

6. On *Acomus inornatus*, Salvad. By T. SALVADORI, C.M.Z.S.

[Received June 10, 1879.]

(Plate XLVIII.)

Quite recently I have described (Ann. Mus. Civ. Gen. xiv. p. 250) a new Pheasant from Mount Singalan, on the west coast of Sumatra, which I have named *Acomus inornatus*. The type specimen, which has long spurs, looks fully adult; and Dr. Beccari, who obtained it, is very positive in stating that it is a male, having dissected it himself. He tells me that, from reports he heard from the natives, and from the feathers found near the traps and belonging to specimens which unfortunately had been eaten by some carnivorous animal, he thinks that the female is of a reddish brown colour. But it is possible that the feathers alluded to, instead of belonging to the female of *A. inornatus*, were those of the hen of *Euplocamus vieilloti*, Gray, which most likely is the bird with the white tail-feathers mentioned by Beccari in his letter to Marquis Doria (Ann. Mus. Civ. Gen. xiii. p. 454) dated Kaju Tanam (Sumatra).

As the new bird described by me is wholly black, some one may think, notwithstanding the positive statement of Beccari, that it is not a male of a distinct species, but a female of *Acomus erythrophthalmus* (Raffles). Such is certainly not the case, according to my ideas; and I think it advisable to point out the differences between my bird and the hen of *A. erythrophthalmus*. I feel the more the necessity of doing so specially, as in describing *A. inornatus* I have neglected to notice the differences between the two birds; and some one may think that I was not aware of the female of *A. erythrophthalmus* being black and wearing such a dress as may be easily taken for that of a cock—especially as its tarsi are armed with powerful spurs.

The female of *A. erythrophthalmus* has so much the appearance of a male bird that it has been described as a distinct species under the name of *Phasianus purpureus*, Gray (Ill. Ind. Zool. pl. 42). I think that Blyth was the first (Cat. B. Mus. A. S. B. p. 245) to point out that the bird called *Ph. purpureus* is the female of *A. erythrophthalmus*. Subsequently Selater (P. Z. S. 1863, p. 120) and Elliot, in his Monograph of the Pheasants, agreed in considering *Ph. purpureus* to be the female of *A. erythrophthalmus*. It must be said, however, in justice to Raffles that he rightly described (Trans. Linn. Soc. xiii. p. 321) the black bird as the female of his *Phasianus erythrophthalmus*.

Turning to my *Acomus inornatus*, I may state that before describing it I had carefully compared it with an adult hen of *A. erythrophthalmus*, and felt quite convinced, as I am now, that it is a male of a distinct species.

The hen of *A. erythrophthalmus* is smaller, and it is black all over, *uniformly* shining greenish blue on the upper parts; the head

and throat are not deep black, but rather brown. Moreover the hidden parts of the body-feathers are greyish brown.

The type of my *A. inornatus* is larger, is deep black all over, even on the head, has all the feathers of the upper parts, back, upper tail-coverts and wing-coverts, and also the feathers of the neck and breast, *distinctly and sharply edged with shining green, turning to blue near the hind neck, so that all these parts appear beautifully scaled*: this scale-like appearance is completely wanting in the hen of *A. erythrophthalmus*. Lastly the hidden part of the feathers does not incline to brown, but is only greyish towards the base.

The accompanying figure (Plate XLVIII.) taken from the typical example, will give a good idea of *A. inornatus*, which is the third known species of the *Acomus* group.

Turin, May 27, 1879.

7. On some hitherto unrecorded Diurnal Lepidoptera, from Duke-of-York Island and New Ireland, with Descriptions of some apparently new Species. By F. DU-CANE GODMAN and OSBERT SALVIN.

[Received June 14, 1879.]

A further collection of Butterflies recently received from the Rev. G. Brown, has enabled us to clear up a few doubtful points in our former papers on this subject, and to add several very interesting species to the list hitherto known from these islands. Materials are still wanting to render the determination of the Lycænidae satisfactory; but as regards the larger species Mr. Brown sends us better specimens in every collection, so that little is now wanting in their condition. Judging from the fine new species contained in each collection, we have no doubt that many more remain to be discovered.

CYLLO AMABILIS, Boisd. Voy. Astr. Lép. p. 140, Atlas, t. 2. f. 1, 2.

A single example of this very distinct species from New Ireland agrees with the figure above quoted.

APELLA EGISTA (Cram.).

Mr. Brown has sent us two specimens which probably are referable to this species. They differ, however, in a slight degree from our examples from Ceram and Amboyna, and also from Cramer's figure (Pap. Exot. t. 281. f. C, D), in having the submarginal row of black spots on the secondaries almost obsolete; but we are not inclined to consider this of specific value.

New Ireland.

DIADEMA AUGE (Cram.).

A single female example from the Duke-of-York group of islands is identical with specimens in our collection from Moreton Bay and Sula Islands which we refer to this species.



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