TETRAO PORPHYRIO.

CHARACTER GENERICUS.

Macula prope oculos nuda, papillosa.

Lin. Syst. Nat. p. 273.

CHARACTER SPECIFICUS, &c.

TETRAO VIOLACEO-NIGRICANS, viridi
fuffus, alis fusco-ferrugineis, crista com-
presso-erecta ferrugineo-rubente.

LE ROULOUL DE MALACCA.

Son. Voy. Ind. vol. 2. p. 174. pl. 100.

Genus *Tetrao* numerosum varias species complectitur quæ nominibus perdicum, urogallorum, coturnicum, &c. communiter vocantur; pertinetque ad divisionem gallinaceam, quæ scilicet continet omnes illas aves quæ forma vivendique modo ad gallum gallinaceum plus minus accedunt. Tetraonum plures exotici sunt; maxima pars extra Europam nutritur. Species de qua jam loquimur, ut fileamus inusitatum colorem, generis sui est rarissima. Notandum præterea est characteres illi esse incertos; ut ad genus *Columbæ* non minus quam *Tetraonis* pertinere videatur; præsertim si specimen exsiccatum inspicias. Figura hæc nostra ab ipsa ave viva fideliter depicta est. Palpebris peculiare quoddam est;

F

margo

margo nempe crenis parvulis ruberrimis et exstantibus ornatus. Crista quoque mollissima et quasi serica. Peninsulam Malaccam, variasque Indiæ Orientalis insulas inhabitat Tetrao Porphyrio. Observandum est in aliquibus speciminibus, (maribus fortasse,) exstare in basi frontis setas aliquot nigras, quæ in hoc specimine defuere. Notandum quoque est hanc avem, quamvis in genere adeo diverso, in multis similem esse Cuculo Persæ Linnæi.

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THE
VIOLACEOUS PARTRIDGE.

GENERIC CHARACTER.

Eyes (generally) bounded, either above or on one side, by a granulated red skin.

Bill convex, short, and strong.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER, &c.

VIOLACEOUS - BLACKISH PARTRIDGE

with a cast of green, ferruginous-brown wings, and compressed, upright, ferruginous-red crest.

LESSER-CROWNED PIGEON.

Lath. Syn. vol. 2. p. 622.

The numerous genus *Tetrao*, comprehending all the species of Grouse, Partridge, Heathcock, &c. belongs to the order called *Gallinæ*, or such as in their general characters and appearance make some approach to the common Cock, or Phasianus Gallus of Linnæus. By far the major part of the Tetraones are exotic birds; and indeed most of them are extra-European birds. The present species, exclusive of its unusual colour and peculiar elegance, is likewise remarkable for being one of the rarest of the genus: it is also to be observed,

that from a kind of ambiguity in its appearance, it may seem to bear almost as much affinity to the genus *Columba* as to that of *Tetrao*; and indeed in a dried specimen it is not easy to decide with absolute precision to which genus it should with the greatest propriety be referred. The present figure was taken from the living bird, and exhibits with great fidelity its several characters. The eyelids are singularly formed; being regularly surrounded by a series of rising crenatures of the most vivid scarlet. The crest also, which is of a structure peculiarly delicate, adds greatly to the beauty of the bird. It is a native of Malacca, and some of the East-Indian islands. It should be observed that in some specimens, (perhaps males,) a certain number of long, black, rising bristles appear, seated at the base of the front: these in the present specimen were wanting. It may be added, that notwithstanding the difference of its genus, this bird bears a striking affinity with the *Cuculus Persa* of Linnæus.

Shaw, George. 1791. "The Violaceous Partridge, Tetrao porphyrio [Pl. 84]." *The Naturalist's Miscellany* 3(XXVIII), <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.304504>.

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