

and were fascinated by its interesting ways, probably never observed in England by ornithologists before, for this grand bird was a Macqueen's Bustard, and only the third example which has visited our shores. Meanwhile two men had come on the scene with guns, and after a little manœuvring George Edwin Chubbley shot the bird as his brother, Craggs Chubbley, put it over to him. Whilst being followed it never seemed flurried. When flying, the wings of the bird were a striking black and white. The long black tufts on the sides of the neck appeared as black streaks at a distance, and were very conspicuous as the bird stood in the field.

"Macqueen's Bustard is a desert-loving species, inhabiting the steppes of Asia, and why it visits us at all is merely a matter of conjecture, but probably certain young birds wander far from their course and thus manage to reach our coast. When the feathers of the bird were turned up we found them to be of a delicate blush pink at the base, contrasting beautifully with the speckled sandy colour of the bird's back. The beak is brownish black, the legs and feet light straw-colour, and the eyes very pale straw and very bright. The length from beak to tail is $28\frac{1}{2}$ inches, the tarsus $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches, and the flexure 16 inches. The bird was a young male, and its stomach contained vegetable matter and three beetles."

At the Meeting of the Zoological Society of London on December 1st, 1896, Mr. H. E. Dresser exhibited and made remarks on a specimen of Pallas's Willow-Warbler (*Phylloscopus proregulus*), shot at Cley-next-the-Sea, Norfolk, on the 31st October, 1896, being the first instance of the occurrence of this bird in Great Britain.

Parasitism of Cassidix oryzivora.—The last number of 'Timehri' (vol. x. new ser. p. 37) contained an article by Mr. C. A. Lloyd on "Queer Homes," from which we extract the following remarks on the breeding-habits of *Cassidix oryzivora* (cf. Ibis, 1896, p. 585):—

"A cabbage-palm that I once saw was decorated in a most singular manner with the nests of the Black Bunyah (*Ostinops*

decumanus). At the end of every arching frond was attached a long purse-like nest, and the whole were arranged as symmetrically as if placed there by human hands. While speaking of the Bunyah it may be as well to note that another Hangnest, the large Black Rice-bird (*Cassidix oryzivora*), seems never to build a home of her own, but contents herself with making use of the deserted Bunyah nests in which to lay her curiously marked eggs."

Breeding-place of Ross's Gull.—One of Dr. Nansen's achievements during his recent journey in the Polar Regions seems to have been the discovery of the hitherto unknown breeding-place of Ross's Gull (*Rhodostethia rosea*). As we learn from the 'Daily Chronicle' of Nov. 3rd, large numbers of this rare Gull were seen in the neighbourhood of four islands (proposed to be called "Hvitenland"), situated in latitude 81° 38' N. and longitude 63° E., in August 1895. Dr. Nansen writes:—

"This, the most markedly polar of all bird forms, is easily recognizable from other species of Gull by its beautiful rose-coloured breast, its wedge-shaped tail, and its airy flight.

"It is, without comparison, the most beautiful of all the animal forms of the frozen regions. Hitherto it has only been seen by chance on the utmost confines of the unknown Polar Sea, and no one knew whence it came or whither it went; but here we had unexpectedly come upon its native haunt, and although it was too late in the year to find its nests, there could be no doubt about its breeding in this region."

New Index to 'The Ibis.'—The Index to the last three series of 'The Ibis' (1877-94), edited by Mr. Salvin, is making good progress through the press, and will, it is hoped, be ready for issue in April of this year. It will contain an index of the generic and specific names that occur in the fourth, fifth, and sixth series, and an index to the plates.

The Agaléga Islands.—We are not aware that the Agaléga Islands, which lie in the Indian Ocean south of the Seychelles, in about $10^{\circ} 50'$ S. lat. and 57° E. long., have ever been visited by an ornithologist, although they appear to have some claims to our attention. The islands are two in number. The North Island is about five miles, and the South Island about six miles in length, connected with each other by a strip of sand. They are low, but well wooded with coconuts, casuarinas, and other trees.

According to a report on the islands addressed to the Governor of Mauritius in 1893, the Agalégas “abound with game: hares, Quails, Guinea-fowls, Peacocks, and wildfowls, the Egyptian Ibis, Larks, Curlews, and various sea-birds. A great source of supply for the inhabitants is the almost inexhaustible amount of eggs of birds (Sea-Gulls) to be gathered on a certain part of the North Island in September and October every year. Acres of ground are covered with eggs and birds.”

As we are also told that the climate of the Agalégas is exceedingly healthy, the “temperature always cooled by the sea-breeze,” and, moreover, that “crime is unknown” and order always prevails, we cannot do wrong in recommending these islands to the notice of the wandering Members of the B. O. U.

Swallow-Bluff in British Columbia.—In Mr. Warburton Pike’s lately-published ‘Through the Subarctic Forest’ will be found (p. 160) a good illustration of a nesting-place of the North-American Cliff-Swallow (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*), situated on a bluff on the banks of the Pelly River. As shown by Messrs. Sharpe and Wyatt in their Monograph (ii. pp. 538, 539), this Swallow is abundant in many parts of Alaska and British Columbia.

The late Mr. Seebohm’s Posthumous Works.—Messrs. Pawson and Brailsford, of Sheffield, announce as nearly ready for publication the late Mr. Seebohm’s ‘Coloured Figures of the Eggs of British Birds,’ edited by Dr. Bowdler Sharpe.

It will be issued in one volume, royal octavo, at the price of £3 3s.

The 'Monograph of the Family of Thrushes' is also announced by Messrs. Sotheran and Co. It will be published in parts, and will contain altogether 141 plates drawn by Keulemans and coloured by hand; each part will contain 12 plates. This work will also be edited by Dr. Bowdler Sharpe.

List of Illustrated Ornithological Works in Course of Publication, and Dates of the last Parts issued.

- BRITISH BIRDS, their Nests and Eggs. By various well-known Authors. Illustrated by F. W. Frohawk. Part XVII. (1896.)
- DRESSER (H. E.). A History of the Birds of Europe. Supplement. Part VIII. (June 1896.)
- GIGLIOLI (E. H.) and MANZELLA (A.). Iconografia dell' Avifauna Italica. Fasc. 53. (1895.)
- LEE (O. A. J.). Among British Birds in their Nesting Haunts. Part I. (1896.)
- LILFORD (Lord). Coloured Figures of the Birds of the British Islands. Part XXXIII. (November 1896.)
- MENZBIER (M. A.). Dr. N. A. Severtzow. Ornithologie du Turkestan. Livr. 4. (1894.)
- MEYER (A. B.). Abbildungen von Vogel-Skeletten. Lief. XIX.-XXI. (1895.)
- NAUMANN'S Naturgeschichte der Vögel Deutschlands. Lief. 3. (1896.)
- NEHRLING (H.). North-American Birds. Part XV. (1896.)
- ROTHSCHILD (Hon. WALTER). The Avifauna of Laysan. Part II. (November 1893.)
- RUSS (K.). Fremdländische Stubenvögel. Band II. Lief. 14. (1896.)
- SHARPE (R. B.). Monograph of the *Paradiseidæ*, or Birds of Paradise. Part V. (1896.)
- WILSON (SCOTT B.) and EVANS (A. H.). Aves Hawaiienses. The Birds of the Sandwich Islands. Part VI. (July 1896.)

XII.—*Obituary.*—DR. BROWN GOODE *and* AUGUSTE SALLÉ.

DR. BROWN GOODE, whose unexpected death at the early age of 45 years, his many friends in Europe will have heard of with great regret, was not, strictly speaking, an ornithologist. But as for the last nine years he had been, in the execution of his office of assistant-secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, in charge of the National Museum of the U. S. at Washington, and was unfailing in promoting the progress and improvement of the great collection of birds which it contains, some few lines in 'The Ibis' may well be devoted to his memory. Dr. Brown Goode, who was born in the State of Indiana in 1851, and graduated in 1870 at the Wesleyan University of Middletown, Connecticut, joined the U. S. Fish Commission, first as a volunteer under Professor Baird, and subsequently became one of its officials. Under such circumstances he naturally devoted himself chiefly to ichthyology, and was the author of several excellent publications on Fishes and Fisheries. He was also U. S. Commissioner to the Fisheries Exhibition at Berlin in 1880, and at London in 1883, on which latter occasion several of us had the pleasure of making his personal acquaintance. Recently, in connection with his office as head of the U. S. National Museum, which he assumed in 1888, he devoted much of his time and talents to the study of the principles of museum administration, and on this subject prepared an excellent memoir, which has been reprinted from the Annual Report of the Museums Association for 1895*. In the course of this essay he points out that the degree of civilization to which any nation has attained is best shown by the character of its public museums and the liberality with which they are maintained. To borrow the words of one of our contemporaries, Dr. Brown Goode "combined in a rare degree administrative ability with talent as a scientific investigator, while a charming personality smoothed his way to success."

AUGUSTE SALLÉ.—The name of Auguste Sallé, naturalist and traveller, should have been included in our obituary for

* 'The Principles of Museum Administration.' By G. Brown Goode, M.A., LL.D. York: 1895.

1896, but our notice of him has been unavoidably delayed. He died at his residence in Paris (13 Rue Guy-de-la-Brosse) on the 5th of May last, in the 76th year of his age. Sallé was primarily an entomologist, and accumulated an excellent series of Central-American Coleoptera, which were eventually transferred to Messrs. Salvin and Godman, and formed part of the materials for the 'Biologia Centrali-Americana.' But Sallé was also a diligent collector of birds, and made excellent skins. In 1849 he visited San Domingo, and obtained a series of birds which were described by Sclater (P. Z. S. 1857, p. 230), with Sallé's field-notes appended. The principal and last expedition of Sallé was that made to Mexico, 1854-56, in company with Mr. A. Boucard, the well-known naturalist. He then explored the States of Vera Cruz and Puebla, chiefly the former. A Mexican friend and correspondent (M. José Pieta) put his hacienda of Tospam, near Cordoba, at Sallé's disposal. It was there that most of the collections were made. Several expeditions were carried out from Tospam to Jalapa, to the Volcan de Orizaba, to San Andres Chalcicomula, and to other places, and many were the new species of Land-shells, Insects, Reptiles, Fishes, Birds, and Mammals discovered during these collecting tours.

The birds obtained on this occasion were mostly determined and described by Sclater*.

The following birds'-names commemorate some of the discoveries of Auguste Sallé :—*Phaethornis augusti* (Bourc.), 1847 ; *Crypturus sallæi* (Bp.), 1856 ; *Granatellus sallæi*, Scl., 1856 ; *Chrysotis sallæi*, Scl., 1857 ; and *Cyrtonyx sallæi*, Verr., 1859.

Sallé, who was personally well known to many of us, was most genial and obliging in his disposition, and always ready to help his English friends. He spoke our language excellently, and was also a good Spanish scholar.

* See "Catalogue of Birds collected by M. Auguste Sallé in Southern Mexico, with Descriptions of new Species" (P. Z. S. 1856, p. 283); and "List of Additional Species of Mexican Birds obtained by M. Auguste Sallé from the environs of Jalapa and S. Andres Tuxtla" (P. Z. S. 1857, p. 201).

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SEVENTH SERIES.

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XIII.—*Ornithological Results of a Naturalist's Visit to the Coast-region of South Guyana.* By Dr. EMIL A. GOELDI, C.M.Z.S., Director of the Museum in Pará.

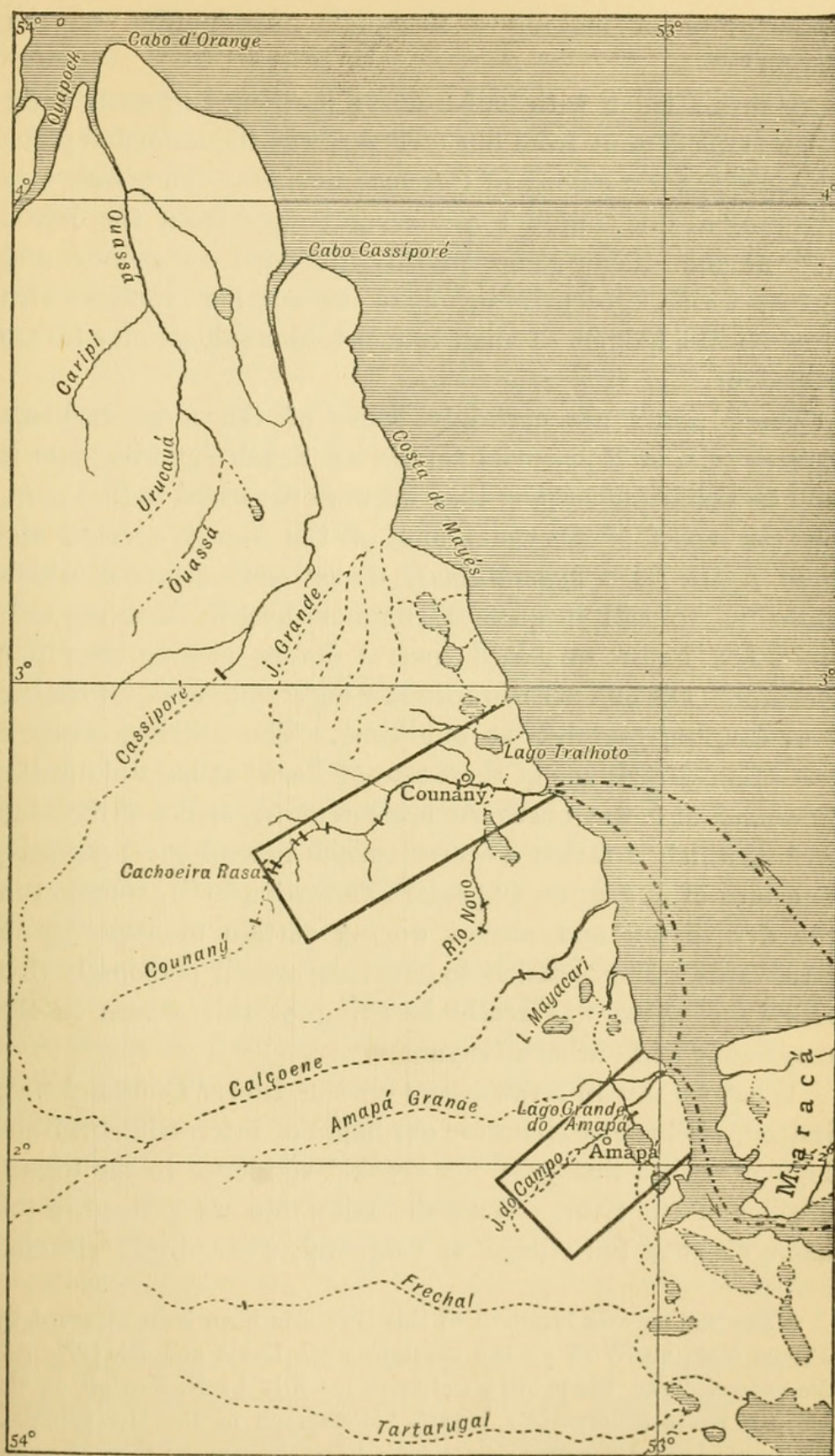
LEAVING Pará during the night of the 7th of October, 1895, we began, on board the small steamer 'Adjudante,' of the Amazon Steam Navigation Company, our journey to Guyana, favoured by very fine weather. The outside-route along Marajó and the Atlantic coast being at the same time disagreeable and dangerous, we sailed on the inside-way around this large island, passing through the celebrated "Channels of Breves," with their charming vegetation, which struck my countryman Louis Agassiz in 1865 with such admiration. During the following days nothing was observed, from the ornithological standpoint, that deserves especial attention, except, perhaps, some fine specimens of *Urubitinga schistacea*, circling above the shore-forests of the delightful "furos" (channels), and a small flight of *Nauclerus furcatus* playing in the air near the island-group called São Salvador. One can hardly be tired of observing the elegant evolutions of this really masterly flier.

Early on the morning of the 11th we arrived in sight of the coast of Guyana, near the mouth of the river Counaný. Approaching the shore we saw before us an interminable

forest of moderate height and transparent branches and foliage—the “siriubál” (*Avicennia*) forest, very characteristic of the littoral landscape of Lower Amazonia and Guyana. A large number of white and moving points in the wide mud-zone which girdled the shore-forest—we had just arrived at low-water-time, and had therefore to cruise in front of the mouth of the river—were soon recognized as formed by rows of small white Herons (*Ardea candidissima*). Entering at length into the river, our steamer stopped, after somewhat difficult navigation, for an hour and a half at a place called “Igarapé da Roça,” in sight of the first cascade, which intercepts a free navigation of the upper course of the Counaný River. Waiting for boats during the greater part of the day, we had sufficient time to get acquainted with the general bird-life of the surrounding river-landscape.

On the left side, upon one of the before-mentioned siriúba-trees, we perceived the continuous going and coming of a couple of the elegant and audacious *Ictinia plumbea*, and soon discovered the nest in a fork of a tree, perhaps some 20 mètres above water-level. Though the tree was big, we cut it down, and after an hour’s labour we had not only the nest, with a young bird, but also one of the parents. The nest is a badly-formed structure of single sticks. The young was still entirely in the down, of white colour, and had a greyish-brown iris, whereas the old one, as known, has a very beautiful cherry-coloured iris. This chick was supposed to be about a week old. It was the first time I ever met with the nest of this fine bird of prey, and if, as it seems, Schomburgk’s “vague informations” (‘British Guiana,’ iii. p. 735) are the only authority upon the nesting of *Ictinia*, very few ornithologists must have seen it. The eggs, I believe, remain still unknown.

Some time afterwards we observed a small Swallow several times entering a hole in a tree-stump which stood in the stream. I easily recognized it to be *Tachycineta albiventris*. The hole had certainly been made by some small Woodpecker, and was now occupied by the graceful Swallow, with his glittering greenish back, for breeding purposes. I had no



COAST-REGION OF SOUTH GUYANA.

opportunity of making a thorough examination of the stump*.

A shrub laden with half-a-dozen hanging bag-nests, only a few steps distant from our steamer, was the animated place of exercise for a colony of *Cassicus persicus*. They were also breeding at this time. I got several eggs from the nests, and among them some slightly different in colour and shape, which evidently belonged to another species with Cuckoo-like habits. I shall return to this subject on a future occasion.

The Macaws are certainly some of the most brilliant figures of the Equatorial forests of South America, and it will be easily understood that we were surprised to find here, on the coast of Guyana, one of the rarest species, the blue Arára (*Ara hyacinthina*), under circumstances which allow us to call it quite a common bird in these regions. In a few hours we noted several dozens passing over our steamer. On one occasion we saw eight individuals, forming four couples, together at one time. The natives, without exception Brazilians of the State of Pará (at least along the Counaný and the northern coast-region), spoke of the blue Arára, which is rather a scarce species in zoological gardens, as a bird of migration ("passaro de arribação"), common in the dry season and absent during certain months. Soon afterwards I had occasion to convince myself personally that *Ara hyacinthina* was really breeding at this season in the coast-zone of Southern Guyana.

What we saw in a few hours on the Lower Counaný was, indeed, sufficient to increase our hopes of interesting ornithological results during a few weeks' residence in the higher regions of the river. With the next tide we arrived in the same night at the village of Counaný, charmingly situated

* The nesting and breeding of this Swallow have been observed by Prince Max. zu Wied on the coast between Bahia and Rio [*Hirundo leucoptera*, Beitr. iii. p. 364], and more recently by E. Bartlett on the Ucayali River (Sharpe and Wyatt, 'Monograph of the Hirundinidæ,' text, page 139). The particulars seem to be the same as those observed by me.

on a granitic hill on the right hand of the stream, which measures here $43\frac{1}{2}$ m. in breadth, and is bordered by elegant assahý-palms, tabócas (bamboo), and aningas (*Montrichardia*), the favourite food of the Hoatzin.

In this village we took up our headquarters for a fortnight. Numerous trips were made on every side. We visited alike the forests and "capoairas" (old plantations) behind the village, the savannas beginning some miles distant on the right and left hand of the stream, and the forests on the river above and below. To ornithology principal attention was paid by the zoologists of our small expedition. I think that my readers will agree with me that a chronological order will perhaps be the best way to give a summary idea of our work and results in Counaný. At the same time it may be of advantage to compare the features of the ornis of South Guyana with those of the ornis of Pará and its neighbourhood.

On the 12th October (the day of our arrival), naturally enough, scientific work could not begin at once. But we obtained during an afternoon walk along the river-border specimens of *Tachycineta albiventris* and of a Heron (*Ardea virescens*), the former usually seen sitting on the posts and trees in the water, the latter occupied in the mud between the boats in the harbour.

The next morning we visited the forest between the main river and its tributary, the Igarapé de Hollanda. I heard and observed different Pipridæ, called "Araparú," as in Pará, especially *Chiromachæris gutturosa*, several small *Thamnophili*, and a Thrush, to judge by its song, the same species as in Pará, the common "Caranué" (*Turdus albiventris*). Several small flights of blue Aráras were pursued without result; they always had the opportunity of discovering us before we could see them on some of the highest trees, where they were evidently occupied on the fruits. From a companion I got a nice specimen of *Harpagus bidentatus*, three of *Columba speciosa* ("Trocál"), and two of the splendid *Galbula viridis*, the first I had seen of this species. From another of our company, who returned from a walk

down to the Igarapé da Roça, I obtained three young individuals of a small Plover, two of *Tachycineta albiventris*, and one of *Atticora fasciata*. This lovely minute Swallow I had also never seen before alive, but I recognized it easily, as I remembered the description and figure in Sharpe and Wyatt's 'Monograph of the Hirundinidæ.' Night-Herons and Sun-Bitterns (*Eurypyga helias*) were observed, and the smaller "Anú" (*Crotophaga ani*) was everywhere heard in the tabócas and gardens behind the village. A boy brought us four eggs of *Cassicus persicus*.

Another forest, situated rather more in a westerly direction from the village of Counaný, was visited on the 14th October. Here, in a few minutes, we had discovered a fruit-tree, where we noticed a continuous coming and going of many good birds, small and large. Soon we shot *Rhamphastos erythrorhynchus*, the large "Tucano de peito branco"; two individuals of *Monasa nigra*, the "Tangurú-pará"; a Woodpecker new for us, *Celeus elegans*, similar to the Pará form, *C. jumana*; *Tityra cayana*, and a yellow-breasted "Surucuá" (*Trogon*), this latter unfortunately in a bad state. On returning home I had the great pleasure of meeting with an uncommon Formicarian, of a slaty black, with a white stripe over the eye (*Hypocnemis leucophrys**). Every morning and evening we heard in the neighbouring forests the loud cry of a species of "Aracuã" (*Ortalis*) and the singular sound of the Trumpeter-bird (*Psophia*). Native hunters assured me that it was the "Jacamim de costas cinzentas," i. e. *Psophia crepitans*, represented in Pará by the species with brownish wings (*P. obscura*)†.

The next day we were again hunting in the vicinity of "Igarapé de Hollanda." Besides the white-breasted

* A specimen of this has been identified for me by Mr. Sclater, and I seize this opportunity to observe that I am much indebted to this ornithologist for constant help in determination and verification of materials and collections made in Brazil.—E. A. G.

† [Dr. Sharpe (B. M. C. xxxiii. p. 281) has united this species to *Ps. viridis*, but I am by no means convinced that this is correct.—P. L. S.]

Tucáno, *Tityra cayana*, and *Monasa nigra*, which we noted frequently, we met everywhere the "Cri-cri-ó" (*Lathria cineracea*), a bird very well known to us as one of the most striking figures in the wet "igapó-forests" of Pará and Lower Amazonia. Its indigenous name is onomatopoeic, but its strident cry will be better given by the syllables *hū-hū-qui-quiū*! We saw also different smaller Pipridæ (*Chiro-machæris* and *Pipra*), a *Bucco* of median size (it seemed to be *B. tamatia*) on a dry branch, and flights of the common Pipira of Pará (*Rhamphocælus jacapa*). We shot an adult individual of *Ictinia plumbea*, and several "Tangurú-pará" (*Monasa nigra*), in despite of the Amazonian legend, which declares this bird to be enchanted and warns one not to kill it, because, if the hunter does so, he will be unfortunate and probably burst his gun. Another most interesting Ant-Thrush was obtained, never met by us in Pará (*Myrmeciza pelzelni*), a dark chocolate-brown Formicarian, with black throat and breast, bordered with white, and two rows of clear fulvous spots on the wing-coverts. This very beautiful bird was found near the ground in one of the most obscure and entangled places of the forest.

On some orange-trees in the gardens we observed the magnificent *Cæreba*, not quite blue yet at this time. My Pará bird-hunter, who accompanied me on this excursion, brought me on the same evening an agreeable surprise in the shape of a specimen of *Falco rufigularis**, the celebrated "Canaré" of the Amazonian people, who attribute to this very elegant and rapid Falcon several astonishing qualities, to which I may refer at another time.

Returning the next day to the same locality, I made all possible efforts to obtain an example of *Ara hyacinthina*, but again without success, because these intelligent birds, though their cries are awful when they are alone and unobserved, keep perfectly quiet when opening hard nuts on some gigantic tree. On the other hand, I was somewhat indemnified by having the opportunity of witnessing the

* [*F. albigularis*, Sharpe, B. M. C. i. p. 401. But cf. Gurney, Ibis, 1882, p. 159, on this name.—P. L. S.]

graceful play of *Chiromachæris gutturosa*. This dancing is almost the same as that of *Chiroxiphia caudata*, which I have already observed and described. Along the river I also saw a few specimens of the Common Vulture, *Cathartes fætens*. I was very much pleased to hear nearly every morning and evening the song of the "Urú" (*Odontophorus guyanensis*), the Amazonian Partridge, represented in Southern Brazil by *O. dentatus*, called "Capoeira." The son of one of our neighbours brought home from a hunting-trip a specimen of the "Aracuã" (*Ortalis motmot*), and one of a large *Tinamus*, designated by the natives "Inhambu-serra," and by my Pará hunter as "Inhambú-toró. In general aspect and the serrated scales of the posterior face of the tarsus it resembled *T. solitarius*, and I do not doubt that the specimen belonged to this species; unfortunately the specimens were in too bad a state for skinning.

+ Every night we heard Goatsuckers around the village; the cry was that of *Nyctidromus guyanensis*.

The 17th and 18th October were dedicated to an exploration of the "Lago do Tralhoto," a lake indicated on all geographical maps, but, as regards its exact situation and extent, unknown even to the inhabitants of Counaný. I do not intend to enter on a detailed description of the painful journey there through the forests and the savannas, as from an ornithological standpoint there would be very little to say about it. After an awful march of more than eight hours on bad paths and through savannas literally glowing with the hot sun of Guyana, we arrived at the mysterious lake, and, though very tired, we could not resist an immediate examination of this wonderful freshwater-basin. It is a true Eldorado for a hunter. I have never met with a spot in which the animals showed such a complete absence of the fear of mankind, such a truly paradisiacal state, as here on the borders of this unknown forest-lake, which is probably only the most southern of a series of similar lakes distributed over the unexplored region between the mouths of the rivers Counaný and Cassiparé. The blue Aráras perched every moment in flights of from four to six individuals on

the majestic mirity-palms on the opposite border. We saw them breeding in holes in these high stems, the breeding bird being readily detected from afar by its enormous tail, for which the hole naturally does not offer sufficient room. A large number of Parrots and Parraquets were also breeding in similar places, the former, like the Aráras, in the hollows of the palm-stems, the latter mostly in burrows in the white-ants' nests. Storks, Herons, Kingfishers, and Cormorants enlivened the vegetation in a wonderful and surprising manner. Besides these aquatic birds, there were an incredible number of Hoatzins, Pigeons, and smaller birds of different kinds, while the Howlers and Squirrel-monkeys looked at our canoes with astonishment. In less than an hour we had a famous collection, and it was by no means easy to select what ought to be saved for science, and what could be delivered up to the cook. For the first purpose I chose, after some reflection, five specimens of *Agamia agami*, a magnificent Heron closely allied to our European *Ardea purpurea*, but even more richly coloured, and especially remarkable for its wonderful neck-feathers and its enormously long bill. We had among the specimens of this species three adult males, one female, and one young male—all shot in a quarter of an hour! I selected also two fine individuals of *Plotus anhinga*, which showed interesting changes of plumage, some of *Phalacrocorax brasilianus*, and two or three of *Galbula viridis*, which I found perched in confidence near the primitive cottage of a pirarucú-fisherman. Several of the blue Aráras and various good aquatic birds had been stolen by the alligators, which inhabited the idyllic lake in enormous numbers. Till very late in the night all our people who were able to aid in the taxidermic service were fully occupied. As a certain number of skins remained unfinished, we made an experiment with salicylic acid applied on the fleshy parts of wings and legs, and it may be said with excellent results. All these skins arrived perfectly sound the next day in Counaný, and were finished at leisure on the 19th and 20th October.

Striking is the difference in the cry of *Rhamphastos erythrorhynchus* compared with that of *R. ariel* and *R. discolorus*.

It is particularly soft, nearly melodious, and may be tolerably interpreted by the syllables *tiu-tiu-fü-fü-fü*. The White-breasted Tucáno is confined to river-borders and wet "igapó-forests"; in localities far from water you will not meet with it. *Monasa nigra*, the "Tangurú-pará," sings *ho-tiü, ho-tiü* continuously.

The 21st and 22nd October were employed on an exploration of the upper course of the river Counaný. It was an instructive and successful canoe-journey, which left on us a deep impression of the richness of flora and fauna of this district, as well as of the beauty of the landscape. The water here, instead of being loamy and dirty, becomes clear and transparent; instead of floating imperceptibly along, it jumps gaily over the numerous cascades formed by granitic barriers which intercept the bed of the river, and, as we advance, form more and more serious obstacles to free navigation. An infinity of pretty freshwater fishes, such as "matupirýs" and "acarás," can be distinguished swimming around and beneath the boat, and the majestic forest vegetation of both shores echoes with the voices of interesting, beautiful, and rare birds. Here we met with several Yellow-headed Vultures (*Cathartes urubitinga*) and with many species of larger and smaller diurnal birds of prey, such as *Ictinia* and other Falcons. On some of the gigantic trees (such as "Sumaúmas") we observed charming societies of Tucános (*Rhamphastos vitellinus* prevailing here over the white-breasted *R. erythrorhynchus*), Parrots (such as *Chrysotis farinosa*, the "Moleiro," which was very frequent), *Ostinops*, and Pigeons of different species, sometimes associated with smaller or larger families of howling monkeys. Of *Ostinops* we noted a flight of 30, 40, and more individuals. Here, also, we had again many occasions to verify the intelligence of these Cassicine birds in choosing for their colonies of hanging nests the extremities of branches vigorously defended by strong colonies of wasps. In Brazil, as well as in Guyana, the inhabitants state that these birds, when attacked, fly intentionally against the wasps' nest, in order to direct the irritation of their allies upon the common

enemy, be it man or some carnivorous animal. *Ostinops*, when in society and in good humour, sometimes utters a most striking song, comparable only to the ringing of the goat-bells heard in the Alps of Switzerland. Blue Aráras were often seen flying high over the river from one shore to the other.

Along the river we noted among the water-birds a small *Tringa*, the same as was mentioned before, generally in companies of from two to four individuals, rising, on the approach of our canoe, with a melodious *fi-fi*, *fi-fi*. Now a White Heron (*A. candidissima*), then a Blue Heron (*A. cærulea*), and from time to time a Scarlet Ibis (*Ibis rubra*) is seen. Constant companions were the Kingfishers, the large *Ceryle torquata*, generally perched on some overhanging branch, being the first to give the sign of alarm with his strident cry, which is like *kreh*, *kreh*, *kreh*, &c. I was much pleased to note here, besides the four species of *Ceryle* spread all over Brazil, a fifth species, although not very common, the *Ceryle inda* (sive *bicolor*).

Exceedingly frequent we found the two Swallows already mentioned—*Tachycineta albiventris* and *Atticora fasciata*. Sometimes individuals of both were perceived at the same time, but more often we saw one, and a moment after only the other species. As it seemed to me, *Atticora fasciata* kept to special localities, where there were a somewhat elevated shore and high earthbanks. At such places the banks were full of small holes, which were probably made by the Kingfishers and Shore-Swallows*.

After a day's navigation up stream we arrived on the "Cachoeira Rasa," a granitic barrier of successive terraces extending over near a kilomètre, and therefore a serious obstacle for a canoe. Here is the last human residence, and the limit between the known and the unexplored course of the Upper Counany. Not being sufficiently equipped for an exploration beyond this cascade, I had to remain here, and

* I am convinced that *Atticora fasciata* was breeding there and at that season. See Sharpe and Wyatt, 'Monograph of the Hirundinidæ,' p. 495.



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