

XXI.—*Descriptions of some new Species of Birds.*

By ARTHUR, Viscount WALDEN, P.Z.S., F.R.S.

Alcippe collaris, n. sp.

Throat, chin, lores, a broad supercilium extending to behind the eye and down the side of the neck, white; a broad line extending from the nostrils over the eye, then bordering the white superciliary band above, and running down the side of the neck, black; cheeks and ear-coverts black; across the lower throat a broad ferruginous band or collar, separating the white throat from the dingy olive-brown plumage of the breast, flanks, and abdomen; thigh-coverts and under tail-coverts bright ferruginous; forehead, crown of the head, and nape ferruginous brown; back, scapulars, and upper tail-coverts olive-brown, with a ruddy tinge; rectrices above liver-brown; quills brown, edged exteriorly with liver-brown; shoulder-edge albescent dashed with ferruginous, under coverts the same; the median breast-feathers nearly pure white; bill black; legs (in dried skin) yellowish-brown.

Wing 2·3 inches, tail 2·12, bill from nostril 0·36, tarsus 0·85.

Described from a male example obtained by Surgeon-Major F. Day at Sudya, Upper Assam, on the 12th of January, 1874.

This species possesses an especial interest, as it is a representative form of the Formosan *Alcippe brunnea*, Gould, an aberrant member of the genus.

Geocichla andamanensis, n. sp.

Geocichla innotata, Blyth, J. A. S. B. 1858, p. 270 ("Andamans").

Geocichla albogularis, Blyth, *apud nos*, Ibis, 1874, p. 138 ("Andamans").

When writing on Andaman birds (*l. c.*) I had not had the advantage of seeing examples of the Nicobar *Geocichla*, named *G. albogularis* by Mr. Blyth. Lately a considerable series has come under my observation; and a comparison made between them and Andaman examples makes it clear that they belong to a totally distinct species. Having already shown (*l. c.*) that the Andaman species differs from the Malayan *G. innotata*, it remains without a title; and therefore for the Andaman bird I propose the name given above.

Eurycercus cinerascens, n. sp.

Chin, throat, breast, cheeks, and under carpal coverts almost

pure white; remainder of lower surface of body white, faintly washed with ashy grey, the flanks being dark ashy grey; a distinct white ring round the eye, formed by the minute feathers of the eyelids; above ashy olive, each feather, except those of the uropygium, boldly centred with brown; upper surface of the rectrices ashy olive like the back, the middle pair with a narrow dark brown central line on each side of the shaft; no striations or terminal marks on the rectrices; upper surface of the wing, when closed, ashy olive like the back, the secondary coverts being centred with brown; inner edges of the basal portion of the quill-webs underneath white, passing into tawny on the tertiaries. The tail consists of very broad feathers much graduated; legs (in dried skin) brown.

Wing 2 inches, tail 3.25, bill from nostril 0.28, tarsus 0.75.

Described from an example of a male obtained by Surgeon-Major Day at Dobri, Lower Bengal, on the 27th of November, 1873.

Ianthænas nicobarica, n. sp.

Entire head, nape, cheeks, and neck dark French grey, chin and throat albescent grey; breast and abdomen darker grey than the head; feathers of the back and sides of the neck tipped with iridescent colours of changing green and pinkish violet; lower down a broad zone of dark grey feathers with bright green reflections, followed by an interscapular zone of iron-grey feathers with pinkish-violet reflections; lesser wing-coverts iron-grey, with semilunar terminal pinkish-violet edgings. All the iridescent tints described alter from green to violet or violet to green, according to the light in which the individual is held. Back, uropygium, and upper tail-coverts dark ashy grey, many shades darker than the head, and tinted with iridescent hues; quills and rectrices almost black; base of the bill and eyelids bright red.

Wing 9.75 inches, tail 6.50, bill from forehead 1.37, tarsus 1, middle toe with claw 1.87.

Described from examples obtained in Trinkut and Nang-cowry islands, Nicobars, by Captain Wimberley.

Like *Ianthænas palumboides* (Hume), this species possesses twelve rectrices, and is a true *Ianthænas*. It is a representative form of the Andaman species, from which it is chiefly distinguished by wanting the pearly-white or greyish-white head, throat, and nape.

Carpophaga pulchella, n. sp.

Head, neck, throat, breast, lower surface, and under wing-

coverts delicate pale grey, deeply tinted on the crown, throat, and abdomen with a roseate hue; forehead pure white; a broad triangular patch on the nape rich cupreous chestnut; entire back, and all the wing-coverts and upper tail-coverts, rich copper-colour; first three primaries above dark slate-grey, the remainder washed with green; rectrices above green, with a cupreous tinge; under tail-coverts chocolate.

Wing 8.50 inches, tail 5.50, bill from forehead 1.25, tarsus 1, middle toe with claw 1.90.

Described from a male example obtained in the Tojian islands, Celebes, by Dr. Bernhard Meyer.

It is a representative form of *C. paulina*, but differs by being copper-coloured instead of green; its dimensions are also less.

Alcedo Beavani.

At page 487 of the twelfth volume of this Journal I described as new, under the title of *Alcedo rufigastra*, a species of kingfisher of which examples had been sent to me from the Andaman Islands. A specimen obtained by the late Captain Beavan in Maunbhoom, on comparison, proved to be identical ('Ibis,' 1874, p. 136). But as no such species had been procured on the Indian continent by any other collector, it occurred to me that Captain Beavan's specimen had become separated from his Andaman collection, and had accidentally acquired an erroneous locality. This conclusion subsequent discoveries now convince me was erroneous, and I unwittingly did injustice to my late friend's proverbial accuracy. I have since obtained examples from Assam. It has, I believe, been found at the foot of the Himalayas; and Mr. Ball writes to me that it has occurred in the Rajmehal hills, and he believes that it has also been obtained in Cuttack. Its claim to rank as a species belonging to the Indian continent is therefore established; and I wish, by changing the hybrid title of *rufigastra* to that of *Beavani*, to commemorate the original discoverer of this species.

XXII.—Description of a new European Species of Zootoca.

By Dr. ALBERT GÜNTHER, F.R.S.

AMONG the reptiles collected by Lord Lilford during his last



Tweeddale, Arthur

Hay,

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↑

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