

**Birds collected and observed on the Larut Hills,  
Perak, in March and April 1898.**

It was with the greatest pleasure that I found myself able to devote the months of February and March this year (1898) to forming a collection of birds on the Larut Hills in Perak. I believe that Mr. L. Wray, Jr., and Dr. Hartert for a few days in 1888, are the only other ornithologists who have collected on these mountains. Mr. Wray was fortunate in being the first man on the ground, and he made the most of his opportunities, obtaining, apparently, all the then new species which are at all common on the hills, and several which must be distinctly rare, as I failed to procure a single specimen of some of them in two months energetic collecting. The ornithological results of Mr. Wray's very successful collecting expeditions in the mountains were described by Dr. R. Bowdler Sharpe in two papers in the P. Z. S. for 1887 and 1888, which have been reprinted in the Journal of this Society (No. 19, p. 125., and No. 21, p. 1.)

These two papers deal with collections made on the Larut Hills and on the Batang Padang Mountains. For practical purposes they may both be taken as dealing with the birds of the Larut Hills, the avifauna of the higher mountains, as far as is yet known, not differing appreciably from that of the lower range. In fact, all the novelties yet obtained in the mountains of the Malay Peninsula occur at 3,000 to 5,000 feet altitude. As yet no single species has been discovered with a habitat restricted to the higher elevations of 6,000 or 7,000 feet, though it is quite possible that some such forms may exist.

Ninety-five species are enumerated in these two papers, which do not include birds not actually obtained. My list is longer, containing 113 species, as I have included all birds seen and identified as well as those shot. Mr. Wray's lists contain a number of species which I did not come across, while mine contains several which are not to be found in Mr. Wray's. The obvious inference to be drawn from this is that there are pro-



bably yet a number of species on the hills which neither of us met with and that our united lists are by no means complete. Some more novelties are sure to be obtained in time on these mountains; the small and inconspicuous species especially are likely to repay attention.

I am much indebted to Mr. J. P. Rodger, British Resident, Selangor, for assistance kindly afforded me while he was acting as Resident of Perak. In giving me permission to collect for scientific purposes Mr. Rodger requested me to restrict myself to four specimens of a species. It will be seen that on the whole I contented myself with considerably less.

I have also to thank Mr. L. Wray, Jr. for much information about the birds of the hills, and for the kindness with which he was always ready to go over his own collections with me when I was in Taipeng.

I hope shortly to publish elsewhere a more complete paper on the birds at present known to occur on the mountains of the Peninsula; in the mean time, I give a list of the species I met with during my two months on Maxwell's Hill. The brief notes as to elevation, etc., after each species must not be taken as hard and fast rules, but only as my individual experience of the bird's habitat, given for comparison with the notes of other observers. In this list I have arranged the species according to the classification in Messrs. Oates' and Blanford's "Bird" volumes in the Fauna of India Series, inserting those species not in the Indian list in what seemed to me their proper places. I have not, as is usually done, inserted the names of Families and Sub-families in large print between each few species, as in most cases it seems to me unnecessary waste of space.

The identifications in this list are, I believe, absolutely reliable. A numeral in brackets following the note on a species denotes the number of specimens I obtained. In all cases where such a number follows, the birds have been worked out by no less an authority than Dr. Ernst Hartert, of Tring Museum. The remaining species are identified by myself, but they are all birds with which I was previously, or have since become, familiar, and I am confident of the correctness of the names given. In some cases where species have been split up into recognized



sub-species the trinomials are there used for the sake of accuracy.

Three species new to science are included in this list, and their descriptions quoted; other birds are recorded from the mountains of the Peninsula for the first time.

Glancing through the list one is struck by the fact that over ninety genera are represented by the 113 species given.

The whole of the birds that I obtained are now in the Hon'ble. Walter Rothschild's magnificent collection at Tring.

1. *Rhinocichla mitrata* (S. Müll).

Very common above 3500 feet, feeding in noisy parties. (3)

2. *Trochalopteryx peninsulæ*. Sharpe.

Wray's Laughing Thrush. Only one obtained between The Hut and The Cottage, 4000 feet. (1)

3. *Pomatorhinus wrayi*. Sharpe.

Wray's Scimitar Babbler. Common at about 4000 feet generally in parties, which like others of the genus keep up a loud liquid call note. A very skulking bird, and not easy to procure. I failed to find the only one I shot.

4. *Gampsorhynchus saturator*. Sharpe.

The Perak Ring-necked Shrike-babbler. Sharpe described this species from a specimen obtained by Mr. L. Wray on Gunong Batu Puteh, but Mr. Blanford does not consider it entitled to specific distinction (Fauna of India, Birds, I. p. 137). Hence I was particularly anxious to obtain specimens for comparison; but though I saw what must have been this bird once at 3500 feet, I failed to shoot it.

5. *Corythocichla leucosticta*. Sharpe.

Wray's Spotted Babbler. Not uncommon above 3000 feet; met with in small foraging parties hopping about on or near the ground among rocks and undergrowth. (3)



6. *Turdinus abbotti olivaceus*. (Strickl.)

Abbott's Babbler. Not uncommon in thickets near the foot of the hills. Dr. Sharpe identified a *Turdinus* sent by Mr. Wray from these hills as *sepiarius*. Mine was certainly the same as the bird Mr. Wray has marked *sepiarius*, but Dr. Hartert assures me it is the pale sub-species (*olivaceus*) of *Turdinus abbotti*. (1)

7. *Alcippe peracensis*. Sharpe.

Wray's Black-browed Babbler. Very common at 3000 feet and upwards. (3)

8. *Alcippe cinerea*. (Blyth.)

Grey-headed Babbler. Equally common below 3000 feet. (3)

9. *Stachyris davisoni*. (Sharpe.)

Davison's Babbler. One shot at 2000 feet. (1)

10. *Stachyris poliocephala*. (Temm.)

One shot near the foot of the hills. A pair noticed collecting nest material in April. (1)

11. *Stachyridopsis chrysæa*.

Dr. Hartert says, "A sub-species, duller than Himalayan specimens. Either *St. chrysæa assimilis* or *bocagei*."

Fairly common above 3500 feet, feeding in little flocks which flutter about the undergrowth at the edge of a path quite regardless of being observed. So tame is it that I thought I should never get *far enough away* from one to shoot it, and did rather damage the one I shot; the other I actually knocked down with the barrel of the gun. I contented myself with a pair. (2)

12. *Mixornis gularis*. (Raffles.)

The Sumatran Yellow-breasted Babbler. I shot one at 2000 feet, but it was too damaged to preserve.

13. *Myiophoneus eugenii*. (Hume.)

The Burmese Whistling Thrush. Rather rare. I met with



it twice, on rocky streams in the ravines, but failed to get a specimen.

14. *Larvivora cyanea*. (Pall.)

Siberian Blue Chat. I saw this species once only—in April. It was hopping about the undergrowth too close to shoot, and as I backed away it disappeared into the jungle. Recently I came on this species again, on the summit of Bukit Kutu in Selangor, and at once recognized it as the bird I failed to get on the Perak hills. This time I succeeded in shooting it. This is one of the neatest looking little birds I know, the dark blue of the upper plumage contrasting admirably with the delicate white of the breast. 4500 feet.

15. *Brachypteryx nipalensis*. (Hodgs.)

Hodgson's Short-wing. I came on a *Brachypteryx* of sorts once at 4,000 feet. It showed a good deal of curiosity, fluttering nearer as I retreated and keeping too close to shoot. Not caring to blow it to pieces I left it alone. It was probably the above species, which Mr. Wray obtained on these hills.

16. *Sibia simillima*. (Salvad.)

The Malay Sibia. Very common above 3,500 feet, below which I never once saw it.

Feeds in parties, running along the branches, etc. with great rapidity and keeping up an incessant "kree-kree-kree." While I was picking up a wounded one which I shot, the rest of the flock fluttered round me and abused me lustily—which perhaps I deserved. (3)

17. *Siva sordidior*. (Sharpe.)

The Malay Dull Siva. Met with in small parties searching for insects among the foliage of trees, and not descending into the undergrowth. I only met with it at about 4,000 feet. (4)

18. *Herpornis xantholeuca*. (Hodgs.)

The White-bellied Herpornis. Goes in good sized flocks, which search the branches of trees for insect food. It often



clings to the outside twigs of a bough in all sorts of tit-like attitudes. Not uncommon. (1)

19. *Pteruthius aeralatus*. (Tick.)

Tickell's Shrike-tit. I met with this handsome little bird several times at about 4,000 feet, always in pairs and quietly searching the branches of tall trees for insects. (2)

20. *Chloropsis icterocephala*.

The Malayan Green Bulbul. Met with up to 3,000 feet, one of the most handsome of the genus. (1)

21. *Irena cyanea*. (Begbie).

The Malayan Fairy Blue-bird. This lovely species is tolerably numerous on the hills up to 3,000 feet. (1)

22. *Melanochlora sultanea*. (Hodgs.)

The Sultan Tit. Common. Mr. Wray notes having seen it as high as 4,500 feet. (4)

23. *Mesia argenteauris*. (Hodgs.)

The Silver-eared Mesia. Not uncommon at 3,500-4,500 feet. (2)

24. *Criniger gutturalis*. (Bonap.)

The Malayan white throated Bulbul. Met with from 2,000 to 3,500 feet in pairs or parties. (2)

25. *Tricholestes criniger*. (Blyth.)

The Hairy-backed Bulbul. Fairly common up to 3,000 feet. (2)

26. *Hemixus cinereus*. (Blyth.)

White-throated Grey Bulbul. Common from 2,000 to 4,000 feet, but not so numerous as on Bukit Kutu where it is extremely plentiful. (2)

27. *Otocompsa flaviventris*. (Tick.)

Black-crested Yellow Bulbul. Not uncommon at 2,000 feet



or so, but far from numerous. (1)

28. *Iole tickelli peracensis*. (Hartert and Butler.)

A sub species of *I. tickelli tickelli*, differing in the darker and less rufous brown crown, more dingy grey ear coverts, and more ashy breast and flanks. Common from 3,500 feet upwards. (3)

29. *Iole olivacea*. (Blyth.)

The Malay Olive Bulbul. Common up to 2,000 feet. (3)

30. *Pycnonotus finlaysoni*. (Strickl.)

Finlayson's Stripe-throated Bulbul. Two or three pairs of this Bulbul used to frequent the bushes in the bottom of the ravine in front of the Tea Garden Bungalow, 2,000 feet. (1)

31. *Pycnonotus cyaniventris*. (Blyth.)

The Blue-bellied Bulbul. Not very plentiful. Obtained at 2,000 feet. (1)

32. *Pycnonotus salvadorii*. (Sharpe.)

The Small Olive Bulbul. Shot at 2,000 feet. The orange yellow eyelid and base of bill so conspicuous in freshly shot birds fades almost at once in skins. (1)

33. *Pycnonotus simplex*. (Less.)

Moore's Olive Bulbul. Common up to 2,000 feet. (3)

34. *Dendrophila azurea*. (Less.)

The Azure Nuthatch. Met with occasionally in small parties working about on the trunks of large trees. Sharpe remarks of a single specimen sent him by Mr. Wray that it was duller blue on the back than Javan examples. I particularly wanted specimens for comparison, but was unlucky in losing two out of the three I shot. The one I did get however quite bore out Sharpe's remarks, and the bird is probably entitled to sub-specific distinction. (1)

35. *Bhringa remifer*. (Temmm.)

The Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo. Common at a high



elevation. I did not notice it below 3,000 feet. (1)

36. *Orthotomus atrigularis*. (Temm.)

Black-necked Tailor Bird. A few small tailor-birds which frequented the clearing round the Tea Garden bungalow were, I think, of this species. I somehow omitted to shoot a specimen.

37. *Cisticola beavani*. (Wald.)

Numerous in the Tea Garden clearing, frequenting the weeds and bushes near the jungle edge. Dr. Hartert tells me that they are paler and less rufescent than any of the Indian specimens with which they have been compared. I regret that I did not shoot a few more. (2)

38. *Cryptolopha butleri*. (Hartert.)

Butler's Flycatcher Warbler. A new species. For the benefit of local readers I quote the description from the Bulletin of the British Ornithologist's Club, No. LIV, p. 50. Adult male, Crown of the head dark rufous with a broad deep brown lateral stripe; sides of the head and back ashy grey; lower back, rump, scapulars, smaller upper wing-coverts, edges to the primaries and retrices yellowish green; larger upper wing-coverts blackish, with a greenish wash and greenish yellow tips; throat and fore-neck to the chest pale grey; middle of the abdomen white; sides of body, under wing-coverts, axillaries, vent, and under tail-coverts lemon-yellow. Iris reddish brown; bill dusky, mandible yellowish fleshy; feet brownish yellow.

Wing 51-54 m m., tail 42-45, bill 6. 5-7, tarsus 16-16.5. Nearest to *C. castaneiceps*, but easily distinguished by its darker crown and grey back besides other differences. I found this little bird not uncommon at 4,000 feet and saw it as low as 3,000 feet. I found 3 nests during April; they were very like nests of the common European Wren, placed under overhanging banks, two containing three young each and the other a clutch of 3 fresh eggs, of the usual *Cryptolopha* type—pure white. (2).

39. *Phyllergates cucullatus*. (Temm.)

Golden-headed Warbler. Not uncommon above 4,000 feet,



frequenting the sides of the path, the garden round The Cottage, etc. Exactly like a Tailor-bird in appearance and habits, though differing in several important generic characteristics. The discovery of its nest would be of great interest. Oates suggests that this genus may nest in holes of trees, like *Abrornis*. The bird seemed to me so very tailor-bird-like in its habits that I should hardly expect it myself to differ very much in nidification. (2).

40. *Sutoria maculicauda*. (Moore.)

2,000 to 3,000 feet. Not common. I found a nest, a typical tailor-bird's, sewn between two leaves, and containing one egg of the Tailor-bird type. I cannot give a description, as on my revisiting the nest next day I found it empty. This was in April. (1.)

41. *Lanius tigrinus*. (Drap.)

The Thick-billed shrike. Met with half-a-dozen times up to 3,500 feet, mostly immature specimens. 1

42. *Tephrodornis gularis*. (Raffles.)

Malay Wood Shrike. Only shot it once at 3,000 feet, but probably overlooked it on other occasions, owing to the difficulty of identifying birds feeding high overhead in lofty trees. (1)

43. *Pericrocotus wrayi*. (Sharpe.)

Wray's Minivet. Replaces the next species at about 3,500 feet, above which it is fairly common. 2

44. *Pericrocotus speciosus fraterculus*. (Swinhoe.)

The Burmese Scarlet Minivet. Obtained from 1,500 feet to 3,000 or 3,500, where it gives place to the last form. 2

45. *Pericrocotus flammifer*. (Hume.)

Davison's Scarlet Minivet. I shot a male at just over two thousand feet; it was very badly shot and I did not preserve it, expecting to get others.

46. *Pericrocotus igneus*. (Blyth.)

The Fiery Minivet. I shot a female Minivet at 4,000 feet



with a red rump. It was unfortunately too damaged for preservation. I think it must have been *igneus*. Sharpe's *Pericrocotus croceus* I looked for in vain.

47. *Graucalus larutensis*. (Sharpe.)

The Larut Cuckoo Shrike. Not uncommon above the Maxwell's bungalow clearing, but I only shot one, fortunately a female, which has not been described previously, Sharpe having only seen the male (1)

48. *Hemichelidon sibiricus*. (Gm.)

Sooty Flycatcher. A very common winter visitor. A few were still about at the beginning of April. (2)

49. *Hemichelidon ferrugineus*. (Hodgs.)

Ferruginous Flycatcher. Not uncommon between 1,500 and 3,500 feet. I did not notice it higher. (1).

50. *Cyornis tickelli*. (Blyth.)

Tickell's Blue Flycatcher. I saw this species once at 4,000 feet. I have since obtained it at 3,000 feet on Bukit Kutu. Malayan specimens are smaller than Indian ones.

51. *Nitidula hodgsoni*. (Moore.)

The Pigmy Blue Flycatcher. I obtained one at 4,500 feet. Oates says he cannot find a single note on its habits. This specimen was moving about in a big bunch of a parasitic plant growing upon a thick bough; once or twice it fluttered out and captured a small insect in true flycatcher style, and once I saw it hover for a second or two something like a Honeysucker. I believe this is the first time it has been obtained in this locality. Oates gives its distribution as Sikkim, Assam and the Naga hills. (1.)

52. *Muscicapula westermanni*. (Sharpe.)

The Malay Little Pied Flycatcher. Not uncommon at 4,000 feet. (1)

53. *Digenea malayana*. Sharpe.

The Malay White Gorgeted Flycatcher. I obtained two



specimens at 4,000 feet. While engaged in setting a steel trap baited with grains of rice, meant for any small mammal which might get caught, I saw two of these little flycatchers hopping about the ground and the low undergrowth, and uttering a sharp little squeak. I shot one and the other flew off. Two hours later, however, I found it in the trap I had just set, doubtless attracted by the freshly turned earth and dead leaves I had sprinkled over the plate. I did not meet with the species again. Very close to *D. submoniliger*. (2.)

54. *Alseonax latirostris*. (Raffles.)

The Brown Flycatcher. Winter visitor; fairly common. (1.)

55. *Culicicapa ceylonensis*. (Swainson.)

Grey-headed Flycatcher. Common above 2,000 feet.

56. *Niltava grandis*. (Hodgs.)

The Large Niltava. Not uncommon below the Cottage, at about 4,000 feet. Has a good song. Smaller than Indian examples. (2.)

57. *Terpsiphone affinis*. (Hay.)

The Burmese Paradise Flycatcher. I saw adult white males two or three times between 2,000 and 3,000 feet, but failed to get a specimen.

58. *Rhipidura albicollis*. (Vieill.)

White-throated Fantail Flycatcher. Almost always among the parties of birds which one comes upon at about 4,000 feet. White tips to retrices broader than in Indian examples. Bornean ones again are like Indian. (1.)

59. *Henicurus schistaceus*. (Hodgs.)

The Slaty Forktail. A snap shot in the dusk at an unfamiliar Forktail darting up a stream luckily resulted in a specimen of this species. This was at 2,000 feet, and the only time I met with it. New to the Larut Hill list. 1

60. *Hydrocichla ruficapilla*. (Temm.)

The Chestnut-headed Forktail. Occurs up to 4,000 feet,



frequenting the streams which filter through the dark ravines. When these are in spate after a downpour of rain, the Forktails come out on to the roads. As a rule this is a very shy bird, but some individuals are extremely tame. I found a nest in a cleft of a moss-grown rock by the edge of the path. It was composed very largely of earth, thickly covered with green moss and was consequently remarkably heavy for its size. It contained two longish cream white eggs, very glossy, and spotted with rufous. (2.)

61. *Copsychus saularis*, (Linn.)

The Magpie Robin. A few pairs round the Tea Garden and Maxwell's bungalow.

62. *Geocichla innotata*. (Blyth.)

The Malay Ground Thrush. A blue-grey *Geocichla* with an orange breast flew past me once in thick jungle at 2,000 feet; it is almost certain to have been this species.

63. *Monticola gularis*.

I obtained one specimen—an immature male—of this very rare little Thrush in thick jungle at about 2,500 feet. (1.)

64. *Monticola cyanus solitaria*. (P. L. Müll.)

The Eastern Blue Rock Thrush. I noticed a blue Rock Thrush frequenting the rocks, fallen trees, etc., on the Tea Garden clearing; it was very shy and eluded pursuit for some days. When obtained it proved to be this species. Elevation 2,000 feet. (1.)

65. *Uroloncha acuticauda*. (Hodgs.)

Hodgson's Munia. Fairly plentiful about the Tea Garden clearing. They were breeding in April, and I found several of their well known nests.

66. *Hirundo gutturalis*. (Scop.)

The Eastern House Swallow. Numerous round the bungalows on the hill.



67. *Motacilla melanope*. (Pall.)

The Grey Wagtail. Common about roads, streams, clearings, etc., at all elevations. Had not left by middle of April.

68. *Anthus rufulus malayensis*.

The Malay Pipit. Should not perhaps be included in this list. I mention it as there was one specimen in my collection, but it was shot at the foot of the hills and not on them. (1.)

69. *Anthus maculatus*. (Hodgs.)

The Indian Tree Pipit. The only Pipit met with on the hills. A party of a dozen or so frequented the Maxwell's bungalow clearing throughout March and beginning of April. I never saw them settle on a tree when disturbed. Probably their habits are more arboreal in the breeding season than at other times. (1.)

70. *Æthopyga wrayi*. (Sharpe.)

Wray's Honeysucker. These beautiful little birds are common at 3,500 feet and upwards. The Scarlet Hibiscus flowers in the gardens on the hill are a great attraction to them. They visit these principally in the hottest part of the day—for an hour or two after noon. I may mention that I recently obtained the bird again on the summit of Bukit Kutu, Selangor, 3,300 feet. It has, I believe, hitherto only been obtained on the Perak hills. It will probably prove to occur throughout the Peninsula where the mountains rise to over 3,000 feet. Mr. Wray, writing to Dr. Sharpe says, "There is another species of Honeysucker, but I was not able to get a specimen of it." I kept a sharp look out for this, but saw no other species on these hills. Since then, however, I have twice shot, on Bukit Kutu and at Ginting Bedei, a lovely scarlet Honeysucker with brilliant violet moustachial stripes, and a sort of coronet of the same colour, formed by two lines running from the nostrils and encircling the crown. From want of books of reference I have had to send it home for identification, and have not yet heard about it. Possibly this was the other Honeysucker seen by Mr. Wray. (5.)

71. *Arachnothera magna*. (Hodgs.)

Common between 3,500 and 4,000 feet; I saw one or two as



low as 2,000 feet. A very active restless bird, always on the move. Constantly in the jungle something darts past one with a whirr, and only its characteristic sharp squeak enables one to recognize the spider-hunter. (4.)

72. *Dicaeum ignipectus*. (Hodgs.)

Fire-breasted Flowerpecker. I shot one at 4,000 feet. Probably common, but it is impossible to identify these tiny birds with certainty on tall trees. (1.)

73. *Prionochilus ignicapillus*. (Eyt.)

Crimson-breasted Flowerpecker. Fairly common up to 4000 feet. (1.)

74. *Prionochilus maculatus*. (Temm.)

The White throated Flowerpecker. Met with on the higher parts of the hill. (1.)

75. *Serilophus rothschildi*. (Hartert and Butler.)

Rothschild's Broadbill. The discovery of this very beautiful little broadbill—the third known species of its genus—made a red-letter day for a collector. I first came across it at 2,500 feet. Two little greybreasted birds were sitting side by side on a tall tree and, not being able to make them out I fired at them and killed both. The birds fell into a dense tangle of thorny rattan, and at the end of half-an-hour's search I was just giving up in disgust when I found one of them. Seeing at a glance that it was a novelty and a very beautiful one, I renewed my search, cutting away the abominably thorny shoots of the rattan one by one with my hunting knife, and eventually succeeded in finding the other. I subsequently came upon a party of these broadbills at 3,500 feet. They were engaged in quietly searching the foliage of a large-leaved tree for insects, and every now and then uttering a clear little whistle like "pee-u." Once or twice I saw one hover at the extremity of a bough to catch an insect on the outermost leaves, something after the manner of a *Pericocrotus*. On the whole their actions struck me as rather sluggish. I quote the description of this new species from the Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club, No. LIV.



p.50. "Differs from *S. lunatus* with which it agrees in the peculiarly shaped tips of the longest primaries, in being darker and greyer above; crown of the head pure grey, not pale rusty brown; ear-coverts grey with hardly a tint of brown, while they are pale brown in *S. lunatus*, and the rufous colour on the secondaries is deeper; round the eye a narrow ring of white feathers. 'Iris greenish brown, mottled with golden specks; eyelid and base of mandible for about  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch, bright gamboge yellow; bill pale whitish blue, tip and lateral edges whitish; feet pale greenish chrome, claws milky blue' (A. L. Butler)" Named in compliment to Mr. Walter Rothschild (3.)

76. *Psarisomus dalhousiae*. (Jameson.)

The Longtailed Broadbill.

Mr. H. Palgrave Turner shot one of these lovely broadbills at 3500 feet, and kindly gave it to me. It is a very perfect specimen and is now in the Selangor Museum. (1.)

77. *Gecinus rodgeri*. Hartert and Butler.

Rodger's Woodpecker.

A new species obtained at 3,500 feet. I am not sure whether the full description has yet appeared in print; it has not yet reached me, and I do not wish to anticipate it. Dr. Hartert, comparing it with *G. chlorolophus* and *G. chlorigaster* says, *in epist.* "Differs from *chlorolophus* in its much darker and more uniform green upperside, shorter wing, and darker abdomen with much narrower cross-bars. Differs from *chlorigaster* in its larger size, longer wing, and in the middle of the crown being green and not red." Named in honour of Mr. J. P. Rodger, British Resident, Selangor. (1.)

78. *Chrysophlegma humii*. (Hargitt.)

The Chequered-throated Woodpecker.

I shot one at 3,500 feet. I have also met with it in the low country. (1.)

79. *Miglyptes grammithorax*. (Malh.)

The Fulvous-rumped Barred Woodpecker.



Less common than *M. tukki* on the hills. I saw it once at 3,000 feet.

80. *Miglyptes tukki*. (Lesson.)

The Buff-necked Barred Woodpecker.

Common from 2000 to 4000 feet; generally in pairs, but sometimes in small parties of 5 or 6. The note is a long trill. (4.)

81. *Chrysocolaptes validus*. (Temminck.)

Golden backed Bar-winged Woodpecker.

Chiefly a low country form; I saw one pair at 2000 feet and obtained one specimen. (1.)

82. *Vivia innominata*. (Burton.)

The Speckled Piculet.

This diminutive Woodpecker is apparently scarce, though its small size doubtless causes it to be overlooked. My specimen was shot at 4,000 feet, associating with a large foraging party of various small birds. It was swinging on a trailing liana-like creeper, across which it had perched, and might almost have been mistaken for some sort of Flower-pecker. (1.)

83. *Psilopogon pyrolophus*. (S. Müll.)

The Bar-billed Barbet.

I found this very beautiful barbet from 3,000 to nearly 5000 feet. Mr. Wray says it is a very silent bird, only occasionally uttering a harsh note like that of a Woodpecker. I never heard it utter any note that I can remember, which bears out what Mr. Wray says as to its being usually so silent, but Hartert has described its note very differently. (J. f. O. 1889.) (3)

84. *Mesobucco duvauceli*. (Lesson.)

The Crimson-eared Barbet. Very common, from the low country up to 4000 feet. This is one of the most annoying birds I know to try and shoot. It ensconces itself among the foliage at the very top of a very high tree, often, in the low country, a durian, and there keeps up for hours together, an in-



cessant "twit-twit, twit-twit!" very like the note of an English nuthatch. Owing to its turning its head from side to side while calling, these monotonous notes seem to come from a different direction every minute, and even when one has succeeded in locating the bird more or less exactly it is impossible to see it owing to its small size, leaf-green colour, and its habit of keeping absolutely motionless (except for turning its head about) as long as it is calling. You may clap your hands, shout and throw stones into the tree as much as you like, but you won't get it to move, much less take wing and give a flying shot. If two of you are shooting together, however, things are simplified considerably. You put the other gun on the far side of the tree and fire three or four shots at hazard into the top of it. Then at last the little barbet elects to move, and the other man gets a very high snap shot at a diminutive bird flying very jerkily away, which he *may* hit, but is much more likely not to!

All four birds I have obtained thus have been males. (2.)

85. *Cyanops oorti*. (S. Müll.)

Common: my specimens were obtained from 2,500 to 4,000 feet. (4.)

86. *Chotorhea chrysopogon*. (Temm.)

Gold Whiskered Barbet. Common: from the foot of the hills to over 3000 feet. (3.)

87. *Calorhamphus hayi*. (Gray.)

The Brown Barbet. Fairly common. Low country and up to 3500 feet; generally in parties; rather sluggish in its movements. (4.)

88. *Merops sumatranus*, *Raffles*.

The Sumatran Bee-eater.

Flocks of this Bee-eater were met with up to 2000 feet (1.)

89. *Nyctiornis amictus*. (Temm.)

The Red-bearded Bee-eater.



Tolerably common, from the low country up to 4500 feet. Blanford and other authorities say "nidification unknown," but I find in No. 24 of this Journal, p. 169, a nest and eggs described by Lieut. H. J. Kelsall, which are doubtless rightly attributed to this species. I have several times found nest-holes in banks in heavy forest which could only have been those of this bird, though I never found one in use to settle the question. The note of this bird is extraordinary, a very hoarse and loud "ka-ka! ka-ka!", which, until I found out the author of it, I thought must come from some sort of hornbill at least! (2)

90. *Dichoceros bicornis*. (Linn.)

The Great Hornbill.

I met with this grand Hornbill several times near the top of the Hill, but it was considerably scarcer than the next species.

91. *Buceros rhinoceros*. (Linn.)

The Rhinoceros Hornbill.

The commonest large Hornbill on the hills, where their extraordinarily loud and discordant notes may be heard throughout the day at intervals. (3.)

92. *Anorrhinus galeritus* (Temm.)

The Bushy-Crested Hornbill.

Not uncommon at 2000 feet and upwards. I have also met with it at Ginting Bedei and Bukit Kutu in Selangor, but not yet at less than 2000 feet elevation. This Hornbill is almost always in small flocks, which keep up a curious shrill call at intervals. It always reminded me forcibly of the chorus raised by a litter of hungry puppies whose mother has tantalized them by paying them a short visit and leaving them again! I found them shy and difficult to shoot, making off by short flights from tree to tree directly they were approached. Their habits seemed to me very regular, a flock visiting a particular tree just at noon for several days, until the fruit supply was exhausted. (2.)

93. *Rhinoplax vigil*. (Forster.)

The Helmeted Hornbill.



This magnificent Hornbill, though constantly heard, seems very shy, and though I saw a pair once or twice I failed to get a specimen. Davison has described its note excellently. He says, "The note is very peculiar and powerful; it begins with a series of whoops, uttered at intervals that grow gradually less till, after ten or a dozen quick repetitions the call ends in a harsh cackling laugh." This account would be hard to improve on. The first notes sound not unlike the distant blow of an axe on timber, and it is doubtless this species that is referred to in the Malay legend of the man who cut down his unfortunate mother-in-law's house and then burst into a peal of laughter, for which he was punished by being turned into a bird. The use of the heavy ivory casque of this hornbill remains to be discovered.

94. *Chætura gigantea*. (Temm.)

The Brown-necked Spine-tail Swift.

Often seen hawking over the hills.

95. *Chætura leucopygialis*. (Blyth.)

The Grey-rumped Spine-tail. Very common up to 3000 feet or so; I forget whether I observed it higher. It has none of the arrow-like speed of the larger Spine-tails. (2.)

96. *Collocalia francica*. (Gmel.)

The Little Grey-rumped Swiftlet.

Common at the higher elevations.

97. *Collocalia linchi*. (Horsf. and M.)

Horsfield's Swiftlet. The same applies. This charming little swift is very fond of building in rooms, etc. A pair did their best to start a nest in the Tea Garden bungalow when I was there. They never succeeded in getting anything to stick to the white paint of the ceiling, but carried on the attempt perseveringly for a long time. In the Andamans, where this species is numerous, I have seen it roosting in buildings, clinging to the walls in clusters like a swarm of bees. On these occasions I have often seen one catch its mate, unable to find room



for a foothold beside it, by the tip of the wingfeathers and hold it hanging thus for several seconds, (2.)

98. *Macropteryx longipennis* (Rafinesque.)

The Malayan Crested Swift. I occasionally noticed it hawking over the tops of the jungle up to nearly 5,000 feet.

99. *Macropteryx comata*. (Blyth.)

The Tufted Tree-Swift. Seen at 2,000 feet, but not as numerous as in the low country.

100. *Caprimulgus indicus jotaka*. (Temm.)

The Jungle Nightjar. A few pairs frequented the Tea Garden clearing (at 2,000 feet) and used to hawk along the jungle edge at dusk. I shot a pair. (2.)

*C. macrurus* and *Lyncornis temmincki*, so common in the low country, I neither saw nor heard on the hills.

101. *Harpactes erythrocephalus*. (Gould.)

The Red-headed Trogon. Met with several times at 3,500 feet or so. (1.)

102. *Harpactes duvauceli*. (Temm.)

The Red-rumped Trogon. I obtained one very young example at 3,500 feet. (1.)

103. *Zanclostomus javanicus*. (Horsf.)

The Lesser Red-billed Malkoha.

Seems to me to range higher up the hills than the other birds of this group. It is not uncommon at 3,500 feet. It is very partial to the big wingless females of one of the larger stick insects, for which it searches the branches so systematically that the insect's wonderful likeness to a dead twig avails it nothing. Having pecked and bruised the mantis into a state of helplessness, the bird proceeds to pull off the strong spiny legs one by one and then swallows the long body head first. I have taken 3 of these insects, 7 or 8 inches long and nearly as thick as one's little finger from the stomach of one of these Malkohas. (1.)



104. *Rhinortha chlorophæa*. (Raffles.)

Raffles' Green-billed Malkoha.

This very common low country bird ranges up the hills to about 2,000 feet, above which I have not seen it.

105. *Ketupa javanensis*. (Less.)

The Malay Fish-Owl.

I disturbed one from a bough overhanging a stream in thick jungle near the foot of the hills.

106. *Spizaetus albiniger*. (Blyth.)

Blyth's Hawk-eagle.

A pair of these very beautiful eagles used to visit the tea garden clearing regularly during my stay there, attracted by a brood of chickens, one or two of which they carried off daily for a week. Coming round the corner of a cattle-shed one day I came upon one of them sitting on a stump not more than ten yards from me. Instead of flying he merely erected his crest and stared at me, and I backed quietly away to 30 yards distance and shot him. (1.)

107. *Spilornis bacha*.

The Malay Snake-eagle.

Frequently seen, but not shot.

108. *Accipiter virgatus* (Reinw.)

The Besra Sparrow-hawk.

Seen once or twice up to 3,000 feet. I found a nest with the bird sitting near the foot of the hills, in April, but the tree was quite unclimbable.

109. *Treron nepalensis*. (Hodgs.)

The Thick-billed Green Pigeon.

Small flocks met with and a few birds shot up to 3,500 feet.

110. *Ducula badia*. (Raffles.)

The Copper-backed Imperial Pigeon.



A few of these fine Pigeons were seen, generally passing over at a great height. I shot one specimen at 3500 feet. (1.)

111. *Chalcophaps indica*. (Linn.)

The Bronze-winged Dove.

Heard and seen up to 3,500 feet.

112. *Macropygia ruficeps*. (Temm.)

The Little Malay Cuckoo-Dove.

Fairly common from 2,000 to 4,000 feet. I shot several specimens, most of which were rather knocked about and were handed over to the cook. Mr. Wray notes Cuckoo-Doves as rare on these hills, and Sharpe wrote of the only specimen that Mr. Wray sent him that it appeared to be *M. tusalia*. Mine were all *M. ruficeps*. (1.)

113. *Argusianus argus*. (Linn.)

The Argus Pheasant.

Heard frequently up to 2,500 feet, but as usual, not seen. (1—trapped.)

This completes the list of species identified during my two months on the Larut Hills. I met with two other birds which I have left out of the above list, not knowing where to insert them. One was a dark grey Thrush-like bird which I obtained a glimpse of only in thick jungle at 3,500 feet, and which may perhaps have been *Melanocichla peninsularis* (Sharpe.) The other was a small robin-like brown bird, with a good deal of white on the bases of the tail-feathers. I found this bird one morning in the same trap which caught one of the specimens of *Digenea malayana* as mentioned above. Elevation 4,000 feet. I accidentally omitted to send it to Tring with the rest of my collections, and though I did so subsequently I have not yet received the identification.

A. L. Butler.





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