds recently observed by him near Bordighéra.

Mr. SCLATER had, curiously enough, found in the bird-shop of Peracino, at Cannes, four examples of a bird which he had never seen alive before—the Masked Hawfinch (*Coccothraustes personatus*) of Japan—and had purchased them for the Zoological Society for a trifling sum. Mr. Sclater exhibited two of these birds in their cage to the meeting.

Mr. E. BIDWELL exhibited a new field-glass, which he considered to be likely to prove of great service to ornithologists.

Mr. HARTERT made some remarks on the system of labelling birds adopted in the Tring Museum, drawing particular attention to the red label which was used for the easy identification of typical specimens.

Mr. H. J. ELWES made some very interesting remarks on birds observed by him during his expedition to the Altai Mountains, with especial reference to the boundary-lines of the Eastern and Western Palæarctic Region.

Mr. L. W. WIGLESWORTH sent the following note to the meeting:—

“*Pachycephala chlorura*, Gray, of the New Hebrides, belongs to a group of *Pachycephalæ* in which the coloration of the sexes differs considerably, and the female was described as an *Eopsaltria* by Gray and named by him (B. Trop. Is.

1859, p. 21) *Eopsaltria cucullata*, from a single specimen in the British Museum obtained by Macgillivray in Aneiteum Island.

“A similar mistake by Verreaux & Des Murs has been pointed out by Dr. Oustalet (Bull. Soc. Philom. Paris, 1879, p. 219) in the case of *Eopsaltria caledonica* (Gm.) and *Pachycephala morariensis*, Verr. & Des M., of New Caledonia, the former name having been given to a female (or young male, which is very like the female), the latter name to the adult male. This species should therefore be called *Pachycephala caledonica* (Gm.). Both *Eopsaltria cucullata* and *Pachycephala morariensis* are erroneously allowed to rank as valid species by Dr. Gadow in the ‘Catalogue of Birds,’ viii. 1883, pp. 179, 199, and by Wilesworth in ‘Aves Polynesiae,’ 1891, pp. 27, 29.”

Two photographs of the specimen of *Euplocomus andersoni*, Elliot (now in the Calcutta Museum), were sent for exhibition by Mr. FRANK FINN, who considered this example to be the type of the species.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 17th of May, 1899, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	E. BIDWELL,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Acting-Sec. & Treas.</i>

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LXIII.

THE sixty-second Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 17th of May, 1899.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—BOYD ALEXANDER, G. E. H. BARRETT-HAMILTON, E. BIDWELL (*Acting Treas. & Sec.*), J. L. BONHOTE, A. F. CROSSMAN, P. CROWLEY, G. E. LODGE, J. G. MILLAIS, H. C. MUNRO, E. NEALE, R. NESHAM, F. PENROSE, R. H. READ, E. LORT PHILLIPS, R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), Dr. A. C. STARK, W. B. TEGETMEIER, N. F. TICEHURST, R. J. USSHER, L. A. WILLIAMS.

Visitors : G. EVANS, F. GILLETT, Major-Gen. H. B. HAYWARD, B. V. USSHER.

Mr. OGILVIE GRANT sent the description of a new species of Hill-Partridge, discovered by Mr. C. B. Rickett in the hills of Kuatun in Foh-kien. This species Mr. Grant proposed to call

ARBORICOLA RICKETTI, sp. n.

A. similis A. gingicæ, sed fronte et superciliis albis distinguenda. Long. tot. 10·5 poll., culm. 0·9, alæ 5·7, caudæ 2·1, tarsi 1·6.

Hab. Hachong and Yamakan, Foh-kien.

[*May 31st, 1899.*]

Mr. RICKETT sent the description of a new species of Trogon, obtained by him on the same expedition to Kuatun :—

HARPACTES YAMAKANENSIS, sp. n.

H. similis H. erythrocephalo, sed suprà olivascentioribrunneus, pileo quoque olivascenti-brunneo distinguendus. Long. tot. 13·3 poll., culm. 0·75, alæ 6·2, caudæ 6·8, tarsi 0·8.

Hab. Yamakan, Foh-kien.

Mr. BOYD ALEXANDER gave an account of his recent expedition to the Zambesi River and its tributaries. Amongst a number of specimens of interesting species obtained by him, the following were pointed out as some of the more remarkable :—*Chætura stictilæma*, *Erythropygia zambesiana*, *E. quadrivirgata*, *Cossypha natalensis*, *C. heuglini*, *Pinarornis plumosus*, *Nicator gularis*, *Dryoscopus sticturus*, *Erythrocercus francisci*, *Saxicola falkensteini*, *Campothera bennetti*, *Glaucidium capense*, *Macronyx wintoni*, *Glareola emini*, *Locustella fluviatilis*.

The following species were described by Mr. Alexander as new :—

SYLVIELLA PALLIDA, sp. n.

Most nearly allied to *Sylviella leucopsis*, Reichenow, the typical examples of which were obtained at Malinda. The British Museum possesses a male and female of the typical *S. leucopsis* from the neighbouring island of Manda, and I have compared my specimens with these. From *S. leucopsis* the Zambesi specimens differ in the following particulars :—The upper parts are uniform grey, *not* washed with greenish ; the bill is larger, and is *black*, not *brown*. Superciliary stripe, chin, throat, cheeks, and fore-neck, as well as the centre of the breast and belly, white, tinged with buff ; the sides and flanks more distinctly washed with the latter colour.

♂. Culmen 0·45 inch, wing 2·3, tail 1, tarsus 0·75.

♀. Wing 2·1 inches.

Hab. Zambesi River.

EREMOMELA HELENORÆ, sp. n.

Most nearly allied to *E. polioxantha*, but differs in the following particulars :—It is smaller ; the feathers of the

rump are olive-yellow, not ashy grey, washed with olive; the secondaries tipped with white; axillaries ashy white, not yellow; under tail-coverts white; feathers of thighs dusky, tipped with white. The tail is considerably shorter than in *E. polioxantha*. Upper mandible brown, lower one horn-colour; tarsus black; iris orange. Total length (measured in flesh) 3·56 inches, culmen 0·5, wing 2·1, tail 1·18, tarsus 0·6.

Hab. Mesanangue, Zambesi River.

CISTICOLA MUELLERI, sp. n.

Closely allied to *C. dodsoni*, Sharpe, but differs in the following particulars:—It is somewhat larger, and does not possess the broad sub-terminal band of black on the tail-feathers, as in *C. dodsoni*. The tail-feathers have no broad white tip, and, with the exception of the two centre ones, which are of a uniform brown, they possess a narrow dusky sub-terminal marking under certain lights on their inner webs only.

Adult female. Wing 1·82 inch, culmen 0·4, tail 1·6.

Named in memory of Mr. Müller, who commanded the rear-guard of Major Gibbons's Expedition, and who died at Tete.

Mr. ROBERT READ read some extracts from a letter received by him from Dr. Cuthbert Christy on some of the birds of the Upper Niger.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent descriptions of two new sub-species of Cassowaries from examples living in the Zoological Garden at Berlin:—

CASUARIUS PICTICOLLIS HECKI, subsp. n.

This bird bears the same relationship to *C. picticollis* that *C. papuanus edwardsi* does to *C. papuanus*. The throat and hind-neck are deep indigo-blue. Occiput pale greenish blue. A small round black wattle on the fore-neck. Lower sides of neck dark crimson. Casque and plumage similar to those of *C. picticollis*.

Hab. German New Guinea.

This form is named in honour of Dr. Heck, Director of the Zoological Garden in Berlin.

CASUARIUS UNIAPPENDICULATUS AURANTIACUS, subsp. n.

Face, cheeks, and occiput pale sky-blue; throat dark blue. Occipital patch, fore-neck, hind-neck, and lower sides of the neck deep reddish orange. Casque horny green, and much more compressed laterally than in *C. uniappendiculatus*. Long cheek-wattles absent; but the sides of face distended, as in *C. philipi*.

Hab. German New Guinea.

Mr. J. L. BONHOTE exhibited some specimens of birds recently obtained by him in the Bahamas, amongst which were examples of *Pyrranga aestiva*, *Protonotaria citrea*, and *Vireo olivaceus*, not previously recorded from New Providence.

The following new species was described in a communication from Mr. F. J. JACKSON:—

PŒOPTERA GREYI, sp. n.

♂. Similis *P. lugubri*, sed caudâ minùs acuminatâ et alis nigris purpureo paullò micantibus, remigibus haud pallidè brunneo marginatis: corpore haud purpurascente et vix violaceo: gutture magis chalybeo. Long. tot. 8·0 poll., culm. 0·75, alæ 4·1, caudæ 3·25, tarsi 0·8.

♀. A mari differt more generis *Pæoptera*. Grisescenti-viridis, remigibus intùs castaneis. Long. tot. 7·8 poll., culm. 0·7, alæ 3·95, caudæ 3·2, tarsi 0·8.

Hab. Nandi, Equatorial Africa.

Mr. R. J. USSHER gave a most interesting exhibition of relics which he had discovered in the kitchen-middens on the coast of Waterford. In addition to the remains of red deer, oxen, domestic fowl, &c., the series of bones of the Great Auk (*Plautus impennis*) which were exhibited tended to prove that in former times the latter species must have bred in this part of Ireland.

Mr. SCLATER exhibited another series of beautiful photographs of Australian birds' nests and eggs, which had been transmitted to him by Mr. D. Le Souëf, of Melbourne, and

were partly intended to illustrate some notes of Mr. Le Souëf's to be published in the next number of 'The Ibis.' Amongst these, special attention was called to the photographs of the nest and eggs of the Northern Oriole (*Oriolus affinis*), the Black-faced Wood-Swallow (*Artamus melanops*), and the Northern Thickhead (*Pachycephala falcata*).

Mr. SCLATER exhibited a mounted specimen of a hybrid between a male Guinea-fowl and a domestic hen, which he had received alive as a present from Dr. Goeldi, of Pará (see P. Z. S. 1898, p. 348), and the anatomy of which would be described by Mr. Beddard in the next number of 'The Ibis.' Such hybrids were said to be not uncommon at Ceará in Brazil, whence the present specimen was obtained, and to be known by the name of "Tahý."

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 21st of June, 1899, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,
Chairman.

R. BOWDLER SHARPE,
Editor.

E. BIDWELL,
Acting-Sec. & Treas.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LXIV.

THE sixty-third Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 21st of June, 1899.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—BOYD ALEXANDER, E. BIDWELL, J. L. BONHOTE, A. F. CROSSMAN, P. CROWLEY, R. A. CROWLEY, Dr. F. D. DREWITT, E. F. FENWICK, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT (*Acting Editor*), E. HARTERT, G. E. LODGE, E. NEALE, R. NESHAM, F. PENROSE, M.D., Hon. W. ROTHSCHILD, M.P., H. SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), A. D. SAPSWORTH, H. SCHERREN, F. C. SELOUS, Dr. A. C. STARK, E. C. TAYLOR, N. F. TICEHURST, J. I. S. WHITAKER, L. A. WILLIAMS.

Visitors : T. F. ALTHAUS, Sir HUGH BEEVOR, Bart., M.D., P. W. HOLDEN.

The announcement of the unexpected death of Mr. JOHN WHITEHEAD, the well-known naturalist and explorer, was received with great regret. A telegram had been received from Hainan stating that he had succumbed to a severe attack of fever on the 2nd of June. Mr. Whitehead had left this country in January with the intention of completing his investigation of the Philippine Fauna and exploring the highlands of Hainan and Formosa. Finding it impossible to do any work in the Philippines in their present disturbed state,

[July 4th, 1899.]

he had proceeded to Hainan and had started for the interior of the island on the 13th of March. In his letter, dated the 1st of May, he had reported that he had been very ill and that collecting was almost at a standstill, his entire party having been attacked by fever of a most malignant type. He appeared to have reached the coast, but only to die at Hoihow, and his loss to the scientific world, at the early age of 38, could not be too greatly deplored. A brilliant field-naturalist, his successes in Corsica, North Borneo, and the Philippine Islands were well known through the pages of 'The Ibis,' and it had been hoped that he would long be spared to continue his useful and interesting career.

A vote of sympathy with the family of the deceased was unanimously passed.

Mr. J. L. BONHOTE exhibited an example of *Mimus polyglottus*, which he had obtained at Nassau, New Providence.

This individual differed from the majority of specimens in the British Museum in having dark bases to the three outer pairs of tail-feathers.

Mr. BOYD ALEXANDER exhibited male and female examples of a new species of Sun-bird which he had obtained near the Kafui River, South Africa. He proposed to call this species:—

CINNYRIS SHELLEYI, sp. n.

Adult male. Entire head, neck, back, and lesser wing-coverts metallic green, a slight golden gloss on the back of the head, neck, and mantle; wings and tail black. At the base of the metallic-green throat is a narrow steel-blue collar, followed by a broad bright scarlet pectoral band, the feathers of which are partially barred with steel-blue; remainder of the underparts blackish brown. Bill and legs black; iris dark brown. Total length 4·65 inches, culmen 0·85, wing 2·5, tail 1·7, tarsus 0·65.

Adult female. Similar in plumage to that of *C. mariquensis*, but more yellow and less mottled with dusky on the underparts. Total length 4·56 inches, culmen 0·85, wing 2·4, tail 1·7, tarsus 0·65.

Obs. This species is nearly allied to *C. bifasciatus*, which it resembles in size, but differs in having the bastard primary smaller and more pointed: in this character it resembles *C. mariquensis*.

The most marked specific characters of *C. shelleyi* are the sealing-wax red pectoral band, which is similar to that of *C. erythrocerca*, and the blackish-brown breast, which resembles that of *C. bouvieri*; the golden gloss on the metallic upper parts is also far less than in *C. mariquensis*. The position of this new species appears to be intermediate between *C. erythrocerca* and *C. mariquensis*.

Mr. OGILVIE GRANT exhibited an example of a new species of Rough-winged Swallow collected by Mr. W. Blayney Percival at Ruo, British Central Africa. Mr. Grant proposed to call it:—

PSALIDOPROCNE PERCIVALI, sp. n.

Allied to *P. antinori*, Salvad., from Shoa, but with the general colour of the plumage black glossed with dark green, instead of sooty black with a dull bronze gloss. Total length 5·25 inches, wing 4·1, tail 3·4, tarsus 0·38.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD exhibited the original drawings for the plates in his forthcoming "Monograph of the Genus *Casuaris*" (to be published in the Zoological Society's 'Transactions'), and also the type of *Casuaris loræ*, Rothsch., and a young bird of the same species. He acknowledged 8 distinct species of *Casuaris*, and, counting all the local races or subspecies, recognized eighteen separable forms, as follows:—

Casuaris casuaris. Ceram.

C. casuaris beccarii. Vokan I., Aru Group.

C. casuaris salvadorii. Arfak, N.W. New Guinea.

C. casuaris sclateri. Southern New Guinea, from Macluer Inlet to Samarai.

C. casuaris australis. Queensland.

C. casuaris violicollis. Probably Trangan I., Aru Group.

C. casuaris intensus. Hab. incert.

- C. bicarunculatus*. Wammer and Kabroor Is., Aru Group.
C. uniappendiculatus. Arfak and Salwatti.
C. uniappendiculatus occipitalis. Jobi I. and Geelvink Bay,
 N. New Guinea.
C. uniappendiculatus aurantiacus. Huon Gulf, E. New
 Guinea.
C. philipi. Hab. incert.
C. papuanus. Arfak and Salwatti.
C. papuanus edwardsi. Geelvink Bay.
C. picticollis. British New Guinea (low country).
C. picticollis hecki. German New Guinea.
C. loriae. Owen Stanley Range, S.E. New Guinea.
C. bennetti. New Britain.

Mr. ROTHSCHILD further exhibited a pair of the so-called *Palæornis salvadorii* from Thibet. He had lately received two living females of the true *Palæornis derbyana*, said to have come from Hainan. The original examples of *Palæornis salvadorii* came from Moupin and were decidedly smaller than *Palæornis derbyana*; but as the specimens from Thibet were exactly intermediate in size, *P. salvadorii* could not be regarded as a distinct species. Till the true habitat of *Palæornis derbyana*, the largest form, was definitely ascertained, *P. salvadorii* might be given subspecific rank as *Palæornis derbyana salvadorii*.

Mr. ROTHSCHILD also exhibited some skins of *Telespiza cantans* from Laysan Island. They belonged partly to what he had formerly described as a distinct species (Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. 1892, x. p. 110) under the name of *T. flavissima*, which was also described and figured under this name in the first part of his 'Avifauna of Laysan.' He said that by the fine series of skins he had lately received from Professor Schauinsland, which were much finer specimens and in better plumage than those originally obtained by Henry Palmer, and also from Prof. Schauinsland's careful observations, it was proved beyond doubt that the two forms were not distinct, *T. flavissima* being merely the fully adult

male of *T. cantans*. The species would therefore stand as *T. cantans*.

Mr. ROTHSCHILD further exhibited a specimen of an extremely rare Lark, *Mirafra erythropygia* (Strickl.), and a Kestrel, *Cerchneis alopeax*, Heugl. The former was only known from Kordofan, and the British Museum possessed only one very poor skin of it; while the latter was previously known from Bogosland, Shoa, and Redjag in Equatorial Africa. The specimens exhibited had, however, been collected by Captain Giffard at Gambaga, north of Ashanti, and their occurrence so far west was in the highest degree interesting.

Mr. ROTHSCHILD also exhibited a pair each of *Pyrocephalus dubius*, Gould, and *P. nanus*. The former had been described by Gould from one female collected by Darwin on one of the Galápagos Islands, but it was not known which.

In the 'Catalogue of Birds,' *P. dubius* had been united with *P. nanus* in spite of its inferior size and wider and more distinct superciliary stripe. *P. dubius* was, however, a perfectly distinct species and was confined to Chatham Island, while *P. nanus* occurred on most of the remaining islands of the group. Mr. Ridgway had recognized the distinctness of this form in his excellent Monograph of the Ornithology of the Galápagos Islands, and the series obtained by the Harris expedition fully confirmed his opinion.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT exhibited a pair of Flycatchers belonging to an undescribed genus and species. He characterized them as follows:—

DAMMERIA, gen. n. (Muscicapidæ).

Remarkable for its strong, high, and arched beak, with large nostrils plainly to be seen in front of the stiff, short frontal plumes, which are continued on the beak to the nostrils. In the well-developed wing the fifth primary is the longest, the first a little more than half the length of the

second. Tail composed of 12 feathers, rather more than two-thirds of the length of the wing; rectrices about equal in length, slightly pointed at the tips. Metatarsus long, longer than the middle toe with claw, covered in front with a lamina which shows some two or three divisions only near the toes. Sexes dissimilar in coloration.

DAMMERIA HENRICI, sp. n.

Adult male. Above dark slaty blue; lores and feathers of the forehead darker, nearly black. Above the lores, from the eye to nearly the middle of the forehead, a line of pure white feathers, similar to that found in many species of the genus *Brachypteryx*. Under surface dark slaty blue; chin darker, almost black; in the middle of the throat a white, sometimes concealed, patch. Feathers of the chest and breast with narrower or wider longitudinal white spots near the tips; those of the belly and sides of rump tipped with white; under tail-coverts nearly black with white patches. Remiges brownish grey towards the bases of the inner webs; under wing-coverts slate-colour, partly tipped with white. Iris brown, bill black, feet blackish plumbeous. Total length about 130 mm., wing 68–69, tail 50, metatarsus 20, culmen from forehead about 15, bill from end of nostril to tip 7.

Adult female. Above olive with a rusty wash; a buff superciliary line from the forehead to above the eye. Remiges olive-brown, outer webs edged with rusty brown, pale brown towards the base of the inner webs. Ear-coverts with pale shaft-lines. Under surface rusty buff, brighter on the throat and chest, and washed with olive on the sides and flanks; feathers of the chest with olive patches, producing a somewhat striped appearance. Feet pale flesh-colour. Wing 64–65 mm.

Immature male. Resembles the adult female, but with the upper surface darker and the feathers tipped with ferruginous, the chest more streaked, and the superciliary stripe less developed.

Hab. Island of Dammer in the Banda Sea, where it was discovered by Mr. Kühn.

MR. HARTERT further exhibited a new species of Finch of the genus *Poëphila* and its nearest ally. He described the new form as follows:—

POËPHILA NIGROTECTA, sp. n.

Similar to *P. cincta*, from which it differs in being considerably smaller and in having the upper tail-coverts black like the rump. In *P. cincta* the upper tail-coverts are perfectly white:—not black with white tips as described in Butler's 'Foreign Finches,' where, however, an excellent plate is given.

Total length about 100 mm., wing 59-60 (about 63 in *P. cincta*), tail 41, culmen 9·5.

Hab. Cape York, Queensland, where it was obtained by Mr. Meek.

MR. SCLATER read some extracts from a letter he had received from Major A. Cowie, R.E., at present stationed in the island of St. Lucia, West Indies. Among the birds observed were examples of the American Laughing-Gull (*Larus atricilla*), which had not been previously recorded from the island.

MR. N. F. TICEHURST exhibited a fine example of the two-barred Crossbill (*Loxia bifasciata*) which had been obtained in East Sussex on the 23rd of February.

A discussion arose regarding the changes of plumage in the male of the Common Crossbill, in which Messrs. Howard Saunders, Rothschild, Hartert, and Bonhote took part.

MR. PHILIP CROWLEY exhibited two eggs of Paradise-birds which had been obtained on Mt. Victoria, British New Guinea. One of these was stated to be undoubtedly an egg of *Paradisea raggiana*.

MR. HOWARD SAUNDERS read an extract from a letter received from Mr. Heatley Noble, in which the latter described the breeding of the Scaup Duck (*Fuligula marila*) in Sutherlandshire.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 18th of October, 1899, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street ; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Chairman. Acting Editor. Sec. & Treas.

BULLETIN

OF THE

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P R E F A C E.



THIS Index was originally prepared, under Mr. Scclater's directions, at the Office of the Zoological Society of London in Hanover Square, by Mr. F. H. Waterhouse, the Librarian of the Society, and his assistants. A MS. copy of it was subsequently presented by Mr. Scclater to the Library of the Bird-room in the British Museum. This Index having been found to be of great assistance in both the above-mentioned Libraries to those who require to make frequent references to the 'Catalogue of Birds,' it was resolved by the Committee of the British Ornithologists' Club to print it as an extra volume of the 'Bulletin,' of which it will accordingly form Volume IX.

Our best thanks are due to Mr. Waterhouse and his assistants for the care they have taken in the compilation and correction of this Index, which we trust may prove useful to all working ornithologists.

The following Latin lines were composed by a Member of the B.O.C. to commemorate the names of the eleven Authors of the 'Catalogue of Birds':—

DE CATALOGI AVIUM MAGNI SCRIPTORIBUS UNDECIM.

Sharpius incepit, scripsitque volumina multa ;
 Seebohmus sequitur, promptus ad auxilium.
Teutonicus, zelo plenus, venit inde *Gadovus*,
 *Salvinus*que bonam præbet amicus opem.
Jam *Scclaterus* adest, tria longa volumina complens,
 Americanarum notus amans avium.
Expers *Hargittus* nunc Picos ordinat omnes,
 *Hartertus*que sagax Cypselidas numerat.
Multum etiam pensæ *Shelleyi* profuit ardor,
 Multum *Saundersi* mens operosa dedit.
Clarus ab Italiâ jam *Salvadorius* adstat,
 Et tandem *Grantus* fine coronat opus.

R. B. S.

March 15th, 1899.

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AN

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