ment, and took the greatest care of the chicks, as if everything was as it should have been.

The little birds grew extremely fast, so that at the age of seven weeks they were almost of the size of the parents, fully feathered, and able to fly. These first feathers presented a brownish slaty-grey colour all over the bird, the wing-coverts and tertiaries having lighter edges, the whole of the plumage being very glossy. The legs and bills, which had gradually turned from black into grey, now began to show signs of assuming the pinkish colour proper to the adult bird of this species. On the bills the pink became visible in stripes or lines.

At the age of eleven weeks the heads got white feathers and the brownish body-feathers began to be replaced, especially at the sides, by the more bluish-grey ones of the adult Cassin's Snow-Goose. At the present time (February 3rd, 1899) the heads are nearly white and the rest of the bodies are nearly moulted, the brownish-grey feathers being replaced by bluish-grey ones; so there is little doubt but that they will assume the typical plumage of *Chen caerulescens* without any undue mixture of white.

As when two good species cross, the offspring nearly always presents the mixed appearance of the parents, I consider this result of the interbreeding of my Blue and White Snow-Geese as an additional proof, if such were wanted, of the non-validity of the White and Blue Snow-Geese as separate species. The two forms being only colour-variations, there was no reason for a mixed coloration in the offspring. The young have simply taken the colour which is probably most adapted to the circumstances under which the birds live. In this case it was the plumage of *Chen caerulescens*. Judging from these facts, I also think it probable that the intermediate forms which are found in North America in a wild state are not so much the result of the interbreeding of the typical White and Blue forms, as the produce of a range of country where the circumstances which formed the White or Blue forms are not sufficiently pronounced.

3. On two Hares from British East Africa, obtained by Mr. Richard Crawshay. By W. E. DE WINTON, F.Z.S.

[Received March 6th, 1899.]

(Plate XXIV.)

Mr. Richard Crawshay, who is so well known as a traveller and contributor to our knowledge of the fauna of Africa, has lately sent to the National Collection two Hares from British East Africa. One of these belongs to an already described but little known species, hitherto recorded only from North-eastern Somaliland; the other is a very distinct and apparently undescribed form, which I propose to name, in honour of the collector, *Lepus crawshayi*.

LEPUS SOMALENSIS Heuglin, Nov. Act. Acad. Leop. 1861, xxviii. p. 5.

This is a pale-coloured Hare, with a more or less strong wash of black owing to the outer hairs being mostly black-tipped; the ears are very long, edged with black at the extreme tips only, inner margin dull yellow; the nape is pale fawn; throat dull sand-colour; there are no distinct lines between the colours of the upper and under surfaces; there is a wash of yellow on the edge of the dark colour on the inside of the thighs; the tail has a clear black broadish line above.

Collector's note:—"Ukamba, 5000 ft., Athi Plains, July 15th, 1898. Weight about $3\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. This Hare frequents the bare open plains of the Upper Athi River, where there is not a tree for miles and miles."—*R. C.*

Measurement of the ear in the dry specimen 120 millim.

The upper incisors are moderate in width, with the front surfaces level; the grooves are placed near the inner edge, they are shallow, diverging inwardly, and entirely filled with cement.

The back of the nasal bones is gradually bowed from the outward edge, forming a wide **V**.

This Hare is closely allied to *L. tigrensis* Blanf., from Abyssinia, and probably that species does not differ much except in being rather larger. It would also stand very close to *L. ægyptius* in an arrangement of the genus.

LEPUS CRAWSHAYI, sp. n. (Plate XXIV.)

General colour very dark, all the hairs broadly tipped with black, subterminal band golden, the hair rather straight and shining; the nape, forelegs inside and out, throat, and a line between the colours of the upper and lower surfaces bright rust-coloured; the face is very rich black and gold; the ears are moderate, with a black spot on the back of the tips; the tail is rather long, with a broad band of black above.

Incisors rather narrow, flat in front.

The only specimen is labelled—"♂. Neugia Kitwi, 3400 ft., Oct. 1898. Shot in barren hills amongst thorny scrub where there is no fresh vegetation. Weight $3\frac{1}{2}$ lbs."—*R. C.*

Measurement of the ear in the dry specimen 97 millim.

Outwardly this Hare closely resembles *L. whytei* from Nyasaland, but the points of the fur are black, and not dark brown as in that species.

The skull of *L. crawshayi* is about the size of that of *L. whytei*; the nasals are shorter, and the face-line droops more than in that species; the fronto-nasal suture forms a deep **V** in the middle line.

The rather narrow upper incisors are quite flat, the inner and outer sides of the grooves being on the same level; whereas in *L. whytei* these teeth are very broad, the part on the inner side of the groove projects considerably, and on the outer side of the

groove there is a second shallow furrow; the teeth of *L. victoriæ* are also very broad, with the inner portion much raised, the outer portion slopes off considerably, being at the same time depressed towards the middle: thus the skulls of these three Hares are readily recognized by a glance at their incisors. The enamel-folds forming the grooves in the upper incisors of this new Hare are lance-shaped, cutting straight into the teeth antero-posteriorly, and completely filled with cement. The folds of the enamel in the teeth of *L. whytei* are almost globular, with a peak in the middle line posteriorly. Those in the teeth of *L. victoriæ* are more complicated, the sides diverging considerably, forming two points postero-laterally with a concave hinder margin.

The discovery of distinctive characters in the incisor teeth of Hares is entirely due to the researches of Dr. Forsyth Major, with whom I have had the good fortune to be associated and who is now engaged in writing on that subject; these characters were pointed out to me as likely to assist in the determination of species, and I have found them most valuable.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE XXIV.

Lepus crawshayi, sp. nov., p. 416.

4. On two small Collections of Butterflies made by Mr. Richard Crawshay during 1898 in British East Africa. By ARTHUR G. BUTLER, Ph.D., F.L.S., F.Z.S., &c., Senior Assistant-Keeper, Zoological Department, Natural History Museum.

[Received February 27, 1899.]

(Plate XXV.)

Towards the end of last year we received a box of Lepidoptera from Mr. Crawshay containing 83 Butterflies and 218 Moths, chiefly collected at Machako's; and, in January of the present year, a second consignment of 35 Butterflies, 143 Moths, and a Dipteron¹, chiefly collected *en route* from Machako's to Naugia (or Neugia). The present paper gives an account of the Butterflies in these two series; the Moths will eventually be worked out by Sir George Hampson.

As usual, Mr. Crawshay has sent home nearly the whole of the specimens in admirable condition, and has carefully labelled the whole with exact locality, date of capture, and in some cases with the altitude at which they were obtained; notes on the habits are often added, as well as the colouring of the eggs obtained from the bodies of gravid female examples.

Three new species are described in the present paper—*Acraea*

¹ According to Mr. Austen a *Dichætometopia* (possibly *D. tessellata*, Mæq.).

de Winton, William Edward. 1899. "On two Hares from British East Africa, obtained." *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London* 1899, 415–417.
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