

GAME BIRDS OF THE EAST AFRICA AND
UGANDA PROTECTORATES

BY F. J. JACKSON.

COTURNIX COTURNIX

Coturnix coturnix, LINN.

'Ogilvie-Grant's Cat. Birds Brit. Mus.' Vol. XXII, page 231. 'Sharpe's Hand-List,' Vol. I, page 31. 'Shelley's Birds of Africa,' Vol. I, page 178. 'Reichenow's Vögel Afrikas,' Vol. I, page 505.

The common or European Quail is a rare visitor to East Africa. In December 1909 and January 1910 there were a few in the open grass country on the N'gong road. It is much more difficult to flush than Delegorgue's Quail.

Male.—Top of the head black, all the feathers tipped with brown or reddish-brown, a white or pale buff stripe down the middle of the head; feathers of the mantle sandy or reddish-brown, each with a wide buff black-edged shaft-stripe tapering to a point, and with a wide black bar or blotch on one or both webs. The scapulars and feathers of the back, rump, and upper tail-coverts are very similar to the mantle, but the ground-colour is generally black with narrow V-shaped transverse bars of dirty or reddish-white, and the shaft-stripes are wider and confined to a line of feathers down each side of the spine. Lores and stripe above the eye white; a reddish or blackish-brown band commences behind the upper angle of the nostril and passes through the eye and over the ear-coverts; a black or sometimes reddish-black band extends backwards to behind the eye from the angle of the gape, a black anchor-shaped mark commences on the chin and passes down the middle of the throat, the arms curving upwards to the ear-coverts. The remaining portions of the head, chin, and throat are white, and usually separated from the chest by an ill-defined band of black and rust-coloured spots. Chest rufous-buff, with white shafts, shading into whitish-buff on the rest of the under-parts; sides and flanks reddish-buff, spotted with black, and with wide white black-edged shaft-stripes. Tail-feathers black, tipped with whitish and barred with buff.

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Length $7\frac{3}{4}$ inches, wing 4.2 inches, tail 1.5 inches, tarsus 1 inch.

Female.—Differs from the male in having no black band down the middle of the throat, only the arms of the anchor-shaped mark being somewhat imperfectly represented, and the chest more or less thickly spotted with black.

COTURNIX AFRICANA

Coturnix africana, T. AND S.

'Sharpe's Hand-List,' Vol. I, page 31. 'Reichenow's Vögel Afrikas,' Vol. I, page 506.

Coturnix capensis, LICHT.

'Shelley's Birds of Africa,' Vol. I, page 178. 'Ogilvie-Grant's Cat. Birds Brit. Mus.' Vol. XXII, page 237.

The Cape Quail is both scarce and local. In May 1898 there were a few in the close vicinity of the old Nandi station where four males were obtained. At Loudiani, in May 1901, another male was obtained.

Male.—Differs from the male of *C. coturnix* in having the lores, sides of the head, chin, and throat bright rufous chestnut, the chest washed with the same.

Length 6.3 inches (dried skin), wing 3.9—4 inches, tail 1.4 inches, tarsus 1.1 inches.

Female.—The plumage does not differ from that of *C. coturnix*.

COTURNIX DELEGORGUEI

Coturnix delegorguei, DELEG.

'Ogilvie-Grant's Cat. Birds Brit. Mus.' Vol. XXII, page 243.
'Sharpe's Hand-List,' Vol. I, page 31. 'Shelley's Birds of Africa,' Vol. I, page 178. 'Reichenow's Vögel Afrikas,' Vol. I, page 507.

Delegorgue's Quail is by far the most plentiful and most widely distributed of all the quails found in East Africa and Uganda. It is a partial migrant, and breeds in several parts of East Africa, viz. in Kikuyu in the vicinity of old Fort Smith, between November and March; in the grassy plains near Simba and Sultan Hamud in January and February; on the Turkwel River in January and February, and in Jubaland in November. During migration in July it used to be a regular visitor to the plains near Nairobi, and large bags were

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made, but for the last four or five years it appears to have avoided the place, though it is plentiful at that time between Kapiti and Makindu, and also in the Rift Valley. In Kavirondo it is very plentiful in December, and again in July, and great numbers are caught by the natives, with the aid of decoys, in traps set at short intervals in old sheep tracks and native foot-paths. In November it is found in fair numbers on the coast, and even on the Island of Mombasa, but nowhere have I found it in such immense numbers as in Teita in December 1892, and on the Molo river in September 1896. In the latter place, during the whole of a march of about twelve miles they were getting up in front of me in threes and fours continuously. The nest consists merely of a few roots and dry grasses, and the eggs vary in number from five to nine. They also vary a good deal in the markings.

Male.—Differs chiefly from the male of *C. coturnix* in having the general colour of the upper-parts, including the wing-coverts, blackish-brown; the black pattern on the throat more strongly marked; the general colour of the sides of the neck and the rest of the under-parts chestnut; a large black patch in the middle of the chest and breast, and the feathers of the sides and flanks black down the middle.

Length $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches, wing 3·7 inches, tail 1·3 inches, tarsus 1 inch.

Female.—Differs from the female of *C. coturnix* in the much darker colour of the upper-parts, in having the under-parts rufous-buff or dull chestnut washed with dusky on the chest, most of the feathers with a pale dark-edged shaft-stripe, and the feathers of the sides mottled and barred with black and buff.

EXCALFACTORIA ADANSONI

Excalfactoria adansoni, VERR.

'Ogilvie-Grant's Cat. Birds Brit. Mus.' Vol. XXII, page 255.
'Sharpe's Hand-List,' Vol. I, page 32. 'Shelley's Birds of Africa,' Vol. I, page 178. 'Reichenow's Vögel Afrikas,' Vol. I, page 509.

This beautiful little game bird is also very scarce and local. I first met with it at the Ravine Station in October 1896, where it was undoubtedly breeding, as a female that

I shot had a fully formed egg—unfortunately broken by the shot—in the oviduct. The species was subsequently met with on a grassy plain near Kitotos Village in Southern Kavirondo, in May 1901.

Mr. A. B. Percival obtained one near the race-course at Nairobi. When flushed it rarely flies more than forty or fifty yards, but it is exceedingly difficult to make it rise a second time, even with the assistance of beaters, and almost impossible when alone.

Male.—Upper-parts blackish-brown washed with slate, except the wing-coverts, scapulars, upper tail-coverts, sides and flanks, which are bright chestnut, especially the outer wing-coverts, with a slaty-grey shaft-stripe down each feather; the middle of the back blotched with black; a white band from the nostril to the eye; chin and throat black, a white band edged with black on either side; fore-part of the throat white edged with black; rest of under-parts very dark slate-grey.

Length 5·2 inches (dried skin), wing 2·9—3 inches, tail 1·1 inches, tarsus 0·8 inch.

Female.—Upper surface brown barred with black, most of the feathers with a pale buff or white shaft-stripe. Forehead, stripe over the eye and cheeks rufous-buff, chin and throat and fore-part of the neck white, shading into rufous buff, rest of the under-parts buff, paler towards the middle of the breast and belly; chest, sides, and flanks barred with blackish brown.

PTILOPACHYS FUSCUS

Ptilopachys fuscus, VIEILL.

'Ogilvie-Grant's Cat. Birds Brit. Mus.' Vol. XXII, page 255.
'Sharpe's Hand-List,' Vol. I, page 32. 'Shelley's Birds of Africa,' Vol. I, page 182. 'Reichenow's Vögel Afrikas,' Vol. I, page 500.

This small Hill-Francolin, generally known as the Stone-Pheasant, appears to be very local, though fairly plentiful where found.

Colonel Delmé Radcliffe obtained it in some hills between Nimuli and Gondokoro on the Nile, and I found it in the

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Suk hills in January 1890, just above the cañon through which the Turkwel river runs.

Though I saw about ten of these birds, they were such adept runners amongst the rocks and scrub on the steep hill sides, and so exceedingly difficult to flush, that only one was bagged, whilst another, only winged, was lost.

Male and Female.—Top of the head brown, fading into sienna on chest and mantle, each feather with a dark band down the shaft; those of the head are also margined with brownish-white, while those of the other parts have a sub-marginal band of whitish, and are irregularly barred with brown towards the margins. Rest of the back, rump and upper tail-coverts dull brown, finely vermiculated with whitish. Stripe over eye, cheeks, chin, throat and neck dark brown, margined with whitish. Middle of the breast uniform buff; sides of the breast, sides and flanks chestnut irregularly and transversely barred towards the margins of the webs with dark brown and white. Thighs dark brown, irregularly barred with white; belly and under tail-coverts dark brown, the latter fringed with dirty white. Tail dark brown, faintly mottled, especially on the inner feathers, with rufous-buff.

Male.—Length 11 inches, wing 5·2 inches, tail 3·6 inches, tarsus 1·2 inches.

Female.—Length 9·5 inches, wing 4·7 inches, tail 3·1 inches, tarsus 1·1 inches.

PTILOPACHYS FLORENTIÆ

Ptilopachys florentiæ, OGILVIE-GRANT.

‘Ogilvie-Grant’s Bull. Brit. Orn. Club,’ Vol. X, page cvii. (1900),
‘Reichenow’s Vögel Afrikas,’ Vol. I, page 502.

This Hill-Francolin was discovered by Lord Delamere at Gessema in the Randile country in British E. Africa and was named after Lady Delamere by Mr. Ogilvie-Grant. In habits it probably differs little from *P. fuscus*, and confines itself to stony scrub-covered hills. It is distinguished from *P. fuscus* by having the plumage altogether darker, the black markings, especially on the under-parts of the body, being much coarser. The mantle and upper back are devoid of the broad chestnut

shaft streaks characteristic of *P. fuscus*; on the sides of the breast, belly, and flanks the wide chestnut middles to the feathers are much reduced, and the sides of the feathers are strongly barred with black and white. Iris, brown; bill and legs, dull red.

Total length about 10 inches, wing 4·7 inches, tail 3·6 inches, tarsus 1·15 inches.

NUMIDA REICHENOWI

Numida reichenowi, OGILVIE-GRANT.

'Ogilvie-Grant's Ibis,' 1894, page 536. 'Sharpe's Hand-List,' Vol. I, page 41. 'Shelley's Birds of Africa,' Vol. I, page 183. 'Reichenow's Vögel Afrikas,' Vol. I, page 437.

This Guinea-fowl ranges from Teita westward to Taveta, and thence northwards to Elmenteita, and the northern Uaso Nyiro. It was named by Mr. Ogilvie-Grant from an example obtained by myself on the Kilungu River in Ukamba in 1889. It is perhaps more plentiful in Teita, at Makindu, and on the west side of Naivasha than elsewhere, but nowhere have I seen it in greater numbers than on the southern and western foot-hills of Ndara hill in Teita, between the two camping grounds, Marago ya Kanga and Mkuyuni, on the old caravan road. It was on the march between these two camps that the late Mr. Holmwood, H.B.M.'s Consul at Zanzibar, on his way up Kilimanjaro in 1888, killed twenty-two of these birds with two barrels of a twelve-bore gun. A large pack of the birds was surprised whilst drinking at a small pool in a deep water-worn ravine, and instead of taking wing they ran for the drift on the far side, and whilst massed together with head up were 'browned.' Mr. James Martin, who was present on the occasion, vouches for the statement.

In Teita this guinea-fowl breeds in January and February, and further north in March and April, and in some instances as late as June. After pairing, and until the young are well grown, these birds, usually very noisy, particularly in the early morning and when going to roost, become remarkably silent and difficult to find, so much so that a place where they are known to have been plentiful a month before

appears to be quite deserted. The nest is usually well hidden in thick scrub, and the eggs vary in number from seven or eight or twelve to fourteen. Of the many ways of circumventing this bird, driving over a belt of trees, where possible, affords quite the best sport; walking them up, which generally means running after them and peppering them behind, when many go away with a leg down or otherwise wounded, is the least satisfactory, whilst potting them from a tree when roosting is simple butchery.

Adult.—Bony helmet, long, elevated and compressed; the base extending from the forehead to the occiput; the height varies. The general colour of the plumage is black, thickly spotted all over with white, the spots on the upper-parts being smaller than those on the under, and divided from one another by a network of dotted white lines; the black feathers up the middle of the back of the neck have decomposed webs; each of the white spots along the margin of the outer web of the secondaries takes the form of a short oblique band. Upper parts of the head and wattles at the angles of the gape crimson-red, neck bluish-purple; bill yellowish-horn-colour, darker at the base; legs and feet dark horn-brown.

Length 21 inches, wing 11 inches, tail 6·4 inches, tarsus 3·1 inches.

NUMIDA MITRATA

Numida mitrata. PALL.

'Ogilvie-Grant's Cat. Birds Brit. Mus.' Vol. XXII, page 378.
'Sharpe's Hand-List,' Vol. I, page 42. 'Shelley's Birds of Africa,' Vol. I, page 183. 'Reichenow's Vögel Afrikas,' Vol. I, page 438.

Pallas' Helmeted Guinea-fowl appears to be confined to the southern portion of the coast region lying between the Sabaki river and the Anglo-German frontier, and as far inland as Samburu. It has probably suffered at the hands of native trappers, as it is nowhere very plentiful and associates in much smaller flocks of from six or eight up to fifteen.

It is very similar in plumage and appearance to *N. reichenowi*, but may be at once recognised by the shape of the helmet,

which is much smaller and nearly conical. The feathers of the lower parts of the neck and the upper chest are finely barred with black and white. Top of the head scarlet, helmet paler, rest of the naked skin of the neck and face bright blue, wattles blue, tipped with red: legs and feet brown, bill greenish-horn-colour, becoming reddish at the base.

Length 20 inches, wing 10.5 inches, tail 6.2 inches, tarsus 3.2 inches.

NUMIDA PTILORHYNCHA

Numida ptilorhyncha, LIGHT.

'Ogilvie-Grant's Cat. Birds Brit. Mus.' Vol. XXII, page 379.
'Sharpe's Hand-List,' Vol. I, page 42. 'Shelley's Birds of Africa,' Vol. I, page 183. 'Reichenow's Vögel Afrikas,' Vol. I, page 445.

The Abyssinian Helmeted Guinea-fowl ranges from Elmenteita northwards and westward to the foot-hills of Ruwenzori. It may be easily distinguished from Reichenow's bird by having a horny brushlike excrescence at the base of the upper mandible, and by the wattles being blue and not tipped with red. It is probably the most plentiful of all the guinea-fowls. On the banks of the Turkwel river, on one occasion in January 1890, I came across a large pack in which there could not have been less than two thousand birds, massed together feeding.

It resembles *N. reichenowi*, but differs both from it and from *N. mitrata* in having a bunch of horny bristles at the base of the culmen. The upper half of the neck is thinly covered with black feathers, and the margins of the outer webs of the secondaries are finely vermiculated with black and white; the white spots of the greater secondary coverts are more or less confluent, and form oblique white bands. Bare skin of the neck, face, and wattles, blue; helmet and bristles pale brownish-horn-colour, feet dark horn-colour.

Length 19 inches, wing 11 inches, tail 6.4 inches, tarsus 3.2 inches.

The birds that are found on the Northern Uaso Nyiro have much longer helmets than those found in the Rift Valley.

GUTTERA CRISTATA

Guttera cristata, WAGLER.

'Ogilvie-Grant's Cat. Birds Brit. Mus.' Vol. XXII, page 381.
 'Sharpe's Hand-List,' Vol. I, page 42. 'Shelley's Birds of
 Africa,' Vol. I, page 183. 'Reichenow's Vögel Afrikas,' Vol. I,
 page 450.

So far as is at present known the Black-collared Crested Guinea-fowl is confined to the Mau Forest. Near the ravine I saw and heard it on many occasions when out after Bongo, but only once obtained it whilst beating some small patches of forest close to the station. Its call is a soft musical trill, very different from the harsh, far-sounding cackle of the helmeted birds. When calling it stands bolt upright with its throat slightly inflated.

The general plumage is black, spotted all over with round dots of bluish-white, most of the feathers being very narrowly edged with the same colour. The top of the head is covered with a full long crest of curling black feathers: a uniform black collar round the base of the neck extending in front on to the upper part of the chest. Rudimentary wattles at the angles of the gape, and naked skin of head and neck cobalt-blue except the chin and throat, which are dark Indian red; bill greenish-horn-colour, feet dark brown.

Length 20 inches, wing 10·2 inches, tail 5·1 inches, tarsus 3 inches.

GUTTERA PUCHERANI

Guttera pucherani, HARTL.

'Ogilvie-Grant's Cat. Birds Brit. Mus.' Vol. XXII, page 383.
 'Sharpe's Hand-List,' Vol. I, page 42. 'Shelley's Birds of
 Africa,' Vol. I, page 183. 'Reichenow's Vögel Afrikas,' Vol. I,
 page 452.

The Curly-crested Guinea-fowl is more plentiful and has a much wider range than the foregoing. It is found on the coast from Jubaland to the Anglo-German frontier, westward to Taveta, and thence northwards to Kikuyu, but only in those parts where there is forest or tall thick bush.

Adult Male and Female.—Differ from *G. cristata* in having the spotting continued right up to the naked neck. The naked

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skin round the eye, the head, the chin and throat and the rudimentary wattles at the angles of the gape are red; the back and sides of the neck blue.

Length 20 inches, wing 10·8 inches, tail 5 inches, tarsus 3·6 inches.

ACRYLLIUM VULTURINUM

Acryllium vulturinum, HARDW.

'Ogilvie-Grant's Cat. Birds Brit. Mus.' Vol. XXII, page 385.
'Sharpe's Hand-List,' Vol. I, page 42. 'Shelley's Birds of Africa,' Vol. I, page 183. 'Reichenow's Vögel Afrikas,' Vol. I, page 448.

The Vulturine Guinea-fowl is essentially a bird of the wilderness. It is very plentiful in Jubaland and also on the Sabaki river, and may often be seen from the railway train near Maungu, and between Voi and Kinani. It is also plentiful on the Northern Uaso Nyiro. It may at once be distinguished from all other guinea-fowls by its long pin tail.

Male.—Head and neck naked, with a horseshoe-shaped band of velvety reddish-brown feathers round the back of the nape; lower neck, mantle and chest covered with long pointed hackles, black with wide white shaft-stripe, and margined with pale cobalt blue; the longer hackles are also more or less minutely dotted with white; lower back, rump, wing, tail-coverts and thighs black, dotted with white, and covered with small rounded black-edged spots. Breast and belly cobalt-blue, black down the centre. Naked parts of head and neck dull leaden blue.

Length 27 inches, wing 12·2 inches, tail 11·3 inches, tarsus 4·1 inches.

The female is smaller, and measures 26 inches, wing 12 inches, tail 10 inches, tarsus 3·8 inches.

TURNIX LEPURANA

Turnix lepurana, SMITH.

'Ogilvie-Grant's Cat. Birds Brit. Mus.' Vol. XXII, page 539.
'Sharpe's Hand-List,' Vol. I, page 48. 'Shelley's Birds of Africa,' Vol. I, page 178. 'Reichenow's Vögel Afrikas,' Vol. I, page 301.

Smith's Bustard-Quail, also known as the 'Button' quail, is found throughout East Africa and Uganda, occasionally in

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pairs, but generally singly. When flushed it rarely flies much beyond gunshot range, and without beaters or a dog it is extremely difficult to make it rise again. It appears to be more partial to open bush-country than to the grassy plains. This quail has no hind toe.

Female.—General colour dull light red, the feathers of the top of the head, back, rump, upper tail-coverts, tail and scapulars barred, and margined internally with black, externally with white or grey, giving the back a scaled appearance; a white band down the middle of the head; lores, stripe over the eye, and sides of the head and neck white tipped with black. Chin and middle of throat white; sides of the chest and breast whitish-buff, each feather with a heart-shaped sub-terminal black spot, centre of the chest bright rust-colour, rest of under-parts whitish-buff. Iris, silvery white, bill horn-blue, feet white.

Length 5·7 inches, wing 3·7 inches, tail 1·8 inches, tarsus 0·9 inches.

Male.—Differs from the female in being somewhat paler on the under-parts, and in the scale-like markings on the feathers of the upper-parts extending right over the nape to the back of the head.

Length 5 inches, wing 3·1 inches, tail 1·5 inches, tarsus 0·85 inches.

PTEROCLURUS EXUSTUS

Pteroclorus exustus, TEMM.

'Ogilvie-Grant's Cat. Birds Brit. Mus.' Vol. XXII, page 12.
'Shelley's Birds of Africa,' Vol. I, page 183. 'Sharpe's Hand-List,' Vol. I, page 50. 'Reichenow's Vögel Afrikas,' Vol. I.

This is the pin-tailed Sand-grouse, and it appears to confine itself in East Africa to the open plains lying to the N.E. of Kilimanjaro, where it was very plentiful and breeding in 1887; and the northern Uaso Nyiro. Also Jubaland, on the authority of Colonel E. G. Harrison, C.B.

Male.—Lores, cheeks, throat and nape dull ochre, shading into vinaceous buff on the chest; top of the head, upper back, rump, and upper tail-coverts isabelline brown. A narrow black band edged with white separates the chest from the yellowish-buff upper breast which shades into deep chestnut-

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brown on the lower breast, flanks, and belly. Tarsi and under tail-coverts whitish buff. Centre pair of tail-feathers produced into long black filaments, rest of the tail-feathers dark brown tipped with buff.

Length 13 inches, wing 7·1 inches, tail 5·3 inches, tarsus 0·9 inches.

Female.—Differs from the male in having a broad blackish-brown bar down the middle of each feather of the top of the head, neck, upper back, and chest, on the two latter the extremity of this bar is swollen, giving these parts a spotted appearance. The back, rump, and upper tail-coverts are vinaceous or yellowish-buff, thickly barred with black. Upper breast whitish or yellowish-buff; belly and flanks blackish-brown, closely barred with rufous buff. Tail feathers like those of the back, the middle pair being produced into moderately long black filaments, while the remainder are tipped with yellowish-white.

Length 10 inches, wing 7 inches, tail 3·6 inches, tarsus 0·8 inches.

PTEROCLES DECORATUS

Pteroclorus decoratus.

'Shelley's Birds of Africa,' Vol. I, page 184.

Pterocles decoratus.

'Reichenow's Vögel Afrikas,' Vol. I, page 310. 'Ogilvie-Grant's Cat. Birds Brit. Mus.' Vol. XXII, page 21. 'Sharpe's Hand-List,' Vol. I, page 50.

The Bridled Sand-grouse is the smallest of all the five species found in East Africa and it appears to be confined to the country between Teita and Taveta and ranges northwards to Simba river. Further north it is plentiful on the Uaso Nyiro and the desert country round Larsamis. It is very plentiful on the upper waters of the Tsavo river. A few pairs drink every morning quite close to Tsavo station at the trickling overflow from the railway-tanks.

Male—A broad black band edged on either side with white surrounds the gape; a white and black stripe above the eye; top of the head and nape buff, with black shaft-stripes; sides of the face pale vinaceous buff, shading into darker on the sides of the neck and chest. Feathers of the

back of the neck, back, rump, and upper tail-coverts dull buff barred with black; upper breast white, separated from the chest by a narrow black band; lower breast and belly, black, most of the feathers margined with white; lower part of leg and tarsus whitish-buff; under tail-coverts bright buff, with a subterminal black triangular mark. Tail like the upper tail-coverts, but the outer feathers are tipped with whitish buff.

Length 8·8 inches, wing 6·4 inches, tail 2·7 inches, tarsus 1 inch.

Female.—Differs from the male in having no black and white band on the head, the black bars and markings on the back, and wing coverts following the shape of the feathers, and the neck and chest barred with black.

Length 8·6 inches, wing 6·1 inches, tail 2·6 inches, tarsus 1 inch.

PTEROCLES GUTTURALIS

Pterocles gutturalis, SMITH.

'Ogilvie-Grant's Cat. Birds Brit. Mus.' Vol. XXII, page 25.
'Sharpe's Hand-List,' Vol. I, page 51.

Pterochurus gutturalis.

'Shelley's Birds of Africa,' Vol. I, page 184.

Pterocles saturator, REICHENOW.

'Reichenow's Vögel Afrikas,' Vol. I, page 306.

The Chestnut-vented Sand-grouse is the largest of the East African species and ranges from Kilimanjaro as far north as Nairobi. On the Upper Tsavo it is very plentiful, also on the Simba river and the Athi, where it breeds in July and August. It is also found in Jubaland. Like all the sand-grouse it has certain favoured drinking places at which it arrives, in flocks of ten to thirty or more, at regular hours in the morning and evening.

Male.—A black band from the nostril to the eye; a narrow buff stripe from above the nostril to the back of the eye; top of the head dull olive-buff, shading into dull yellowish buff on the neck; chin, cheeks, and throat yellowish buff, divided from the neck by a wide black band. Back, rump, and upper tail-coverts olive-grey, scapulars blackish with greyish-buff

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extremities. Chest grey, tinged with vinaceous, shading into dark chestnut on the breast, belly, and under tail-coverts. Tarsi rufous buff. Tail, middle pair of feathers like the upper tail-coverts; rest black, barred and tipped with chestnut.

Length 12 inches, wing 8·3 inches, tail 3·4 inches, tarsus 1·2 inches.

Female.—A brownish-black band from the nostril to the eye, a narrow black stripe from the lores to the back of the eye, and the chin and throat yellowish-buff. Feathers of the top of the head, back, rump, upper tail-coverts, and chest yellowish-buff, each with a wide black shaft-stripe enlarged at the extremity, the lower tail-coverts being also barred with black. Breast, belly, and flanks dull rufous buff closely barred with black, under tail-coverts dark chestnut. Middle pair of tail feathers yellowish-buff, barred with black like the longer upper tail-coverts; rest like those of the male.

Length 11·6 inches, wing 8·2 inches, tail 3·1 inches, tarsus 1·1 inches.

PTEROCLES LICHTENSTEINI

Pterocles lichtensteini, TEMM.

'Ogilvie-Grant's Cat. Birds Brit. Mus.' Vol. XXII, page 29.
'Reichenow's Vögel Afrikas,' Vol. I, page 311. 'Sharpe's Hand-List,' Vol. I, page 51.

Pteroclorus lichtensteini.

'Shelley's Birds of Africa,' Vol. I, page 184.

The close-barred Sand-grouse is not found in East Africa south of the Equator. It is plentiful on the Turkwel river, and ranges as far east as Baringo and Lake Hannington. In January 1890 it used to drink regularly in the Turkwel river about 7 A.M. and again after sunset, when it was almost too dark to see them as they flew close to the ground like plovers.

Male.—General ground colour pale whitish-buff, throat and neck spotted with black, the rest of the upper-parts and chest closely barred with narrow bands of black; upper breast yellowish-buff, divided in the middle by a narrow dark chestnut band (sometimes black), and separated posteriorly from the rest of the under-parts by a black band, giving the breast a four-banded appearance. Tarsi pure white.

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Length 10·3 inches, wing 7 inches, tail 2·8 inches, tarsus 1·1 inches.

Female.—Differs from the male in having the whole chest and breast narrowly barred with black, and the barring on the upper parts of the body much finer and closer.

Length 9·7 inches, wing 7 inches, tail 2·8 inches, tarsus 1·1 inches.

PTEROCLES QUADRICINCTUS

Pterocles quadricinctus, TEMM.

'Ogilvie-Grant's Cat. Birds Brit. Mus.' Vol. XXII, page 32.
'Reichenow's Vögel Afrikas,' Vol. I, page 313. 'Sharpe's Hand-List,' Vol. I, page 51.

Pteroclorus quadricinctus.

'Shelley's Birds of Africa,' Vol. I, page 184.

The African Painted Sand-grouse is not found in East Africa south of the equator. It is plentiful on the Turkwel river, and again at Lasamis on the road from the northern Uaso Nyiro to Marsabit.

Male.—Lores, forehead, and stripe above the eye white, a wide black band crosses the forehead just in front of the eyes and there is an oval black spot above each eye. Feathers of the top of the head each with a wide black shaft-stripe. Upper back, throat, and chest yellowish-buff; rest of back, rump, and upper and under tail-coverts black, barred with white or yellowish-white, narrowly tipped with buff. The chest is bounded by a moderately wide chestnut band, succeeded by somewhat wider bands of pale yellowish-buff and black; the rest of the under-parts with narrow bars of white and black.

Length 10·8 inches, wing 6·7 inches, tail 3·3 inches, tarsus 0·9 inch.

Female.—Differs from the male in having no white and black markings on the head, the sides of the neck and base of the throat spotted with black, the chest and upper-parts rufous-buff, closely barred with black, the ends of the scapulars and the greater part of the outer web of the wing-coverts yellowish-buff. No pectoral band.

Length 10·5 inches, wing 6·2 inches, tail 2·9 inches, tarsus 0·9 inch.