in the darker colouring of the head and face, and in the deeper tint of the back and rump; the latter part is moreover ornamented with a patch of blood-red, which has suggested the specific name of *hæmatopygia* as an appropriate appellation; it also differs from *M. Gebleri* in being destitute of the orange-red mark on the shoulders.

MONTIFRINGILLA HÆMATOPYGIA.

Face and forehead brownish black, gradually blending into the light greyish brown of the upper surface; rump stained with blood-red; upper tail-coverts brown, tipped with dull white; tail dark brown, each feather margined externally with white; wing-coverts hoary; wings dark brown, the first four primaries narrowly edged with white, the next five primaries with a broad streak of white along the basal portion of their external webs, terminating in a line with the extremities of the secondaries, which are externally fringed with hoary; spurious wing dark brown, margined at the base with whitish; under surface very light brown, gradually becoming paler, until on the under tail-coverts the hue is buffy white; bill and feet bluish black.

Total length, $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches; bill, $\frac{1}{2}$; wing, $4\frac{1}{4}$; tail, $2\frac{1}{2}$; tarsi, 1.

3. ON SOME NEW SPECIES OF TROCHILIDÆ.

By JOHN GOULD, F.R.S.

Mr. Gould exhibited some remarkably fine examples of the *Trochilus Jardini* of Bourcier, and then characterized the following species:—

TROCHILUS (—?) AMABILIS.

Crown of the head shining metallic green; chin black; breast beautiful shining blue, with a line of lustrous green commencing at the angle of the bill, passing down the sides of the neck and surrounding the base; upper surface bronzy green; tail-coverts and central tail-feathers greenish bronze; lateral tail-feathers brownish black; wings purplish brown; under surface like the upper, but less brilliant; centre of abdomen and under tail-coverts grey, the centre of the latter bronzy green.

Total length, $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches; bill, $\frac{3}{4}$; wing, $2\frac{1}{8}$; tail, $1\frac{1}{4}$.

Hab. New Grenada.

Remark.—About the size of *T. albirostris*.

PHAËTHORNIS GRISEOGULARIS.

Head, upper surface and wing-coverts bronzy brown; upper tail-coverts rufous; ear-coverts blackish brown; wings purple brown; base of the tail dark brown, the apical third of the two central feathers dark grey, tipped with white, the apical third of the next feather on each side grey on the inner web, buff on the outer web, and tipped with white; the three lateral feathers on each side tipped with buff; under surface sandy buff, with a wash of dull grey down the chin and a crescent of black across the breast; upper mandible black; basal

two-thirds of the under mandible yellow, apical third blackish brown ; feet yellow.

Total length, $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches ; bill, 1 ; wing, $1\frac{1}{2}$; tail, $1\frac{5}{8}$.

Hab. Columbia.

Remark.—Nearly allied to *P. Eremita* and *P. pygmæa*, but differing from them in being of a larger size, in the total absence of any crescentic black mark on the chest, in having the throat clouded with dark grey instead of buff, and the two central tail-feathers tipped with grey and their shafts black.

4. NOTE ON THE SUBORBITAL GLAND OF THE NYLGHAU.

By H. N. TURNER, ESQ., JUN.

Among the cranial characters of the genus *Portax* I have adduced the want of a suborbital depression, and the existence of a smooth line running along the surface of the bone ; and as I had observed appearances of a suborbital sinus in the living animal, which I could not detect in the dried specimens, I felt much interested in the examination of the parts in one that recently died in the Gardens, and which Mr. Mitchell kindly forwarded to me for dissection.

Externally there is a slight pit immediately in front of the orbit, and anteriorly to it a small longitudinal fold of the skin, in the middle of which is a little round pore, through which exudes a yellowish secretion, furnished by a gland placed just underneath. The gland itself is slightly larger than a hazel-nut, and is laid upon the surface of the bone without any fossa to receive it, but is firmly attached to the smooth line before observed. The tendo oculi, and a few fibres of the orbicularis palpebrarum are attached to it.

The small pit immediately in front of the orbit is merely the space below the tendo oculi, between the gland and the rim of the orbit. In the Nyghau, the existence of a "lacrymal sinus" has usually been acknowledged ; but it affords a good example of the incertitude with which we can ever deny that it exists in a species of which fresh specimens have not been examined with a view to this character, and in which no traces of the organ are discernible, either in the dry skin, or in the existence of a fossa in the skull.

Pimlico, March 1851.

5. LETTER ON THE DEAL-FISH, FROM DR. DUGUID TO DR. BARKER. COMMUNICATED BY MR. YARRELL.

"Kirkwall, 5 March 1851.

"In April 1829, I received from Mr. Strang, Sanday, a specimen of a fish which had been found on the shores of that island with a request that I should give him some information about it. He mentioned that he had met with many specimens during a series of years,—that it was well known to the natives of the island, by whom it was called the *Deal*-fish, and that they often found it thrown ashore, and even occasionally used it as food. I easily ascertained, from the works to which I had access, that it was a fish unknown to