XXIX. *Description of the Buceros galeatus from Malacca.*
By Major-General Thomas Hardwicke, F.R.S. and L.S.

Read February 18, 1823.

BUCEROS GALEATUS. *Gmel.*

HELMET HORNBILL. *Lath.*

BUCEROS niger, abdomine albo, rectricibus albido-flavescentibus fasciâ nigrâ, rostro conico subflavo; galeâ subquadrato-convexâ rubrâ fronte subflava.

TAB. XXIII.

A good specimen of this bird having been presented to the Museum of the Asiatic Society by Major Farquhar, the drawing of it herewith presented to the Linnean Society was executed under my personal inspection.

The *Bill* is sub-conical (not including the casque); both mandibles straight, the edges sharp, and not serrated; greatest length 8 inches. The lower mandible has a convexity near the gullet; both mandibles as far as the front of the casque are yellowish-white, the front of the casque of the same colour, and all the rest of a deep red: the depth of the upper mandible, including the casque, 3 inches $\frac{4}{10}$ ths; in length at top 3 in. $\frac{3}{10}$ ths; and in thickness 2 in. $\frac{2}{10}$ ths.

The *Eyes* are large, and encircled in a naked red skin of three concentric circles; the margin of the inner one ciliated with

Puceros gulcalus.

with long stiff black hairs. The irides yellow, pupils round and black ; the posterior margin of the outer circle is furnished with different coloured feathers from those of the neck ; all the upper part of the neck finely feathered with black ; the under part of the throat and gullet naked, and of a fine red. The neck is in length 8 inches.

The *Nostrils* of this bird are singularly situated, being above the eye, and just behind the casque, concealed by feathers. The auditory passage is covered with the long buff-coloured feathers behind the eye.

The *Body* is about as large as that of a goose, and in length $10\frac{1}{2}$ inches. The tail, which is cuneiform, consists of 12 feathers : the 8 first from 12 to 13 inches in length ; the two next 30 inches ; and the two middle ones 33 inches ; making the total length of the bird 4 feet $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

The *Legs* are short for so large a bird, being only 3 inches from knee to foot : the toes long, foot broad, claws very strong and arched ; colour of the legs a fine red.

The *Plumage* of the upper part of the body, wings and breast, is black ; of the abdomen, thighs and vent, white. The tail of a yellowish white, each feather with a black bar, 2 inches broad, within an inch of the tip : the ends of the great wing-coverts are also edged with white.

The progressive motion of the birds of this genus, although their feet are formed for walking, is always by jumping or hopping. I have kept several species alive, and they all moved in the same manner.

In a state of nature these birds in this part of India live on wild fruits. In confinement they feed freely on plantains and on boiled rice. At night they perch with great security, al-

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though the largeness of the foot seems better suited to rest on the ground.

The Figure gives the general habit of the complete bird on a reduced scale.

According to Major Farquhar, this bird is a native of Malacca, and the Malay name is “*Tibbang Muntovah.*”

Calcutta, January 6, 1822.

XXX. *Ex-*