

to the other materials. The down with which the nestling has been covered, and of which traces may be observed on a few of the back-feathers, is of a dark-brownish grey, as is usual among the *Corvidæ*. The first plumage much resembles that of the adult, being, however, duller in colour and with the white tear-like spots less conspicuous; but the quill-feathers of the wings and tail are not so entirely destitute of metallic reflexions as some authors lead one to imagine.

Whether the Nutcracker builds the whole structure for itself, or only furnishes the forsaken nest of some other animal, I do not know. This and other particulars we shall probably soon learn from Pastor Theobald himself; and I need scarcely say I look forward with the greatest interest to the clearing up of our doubts as to what its eggs are really like.

#### 10. NOTE ON *NANNOPERCA AUSTRALIS*. BY DR. A. GÜNTHER.

This fish has been described in the preceding volume of the 'Proceedings' of this Society, p. 116, where the *absence of the lateral line* has been mentioned as one of the generic characters. By some misunderstanding, the artist has added a strongly marked lateral line (1861, Pl. XIX. fig. 2), an error which has been discovered too late for correction. Therefore I take an early opportunity of confirming the statement made in the text.

#### 11. ON SOME POINTS RELATING TO THE ANATOMY OF THE HUMMING-BIRD (*TROCHILUS COLUBRIS*). BY EDWARDS CRISP, M.D., F.Z.S., ETC.

The recent dissection of the above-named bird has induced me to place an account of some parts of its anatomy before the Society, believing that the communication will not be devoid of interest.

I am indebted to Mr. Gould for the Humming-bird, which he captured in America, and brought alive to this country; but it lived only a few days after its arrival.

It had been preserved in spirits for some time before I examined it, and therefore the weight may not have been exactly the same when first captured, but I believe that the difference would be very slight. I have, in the accompanying drawing, depicted the bird with and without its skin. I have also represented the skeleton and all the viscera by measurement.

The bird (a female) weighed 61 grains; its length from beak to tail 4 inches, the bill being three-fourths of an inch, the tail 1 inch; from the extremity of each wing, when extended,  $4\frac{1}{4}$  inches. Tail-feathers ten; wing-feathers in all sixteen, the first the longest.

On removing the skin, the bird, as represented in the drawing, had a very plump, solid appearance, the pectoral muscles being of very large size: they weighed 12 grains, being nearly one-fifth the weight of the bird. The extremities of the os hyoides, as in the





Günther, Albert C. L. G. 1862. "10. Note on *Nannoperca australis*." *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London* 1862, 208–208.

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