

NOTE XIV.

ON THE CATALOGUE OF THE COLLECTION OF BIRDS
BROUGHT TOGETHER BY A. VROEG

BY

Dr. E. D. VAN OORT.

In the library of the Royal Zoological Society »Natura Artis Magistra" at Amsterdam, there is a copy of the descriptive catalogue of the collection of birds etc. made by Mr. A. Vroeg and sold at the Hague in the year 1764. This is one of the rarest prints, besides this only one copy, preserved in the library of the Linnean Society of London, is known. The attention of Zoologists to this Catalogue has been drawn by Mr. C. D. Sherborn, when writing his *Index Animalium*, and the new names in the catalogue were attributed by Mr. Sherborn in his *Index* to A. Vroeg; but afterwards he was informed by Dr. C. W. Richmond, that P. S. Pallas was the author of the new names in the »*adumbratiunculae*" at the end of the catalogue (cf. *Smithsonian Misc. Coll.* XLVII, 1905, p. 332).

I had the opportunity, by kind permission of Dr. C. Kerbert, Director of the Zoological Society of Amsterdam, to examine the copy in possession of that Society, for which I tender my sincere thanks to that gentleman.

This copy is in fine condition; the contents are as follows:

First page : the Dutch title, reprinted on the next page.

Second page : blank.

Pages III—VIII: Voorreeden (preface in Dutch, not signed).

Page IX : the French title.

Tenth page : blank.

Pages XI—XVI: Preface (the preface translated in French).

Pages 1—49 : the true catalogue, list of items.

Pages 1—7 : the »*adumbratiunculae*".

Notes from the Leyden Museum, Vol. XXXIV.

BEREDENEERDE
CATALOGUS,

*Van eene, by uitstek fraaye en weergaalooze
Verzameling, zoo van INLANDSCHE
als UITHEEMSCHE*

VOGELEN,
VIERVOETIGE en GEKORVENE
DIEREN.

Zynde alle op het konstigste in derzelver Na-
tuurlykste Standen, Aart en Houding, Op-
gevuld, Opgezet, en, op eene byzondere
wyze, voor alle bederf beveiligt.

*Alles, met oneindige moeiten en kosten, in zeer veele jaa-
ren, verzameld, en eigenhandig in order gebracht,*

DOOR

A. VROEG.

En welke geheele Verzameling den Liefhebberen
tot den 22ste September dezes jaars, ten billyke
pryze, in eens uit de hand te koop werd aange-
boden. Zullende anderszins (de onderhand-
sche verkoping niet geschiedende) deze
Verzameling op den 6de October 1764.

worden geveild in s'Gravenhage,

*Ten Huize van Mr. KOSTER, op de hoek van de
Veenestraat op de kleine Groenmarkt,*

DOOR

PIETER VAN OS,

Boekverkoper op de Plaats in s'Gravenhage, 1764.

By wien de Catalogus te bekomen is.

Notes from the Leyden Museum, Vol. XXXIV.

The list of items contains on pages 1—32 the list of the birds (nos 1—322); on pages 32 and 33 there are mentioned some quadrupeds, on page 33 also three eggs of the ostrich, and the cabinets and drawers, in which the birds and the afterwards mentioned insects are placed; the insects are enumerated on pages 34—49. Page 50 is blank. The »adumbratiunculae» are paged separately and contain 7 pages.

In the Dutch (and also in the French) title there is only stated, that the collection has been brought together and that the specimens have been stuffed by Mr. A. Vroeg, not that he has written the Catalogue; further that the collection will be sold at the house of Mr. Koster at the Hague by Mr. Pieter van Os, bookseller at that place, at October 6th 1764. The author of the catalogue, the list of items, is unknown and this is an important fact, as in the dutch list of items, preceding the »adumbratiunculae» all the new species of these »adumbratiunculae» are mentioned, most of them under the same latin names, some under other latin names, and are described in Dutch. The names in the »adumbratiunculae» are thus preoccupied by the names in the catalogue. These latter names however cannot be considered, because the author of the names and of the descriptions is unknown.

When the new names of the »adumbratiunculae» could be considered, i. e. when they had not been preoccupied in the catalogue, they yet are to be rejected, as the work published in 1764 was that of an anonymus, which, notwithstanding the quotations by Linnaeus in 1766 or the statement by Pallas himself in 1811, we may not attribute to Pallas, when quoting it. It is strange, that Pallas in his Zoographia Rosso-Asiatica, is sometimes wrong in the quotations of his own work, f. i. he synonymizes *Scolopax testacea* (n^o 301 of the »adumbratiunculae») with *Limosa lapponica* of Linnaeus, notwithstanding the description of *Scolopax testacea* clearly shows, that this is the curlew-sandpiper, *Ancylocheilus subarquata* (Güldenstädt), which bird

is also very well described in the Dutch list of items on page 30 under the same name.

For the matter of denomination the catalogue of Vroeg's collection cannot be noticed in Zoology. It is only of some interest to the knowledge of the avifauna of Holland, f. i. on page 5 it is stated, that the nutcrackers were very abundant in the autumn of the year 1753, and on page 30 it is stated, that there is an example of *Ardea alba* in the collection, caught in the province Overijssel, and mention is made of another specimen, which was shot near Rotterdam.

Leyden Museum, November 1911.



Oort, E. D. van. 1911. "On the Catalogue of the collection of Birds brought together by A. Vroeg." *Notes from the Leyden Museum* 34, 66–69.

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