

the species *Balaena marginata* on three blades of whalebone, he says I have called it *Eubalaena marginata*—thus confounding it with the whales with brittle and coarse whalebone, whereas the chief reason that induced me to consider the blades to belong to a distinct species was their very fine and tough structure. The accuracy of the determination is now proved by the very different form of its skull from that of any other known whale. In the same manner, the *Physalus antarcticus*, also established on finner-fins or baleen imported from New Zealand, has been proved to be a very distinct species of that genus, named Sulphur-bottoms by the whalers.

XIII.—*On a Collection of Birds from China and Japan.*
By R. B. SHARPE, F.L.S., Libr. Z.S., &c. With Notes by
the Collector, ROBERT H. BERGMAN.

I HAVE lately received from my friend Mr. Bergman a small collection of birds which he has formed during his leisure time in the course of his cruises between China and Japan. This is the first consignment he has transmitted to me; and although the birds sent are none of them very rare, I think it advisable to place on record the very interesting notes which Mr. Bergman has added on the habits of the species noticed by him; and for the trouble taken in this matter he deserves all praise. I shall hope from time to time to contribute further notes on Chinese birds as they are sent home to me by the present collector. The nomenclature employed is that adopted by Mr. Swinhoe in his 'Catalogue of the Birds of China' (Proc. Zool. Soc. 1863, p. 259); and I have availed myself of that gentleman's presence in England to obtain his assistance in the identification of some of the species.

1. *Turdus Naumanni*.

Turdus Naumanni, Temm.; Swinh. P. Z. S. 1863, p. 280.

No. 15. Shot at Shanghai, Jan. 7, 1870. Legs, eyes, and beak black. Generally found in pairs in the villages.—
R. H. B.

2. *Turdus fuscatus*.

Turdus fuscatus, Pall.; Swinh. P. Z. S. 1863, p. 280.

No. 2. Thrush, caught in the rigging of the S.S. 'Cadiz,' going up the Yangtze river to Shanghai, Nov. 28th, 1869. Legs, beak, and eyes black. Common in North China and Japan.—R. H. B.

3. *Petrocincla manillensis*.

Petrocincla manillensis (Bodd.) ; Swinh. P. Z. S. 1863, p. 281.

No. 24. Grey Thrush, shot at Nagasaki, Feb. 1, 1870. Bill, eyes, and feet black.—*R. H. B.*

4. *Ruticilla aureora*.

Ruticilla aureora, Pall. ; Swinh. P. Z. S. 1863, p. 291.

No. 23. Redstart, shot at Nagasaki, Feb. 1, 1870. Eye black ; bill and legs brown. This species appears to be very numerous at Nagasaki, as four or five pairs were seen in one morning flying about the plum-trees, which were just in blossom.—*R. H. B.*

5. *Lanius schach*.

Lanius schach (Gm.) ; Swinh. P. Z. S. 1863, p. 286.

No. 7. Butcher-bird, shot at Shanghai, Dec. 26, 1869. Beak and legs black ; eyes dark brown, with black pupils. These birds are fond of sitting on the uppermost boughs of trees or in any elevated position. They utter a peculiar cry, which, however, is not unmelodious.—*R. H. B.*

6. *Lanius bucephalus*.

Lanius bucephalus, Schl. ; Swinh. P. Z. S. 1863, p. 287.

No. 17. Shot at Yokohama, Jan. 22, 1870, on the outskirts of a wood. Stomach contained several small beetles. Bill and legs dark brown ; eyes black.—*R. H. B.*

7. *Motacilla ocularis*.

Motacilla ocularis, Swinhoe ; Swinh. P. Z. S. 1863, p. 273.

No. 14. Water-Wagtail, shot at Shanghai, Jan. 7, 1870. Beak, legs, and eyes black.—*R. H. B.*

8. *Emberiza rustica*.

Emberiza rustica (Pall.) ; Swinh. P. Z. S. 1863, p. 301.

Kobe, Japan, Jan. 27, 1870.—*R. H. B.*

9. *Emberiza ciopsis*.

Emberiza ciopsis, Bp. ; Swinh. P. Z. S. 1863, p. 300.

Japan.

10. *Chlorospiza kawariba*.

Chlorospiza kawariba (T. & S.) ; Swinh. P. Z. S. 1863, p. 299.

Nos. 21 & 22. Cock and hen Greenfinch, shot at Kobe, Japan, Jan. 27, 1870. Eye black ; bill and legs brown. Several flocks of these birds were seen about Kobe and Nagasaki.—*R. H. B.*

11. *Passer montanus*.

Passer montanus, Linn.; Swinh. P. Z. S. 1863, p. 299.

No. 3. Shot at Kobe, Japan, Nov. 30, 1869. Very common throughout Japan.—*R. H. B.*

12. *Microscelis amaurotis*.

Microscelis amaurotis (T. & S.); Swinh. P. Z. S. 1863, p. 334.

No. 29. Yokohama.

No. 18. Shot at Yokohama, Jan. 22, 1870. Beak and legs brown; eyes grey, with black pupils. The stomach contained several kinds of berries.—*R. H. B.*

13. *Sturnus cineraceus*.

Sturnus cineraceus, T. & S.; Swinh. P. Z. S. 1863, p. 301.

No. 12. Starling, shot at Shanghai, Jan. 8, 1870. Legs yellow; bill yellow, terminal half black; eyes black.—*R. H. B.*

14. *Acridotheres philippensis*.

Acridotheres philippensis (Temminck); Swinh. Ibis, 1867, p. 387.

No. 11. Mynah. Shot at Shanghai, Jan. 8, 1870. Legs and beak light yellow; eyes yellow, with black pupils. The habits of these birds are very similar to those of the common Starling. They whistle very well, and can be taught to talk.—*R. H. B.*

15. *Cyanopica cyanea*.

Cyanopica cyanea (Pall.); Swinh. P. Z. S. 1863, p. 304.

No. 6. Shot at Shanghai, Dec. 26, 1869. Beak, eyes, and legs black. These birds are found in flocks in the bamboo-groves about the villages in North China. They have the appearance of paroquets when flying, but have a harsh cry, like a magpie or jay. Their food appears to consist of worms, grubs, and beetles.—*R. H. B.*

16. *Pica media*.

Pica caudata, var. *media*, Swinh. P. Z. S. 1863, p. 303.

No. 9. Magpie, shot at Shanghai, Jan. 7, 1870. Eyes, beak, and legs black. Very common about Shanghai, and may be seen in flocks of fourteen and fifteen together.—*R. H. B.*

17. *Lycus dauricus*.

Lycus dauricus (Pall.); Swinh. P. Z. S. 1863, p. 304.

No. 10. Jackdaw, shot at Shanghai, Jan. 8, 1870. In flocks.—*R. H. B.*

18. *Buteo japonicus*.

Buteo japonicus, Schl. ; Swinh. P. Z. S. 1863, p. 260.

No. 19. Shot on a tree at Yokohama, Jan. 22, 1870, while devouring a cocoon. Eyes yellow, with black pupils. Legs bright yellow; beak bluish black.—*R. H. B.*

19. *Tinnunculus japonicus*.

Tinnunculus japonicus, Schl. ; Swinh. P. Z. S. 1863, p. 261.

No. 1. Hawk, shot at Foochow, Nov. 1, 1869. Eyes black, eyelids yellow; legs bright yellow; beak bluish black, yellow at the base.—*R. H. B.*

20. *Circus cyaneus*.

Circus cyaneus, Linn. ; Swinh. P. Z. S. 1863, p. 261.

No. 8. Shot on the banks of the river Yangtze at Shanghai, Jan. 6, 1870. Legs light yellow; eyes yellow, with black pupils; beak bluish black and yellow at the base. Stomach contained only a few feathers.—*R. H. B.*

21. *Circus aeruginosus*.

Circus aeruginosus, L. ; Swinh. P. Z. S. 1863, p. 332.

No. 26. Shot in a swamp at Yokohama. Eyes yellow, with black pupils; legs yellow. I have seen this bird several times catch fish in a large lake.—*R. H. B.*

The specimen sent by Mr. Bergman is apparently a female Marsh-Harrier, but in a peculiar stage of plumage. Mr. Gurney, to whom I showed the bird, thought it might belong to *Circus spilonotus*; but on conferring with Mr. Swinhoe, who is thoroughly acquainted with the last-named species, the latter gentleman decided that it was only a female of *Circus aeruginosus*. The female *C. spilonotus*, though closely allied to the common Marsh-Harrier, may be distinguished by its generally paler coloration, and by the light upper tail-coverts, as depicted in the 'Ibis' for 1863, pl. 5.—*R. B. S.*

22. *Alcedo bengalensis*.

Alcedo bengalensis, Gm. ; Swinh. P. Z. S. 1863, p. 269.

No. 13. Kingfisher, shot at Shanghai, Jan. 8, 1870. Legs dark yellow, almost red; eyes and beak black.—*R. H. B.*

23. *Botaurus stellaris*.

Botaurus stellaris, Linn. ; Swinh. P. Z. S. 1863, p. 320.

No. 20. Bittern, shot in a reed-swamp at Yokohama, Jan. 24, 1870. Eyes yellow, with black pupils; legs light green;

beak light brown. Whilst skinning this bird, I was astonished to find a quantity of white worms in the muscles of the thigh. I examined the rest of the body and the stomach, but did not find any elsewhere.—*R. H. B.*

24. *Mergus serrator*.

Mergus serrator, Linn.; Swinh. P. Z. S. 1863, p. 323.

No. 25. Shot at Nagasaki, Feb. 11, 1870. Beak and legs red; eyes yellowish brown. Stomach contained half-digested fish.—*R. H. B.*

25. *Fuligula marila*.

Fuligula marila (Linn.); Swinh. P. Z. S. 1863, p. 324.

No. 4. Duck, shot at Yokohama, Dec. 16, 1869. Legs and beak bluish black; eyes yellow, with black pupils.—*R. H. B.*

XIV.—*List of Coleoptera received from Old Calabar, on the West Coast of Africa.* By ANDREW MURRAY, F.L.S.

[Continued from p. 56.]

HELYMÆUS, J. Thoms.

Helymæus rufiventris.

Closteromerus rufiventris, Chevr. Rev. et Mag. d. Zool. 1855, p. 514.

Alatus, niger; capite punctato; thorace transversim plicato; scutello bifido, viridi; elytris cyaneo-viridibus, albo setosis, medium versus subcoarctatis, ultra modice ampliatis et convexis, apice truncatis et singulatim bidentatis, pone scutellum seriebus tribus vel quatuor punctorum plus minusve impressorum; pectore crebre punctato, atro, albo villosa; abdomine rufo; femoribus valde clavatis.

Long. $3\frac{1}{2}$ lin., lat. $1\frac{1}{4}$ lin.

As black as ebony. Head narrow, elongated, vertical in front, very finely and distinctly punctate. Thorax cylindrical, gibbous above, with some silky white pubescence on the sides; above feebly transversely wrinkled. Scutellum triangular, bifid. Elytra blue or greenish blue, advanced a little obliquely at the shoulder, slightly narrowed towards the middle, broader and convex behind it, truncated and bidentate at the apex of each elytron, and bearing some white hairs; their surface is very finely rugulose; and under a strong lens they show a series of small punctures, which towards the scutellum become strong and irregular in size and form; the second internal series is placed in a groove. Breast coarsely punctate, deep black, clothed with a white and silvery down. Abdomen



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