

joint with one short ray on each side; the rays set on obliquely and directed backwards, the tips of the rays being turned forwards.

There are no traces of palpi to be perceived. The veins of the fore-wings are arranged as in the typical *Saturniæ*.

Sp. 33. SATURNIA (APHELIA) APOLLINARIS, Bdv. *S. alis externe rotundatis albis venis nigricantibus, anticis maculis duabus parvis mediis flavis fusco-cinctis; apice nigricanti striga communi extus dentata cum margine postico parallela, margine fusco-nigricanti maculis flavis ornato; abdomine albo apicibus segmentorum flavidis; serieque dorsali laterali et ventrali punctorum nigrorum, pronoti margine antico flavido.*

Expans. alar. antic. fere unc. 3.

Hab. apud Portum Natalensem. In Mus. Britann.

Syn. *Saturnia Apollinaris*, Boisduval in Delegorgue's Voyage dans l'Afrique Austral. ii. p. 601.

The texture of this insect, as described by Boisduval, is "mince et délicate"; the same author states that it is "tout autant une Liparide qu'une Saturnide." The veins of the fore-wings are however arranged as in the typical *Saturniæ*; but the antennæ are different, consisting of about thirty-six joints, bipectinated in both sexes with only thirty-four rays on each side, each joint except one or two at the apex emitting only a pair of rays, which are rather short. The palpi are distinct and turned upwards, extending rather further than the hairs of the face: the spiral tongue is distinct.

Boisduval states that this species "vole en plein jour. Une année, aux environs de Port Natal, on aurait pu en prendre par centaines en quelques heures. Deux ou trois jours après il n'existait plus. La femelle que nous est inconnue ne vole pas, peut-être même est-elle aptère, et tous les mâles voltigeaient sans doute à sa recherche." The female is however winged and scarcely distinguishable from the male, as I have ascertained by extracting eggs from the abdomen of a specimen in the British Museum collection, which M. Boisduval would doubtless have taken for a male.

The structure of the antennæ and presence of a spiral tongue, together with the fragile texture of the insect, will require a subgenus for its reception.

April 24, 1849.

William Spence, Esq., V.P., F.R.S., in the Chair.

The Secretary reported, that since the last meeting the collection of living animals had been increased by the purchase of three Bower Birds (*Ptilonorhynchus holosericeus*), brought to this country by Mr. Aspinwall of Sydney. A pair of Pumas, presented by Mrs. Martin

Stevenson and Don Javier Ovalle, had arrived from Valparaiso ; and the first division of a collection of Reptiles, indigenous to France, had been received from the Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle at Paris.

Among the correspondence was a letter from Mr. Drummond Hay, Corr. Memb., H.M. Chargé d'Affaires in Morocco, offering a pair of Gazelles (*Gazella Cuvieri*, Ogilby ?) for the acceptance of the Society, and promising to transmit, in the course of the summer, all the species of Reptiles which are found in the neighbourhood of Tangier.

The following papers were read :—

1. NOTICE OF TWO EXAMPLES OF THE GENUS GALLUS. BY G. R. GRAY, F.L.S. ETC., SENIOR ASSISTANT IN THE ZOOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

(Aves, Pl. VII. VIII.)

The known interest which the Zoological Society takes in the introduction of Gallinaceous Birds has induced me to call the attention of the meeting to the following examples, which it is supposed may prove species not hitherto noticed, as they exhibit some characters in the form and colouring of the hackles which are not found in any published descriptions. Thus in the bird figured in pl. 7, the hackle feathers are of a broad form, rounded at the apex, with the centre of a shining violet, which colour is margined with deep blue, broadest at the apex, and then extending in a point on the shaft at the top of the feather ; these colours are externally margined with fulvous, which is less prominent on the larger feathers near the back and sides. The feathers of the back are prolonged and narrow, of a black colour, broadly margined with fulvous ; the tail-feathers are bronzy-black, with the prolonged coverts black, broadly margined with violet ; the lesser wing-coverts deep fulvous ; the larger coverts violet, narrowly margined with black, and in some cases with fulvous ; the quills black, narrowly margined with brownish-white ; and the secondaries black, margined with chestnut. The feathers of the chest and under parts lengthened and pointed, of a black colour, more or less margined with fulvous.

The comb is large, extending far back, and is irregularly dentated on the upper margin ; the throat naked and the wattle large and pendulous, with a small wattle on each side near the base of the lower mandible.

This fine bird was said to be brought from Batavia, but I regret to say its correct history is unknown. It has been thought right to name it provisionally *Gallus Temminckii*, until it may be proved otherwise than a species.

In the Society's Garden will be seen a living example, which Mr. Mitchell has pointed out to me, and which in some respects agrees with that described above, except that its comb is not dentated, and though the hackles are violet, yet they are narrowly lined down the shaft and margined only with black, the end of each feather being rather truncated and rounded. The breast and some of the feathers of the thigh rufous, and those of the former with a black spot at



Wolf del et lith.

Printed by Hullmandel & Walton.

GALLUS TEMMINCKII. G. R. Gray.



Spence, William. 1849. "April 24, 1849." *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London* 1849, 61–63. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1469-7998.1849.tb00188.x>.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/96165>

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1469-7998.1849.tb00188.x>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/74220>

Holding Institution

Natural History Museum Library, London

Sponsored by

Natural History Museum Library, London

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: Public domain. The BHL considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection.

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.