

**PROCEEDINGS OF
ZOOLOGICAL
SOCIETY OF
LONDON. PART XIII, 1845**

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VARIOUS

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OF THE

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OF LONDON.

PART XIII.

1845.

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PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

January 14, 1845.

William Yarrell, Esq., in the Chair.

A letter was read from Dr. Clark of Cambridge, describing the morbid appearances which presented themselves on the dissection of a young Orang Outan which died lately in the Gardens.

Mr. Fraser exhibited specimens of two species of Birds from Chile, procured by Mr. Thomas Bridges, Corresponding Member. One was the *Sterna Inca*, Less., which, according to Mr. Bridges, is called "Mouja" by the natives. The other was a specimen of a Little Bittern, *Ardeola exilis*, Bonap., called by the natives "Aspergala."

Mr. Gould exhibited to the Meeting a number of Birds from China, being the first collection forwarded from Amoy to this country.

He described the following new species:—

CORVUS FASTINATOR. *Cor. plumis pilose saturatè purpurascentenigrâ; caudâ virescenti; scapulariis tectricibusque caudâ maculd semilunari nigrâ ad apices ornatis; rostro tarsisque nigris.*

The entire plumage deep shining purplish black or plum-colour, glossed with a greenish hue on the tail-feathers; the scapularies and upper tail-coverts with an obscure crescent-shaped mark of black at the tip; bill and feet shining black.

Total length 18 inches; bill, $2\frac{3}{8}$; wing, 12; tail, 7; tarsi, $2\frac{1}{2}$; middle toe and claw, $2\frac{1}{2}$.

Hab. Chusan.

Remark.—This species is closely allied to the Rook of Europe, but differs from it in the hue of the plumage, which is of a beautiful purple or plum-colour where the European bird is green; the bill is also straighter and the face much less denuded, the fleshy base of the nostrils being the only part destitute of feathers; the feet and claws are also larger.

MERGUS ORIENTALIS. *Mer. (Fœm.) capite cristâ colloque rubiginoso-rubris; mento albo; corpore superiore, caudâ, alis, lateri-*

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busque griseis; primariis ferrugineo-nigris; secundariis albis; corpore inferiore pallide cervino; tectricibus caudæ albidis.

Female.—Head, neck and crest dark rust-red; chin white; all the upper surface, wings, tail and flanks grey; primaries brownish black; secondaries pure white; under surface cream-colour, fading into white on the under tail-coverts.

Total length 23 inches; bill, $2\frac{1}{2}$; wing, $9\frac{3}{4}$; tail, 5; tarsi, 2.

Hab. Amoy.

Remark.—Nearly allied to the Goosander of Europe, but smaller in size and more delicate in colour than that bird. I believe a male of this bird is in the British Museum; the female is in my own collection, and is the only one I have seen. The specimen in the Museum assimilates as closely to the male of the European bird as the one here described does to the female.

PICA SERICA. *P. capite, collo, pectore et tectricibus caudæ saturatè nigris; tectricibus alarum cinereo-cæruleis, ventre et scapulariis albis; caudâ metallicè nigro-viridi; rostro et pedibus nigris.*

Head, throat, chest, upper part of the back, upper and under tail-coverts deep black; secondaries and greater wing-coverts shining steel-blue; spurious wing and edges of the base of the outer webs of the primaries shining deep green; inner webs of the primaries white; the tips of the primaries and the margins of the inner webs for a short distance from the tip black; scapularies and belly pure white; tail greenish black, with bronze reflexions; bill and feet black.

Total length about 19 inches; bill, 2; wing, 8; tail about 12; tarsi, $2\frac{1}{4}$.

Hab. Amoy.

Closely allied to the common Magpie, but differs in the wings being blue instead of green, in the rather less extent of the white, and in having a longer bill and much longer tarsi.

Mr. Gould also exhibited to the Meeting a small species of Mammal, which he characterized as

DROMICIA CONCINNA. *Drom. maculâ nigrâ ante oculos; corpore superne et parte exteriore crurum pallidè brunneis; crurum parte inferiore et corpore subtis distinctè albis.*

Before the eye a mark of black; all the upper surface, the outer side of the limbs and the tail, pale sandy brown; all the under surface and the inner side of the limbs white; the two colours distinctly separated, or not blending into each other.

Length of the head and body, $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches; of the tail, $3\frac{1}{4}$; of the ear, $\frac{1}{2}$.

Hab. Western Australia.

Very nearly allied to the *Dromicia* of Van Diemen's Land, but distinguished from that animal by its much smaller size, by the distinct separation of the colours of the upper and under surface, and by the absence of any enlargement at the base of the tail.

Also a new Gallatorial bird, which he named

FULICA AUSTRALIS. *Ful. capite colloque nigris; superne griseo-*

nigro, subtus fuliginoso; iridibus rubris; rostro cinereo-cæruleo; vertice viridi-albo; tarsis pedibusque griseis.

Head and neck black; all the upper surface greyish black; under surface sooty black; irides bright red; bill light bluish grey; crown of the head greenish white; legs and feet French grey.

Total length 14 inches; bill, $1\frac{1}{4}$; wing, 8; tail, $2\frac{1}{4}$; tarsi, $2\frac{1}{2}$.

Hab. Western Australia.

"Descriptions of species of Bats collected in the Philippine Islands, and presented to the Society by H. Cuming, Esq." By G. R. Waterhouse, Esq.

The following descriptions and notices, added to those given in the Proceedings for May 1843, include all the species of the order Cheiroptera collected by Mr. Cuming in the Philippine Islands; and it is necessary to state, with regard to the descriptions alluded to, that they are all drawn up from specimens preserved in spirit; and although every care has been taken to ascertain the true colouring of the fur as nearly as possible by repeated examinations of the specimens, mounted as they were in clear spirits of wine, the colours may not prove to be exactly as I have supposed.

The following table displays some of the more prominent characters of the species of *Vespertilio* (generally so difficult to determine) about to be described:—

- A. Wing-membrane extending to the distal end of tibia.
- a. Ears moderate, or rather small, rounded; tragus rather short, rounded at the apex; heel-cartilage short.
- a. 1. Nostrils separated by a moderately wide space, and opening sublaterally 1. *Vesp. tristis*.
- a. 2. Nostrils with a narrow space between them (a distinct notch, however, in that space), and opening almost in front 2. *Vesp. Eschscholtzii*.
- b. Ears large and pointed; tragus long, narrow and pointed; heel-cartilage long.
- b. 1. Hind-foot very large 3. *Vesp. macrotarsus*.
- b. 2. Hind-foot small 4. *Vesp. pellucidus*.
- B. Wing-membrane extending to base of toes.
- a. Ears short, rounded at apex; tragus short, subpointed 5. *Vesp. Meyeni*.
- b. Ears large, pointed; tragus long, attenuated and pointed 6. *Vesp. rufo-pictus*.

VESPERTILIO TRISTIS. *Vesp. vellere molli, nigricanti-fuliginoso; auribus mediocribus, rotundatis; tragus mediocribus arcuatis, apice rotundatis; rostro brevi obtuso; alis angustis.*

	unc.	lin.
Longitudo ab apice rostri ad caudæ basin	2	5
caudæ	2	5