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long to the genus *Phalangopsis* of Audinet Serville, and come near to the *Phalangopsis longipes* of that author, described and figured in his 'Histoire Naturelle des Orthoptères' (Suites à Buffon), p. 369. pl. 12. f. 1, and like to it are all—both males and females—in the larva state. The length of their body is 9 lines; of their antennæ 4 inches: the legs in proportion to the body are similar in length to those of *L. longipes* as figured in the work quoted. A mere general idea of these insects is here sought to be conveyed, as it is due to the American naturalist to leave to him the describing and naming of the species.

XVIII.—Further notice of the Species of Birds occurring in the vicinity of Calcutta. By EDWARD BLYTH, Curator to the Museum of the Asiatic Society of Bengal.

THE 'Ann. and Mag. of Nat. Hist.' for August and September last have just come to hand, comprising my catalogue of birds procured in the neighbourhood of Calcutta up to the close of the preceding cold season, with addenda to June 7th; from that time to the recent commencement of the present cold season, little worthy of notice in the ornithological line has occurred to me, at least in the way of recent specimens; but the now opening campaign of 1843-44 has begun very favorably, for during the last week alone I obtained several capital specimens, including some additional *Raptores*, as *Falco vespertinus*, *Aquila pennata*, and *Limnaëtus hastatus*, besides others of rare occurrence. I shall now proceed to look over and remark upon the list published, and will revert to the subject at the period of the departure of the mail, when any additional species which I may have procured by that time shall meet with notice.

No. 6 a. *Falco vespertinus*, vel *rufipes*; *F. subbuteo*, var. A, Latham, Gen. Hist. i. 121. The Society has skins of this species obtained in the vicinity, besides the fine specimen just procured here, as already noticed; and I have received examples from Nepal and one from the Neelgherries.

14. Specimens of *Circus rufus*, vel *æruuginosus*, in the state of plumage figured by Mr. Gould in his 'Birds of Europe' as that of the old male, with ash-coloured wings and tail, are not uncommon. Many think them distinct, and, as such, they have been described as *Circus pectoralis*, Vieillot, and *C. variegatus*, Sykes.

15. Genus *Spilornis*, G. R. Gray.

16 a. *Aquila pennata*; *Spizaëtus milvoides*, Jerdon, Madras Journ. No. xxiv. 75.

N.B. Of the modern genus *Aquila*, the following species inhabit India:—

1. *A. chrysaëtos*. Mr. Hodgson has sent a specimen of this bird from Nepal.

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2. *Aquila imperialis*, Tem., v. *heliaca*, Savigny; *Falco mogilnik* and *astracanus*, Auct. This is the *A. chrysaetos* of Mr. Jerdon's catalogue, and most probably also that of Col. Sykes. The skin of a fine specimen, killed in the province of Negwunsing, was brought to me while yet imperfectly dry; and I have received others from Nepal and Central and Southern India.

3. *A. bifasciata*, Hardwicke and Gray; *A. nipalensis*, Hodgson, As. Res. xviii. part ii. 15. Himalaya and hilly regions of Southern India. This is about the size of the preceding species, but has a weaker bill and feet, and a wider gape; approximating it, as does also its plumage, to *Limnaetus hastatus*.

4. *A. navia*: a most variable species, to which I think must be referred *A. Vindhiana*, Franklin, and most probably *Falco malaiensis*, Reinwardt, together with *A. punctata*, *fusca* and *fulvescens* of Hardwicke's published drawings. I have received characteristic specimens from Nepal and Central India, and feel tolerably satisfied that the whole of the above names apply to this one species.

5. *A. pennata*, antè.

6. *A. Bonelli*, to which I greatly suspect should be referred the *Nisaetos grandis*, Hodgson, or doubtfully cited *niveus* of Mr. Jerdon's list; a species most frequent in the Himalaya, but occurring also in the mountainous regions of the south; it is scarcely, however, a true *Aquila*, though more allied to this genus than are the other *Nisaeti* of Mr. Hodgson. *A. Bonelli* is enumerated in Mr. Vigors's list of species procured at Cachemere and on the Himalaya. I have given a minute description of the Indian bird in Journ. As. Soc. Beng. vol. xii. 301-2.

Ichinaetus (Jerdon) *perniger*; *Heteropus** (olim *Aquila*) *perniger*, Hodgson. This curious bird requires to be introduced *en suite* of the foregoing eagles. Vide Journ. As. Soc. Beng. xii. 127.

16 b. *Limnaetus hastatus*; *Morphnus hastatus*, Lesson; *L. punctatus*, Jerdon. I have just procured a fine specimen of this species close to Calcutta, and am now satisfied of its distinctness from *L. unicolor*, which also inhabits Nepal, and with which I considered it to be identical in J. A. S. B. xii. 128.

17. *Haliaetus Macei*; *H. lineatus*, Gray, represents the first plumage, and *H. unicolor*, Gray, the second plumage of this species. Vide the published drawings of the late Major-Gen. Hardwicke.

18. Genus *Haliastur*, Selby.

19. *Ichthyæus cultrunguis*, nobis, I have already referred (vol. xii. 230) to *Haliaetus blagrus*. Vide remarks on this genus in J. A. S. B. xii. 304.

21. Add *Milvus atolius*, Lesson, as a synonym.

25 a. There is another vulture, which I believe is the *Kolbi*, higher up the country, and which I am informed may occasionally be met with here, though I have not seen it. A young specimen from Nepal considerably resembles the young of the common *V. bengalensis* v. *leuconotus*, but has a much more lengthened cere, and a white rump.

- Applied previously to a group of Kangaroos.

The following are the *Vulturidæ* of India known to me:—

1. *Gypaetos barbatus*; *G. himalayanus*, Hutton, J. A. S. B. iii. 22. Himalaya.

2. *Polypteryx* (Hodgson) *cinereus*. Himalaya.

3. *Otogyys* (G. R. Gray) *pondicerianus*. India generally.

4. *Gyps fulvus*. Himalaya.

5. *Vultur* (*Gyps*?) *indicus*. Indian peninsula.

6. *Vultur bengalensis*. India generally.

7. *V. Kolbii*? Described as having a black naked neck, large white ruff, and fulvous plumage, when adult. Bengal and Nepal.

8. *Neophron percnopterus*.

Cat. No. 31. For *Buceros malabaricus* read *B. albirostris*, Shaw, which represents *B. malabaricus* of the Indian peninsula in Bengal, Nepal, Assam, and the Tenasserim provinces. *B. ginginianus* is also an inhabitant of Bengal.

33 a. *Merops Phillipinus* I have since obtained.

37. *Halcyon amauropterus*. Occurs at all seasons.

39. *Ceryle varia* (?), Strickland.

43. Is, I have reason to conclude, the *Picus goensis* as now recognised, which would take precedence of the synonyms given. I have lately described a beautiful new species allied to it as *P. (Chrysocolaptes, nobis) melanotus*; this was obtained at Midnapore, and may therefore be looked for in this more immediate vicinity. The present appears to me to be a very distinct form of woodpecker from that of *P. aurantius*, upon which Mr. Strickland founds his *Brachypternus* (P. Z. S. 1841, p. 31), referring to it *goensis* and *hamatrimon*, which latter, for certain, pertains to my *Chrysocolaptes*. It does not, indeed, appear to me that *Brachypternus*, with its rudimental fourth toe, need be separated at all from the tridactyle *Tiga*, which essentially accords in all other respects.

48. I have obtained other specimens of *Yunx torquilla*.

52. Read subgenus *Polyphasia*, nobis.

52 a. I strangely omitted to mention the Coël (*Eudynamys orientalis*), one of our most common species, though I incidentally referred to it in my notice of the Shalmour (*Copsychus macrourus*).

56. This agrees tolerably well with *Caprimulgus macrourus*, Horsfield, as described by Stephens in the continuation to 'Shaw's Zoology'; but I have sent a specimen to the India-house, by reference to which this question may be determined.

P. 96, erratum. The word "Mynab" occurs several times; I wrote *Mynah*. Line 8, for "wild" read *vile*.

No. 65. *Gracula indica*. This is the *G. religiosa* of Mr. Jerdon's catalogue, replacing in Southern India the true *religiosa* of Bengal, Nepal, and Tenasserim. I doubt its occurrence in this part of the country.

66, 67, 68. Genus *Acridotheres*, Vieillot.

69, 70. Genus *Sturnia*, Lesson. No. 70 is *Sturnia malabarica*, and the *Pastor malabaricus* of Mr. Jerdon's catalogue will now rank as *S. senex*, Jerdon.

74 a. *Malacocercus Earlei*, nobis. One of several new species added to this genus.

75. Mr. Hodgson has rightly indicated this as a new genus, by the appellation *Pyctoris*.

76. Should be *Orthotomus sutorius*, and *Bennettii* reduced to a synonym.

77. *Jura typhia* of Bengal, Nepal and Assam is distinct both from *I. zeylonica* of Southern India and from *I. scapularis* of the Malay countries.

79. *Geocichla citrina*; *Turdus citrinus*, Auct.

88 a. I have now received specimens of *Phyllopneuste* (or rather *Phylloscopus*) *trochilus* and *rufa* from England, which enables me to pronounce on the distinctness of the species noticed in xii. 230, which I have since described as *P. magnirostris*. I may also remark that I have just obtained a recently moulted specimen of *P. modestus*, wherein the mesial coronal streak is barely discernible, and would certainly not be observed unless specially looked for, whereas other specimens have it more or less conspicuously developed.

90 a. *Acrocephalus*, vide Ann. Nat. Hist. vol. xii. 231. I presume this species to be the *Sylvia rama* of Jerdon and Sykes.

112. *Lanius melanotus*, Cuvier, is the species enumerated. Another dull-coloured shrike, very common about Singapore, is the *L. magnirostris*, Lesson, since termed *L. strigatus* by Mr. Eyton.

126. The specimen referred to *Oriolus galbula* is, I am now satisfied, merely *O. aureus* in a particular state of plumage; and it is still the only example of this species which I have met with, though I have received both it and *O. chinensis* from Midnapore.

130. *Dendronanthus* (nobis) *indicus*; *Motacilla indica*, Gm. *M. variegata*, Vieillot, not of Latham. I have just obtained a beautiful specimen of this bird.

135. This appears to be identical with the *Alauda gulgula* of Mr. Jerdon's catalogue.

154 a. The *Vinago militaris* of Mr. Jerdon's catalogue is distinct from that of Bengal, and has the abdominal region green instead of gray. I have obtained, however, one specimen in this neighbourhood, and have designated the species *V. chlorigaster*.

168. *Coturnix flavipes*, nobis. I now much suspect this to have been *C. Phillipensis* in a particular state of plumage.

169. The *Turnix taigoor* of Southern India Mr. Jerdon now decidedly considers to be identical with *T. pugnax* of Sykes; but the Bengal bird is certainly different both from that species and *T. atrogularis* of Eyton, which latter extends up through the Tenasserim provinces to Nepal. Several Indian additions to this genus have been recently made.

175. *Ardea flavirostris*, Wagler, and *A. modesta* of Gray. I have obtained both in immature and adult plumage, some of each with the feathery train characteristic of the nuptial dress, that is to say, black-billed and yellow-billed specimens of the large Indian egret which agree in every other respect; and I have also obtained both old and young specimens with the bill partly yellow and partly black, some of these also having the dorsal train.

176. *A. putca*. I have also had both young and old specimens, the latter adorned with the train, of this egret with perfectly yellow

bills, which however is usually black-tipped when the bird is very young; and I have one with the train which has a considerable portion of its beak black.

181 a. *Ardea lepida* is now and then shot in this part of Bengal, but I have not yet procured a specimen. Mr. Jerdon has obtained it in Southern India.

188. *Argala capillata* (?). I did not see a single example of this species during the late season for these birds.

201, 202. These I have before expressed my presumptive opinion to be *Charadrius Geoffroyi* and *C. Leschenaultii*. I have forwarded specimens of both to the India-house.

206. *Himantopus asiaticus* of Lesson. It appears never to have the black cap of *H. melanopterus*.

209. This appears to be the *Totanus stagnatilis*.

220 b. Mr. Jerdon has obtained the *Calidris arcuaria*; he also gets *Numenius phaeopus*, which I have not yet seen here; and his oyster-catcher is the *Hæmatopus longirostris*, which I have likewise received from Arracan.

234, 235. Are male and young female of the same species, which is also the *Gallinula plumbea* of Vieillot.

241 a. Two species of flamingoes occur here, the *Phœnicopterus antiquorum*, Tem., more rarely, and the *P. minor*. I have had a fine series prepared of both.

263. *Plotus Vaillantii*. A bird of this species was brought to me some time ago, weak from want of food, caused by its having swallowed, or, I should rather say, attempted to swallow, a small Siluroid (*Bagrus teugara*), which had erected its pectoral spines and thus pierced the throat of the bird, the spines of the fish projecting on either side through the skin of its captor.

265. I have lately procured several specimens of both species of pelican mentioned.

266 a. *Rhynchops flavirostris*. Now and then observed upon the river opposite Calcutta, skimming and ploughing the surface of the water.

Nov. 2, 1843.

XIX.—Observations on Ehrenberg's *De Mycetogenesi Epistola*, &c.

By ARTHUR HILL HASSALL, Esq.

IN the 'Annals and Magazine of Natural History' for November 1842 the following editorial remark occurs, appended to a notice of a paper read by me before the Microscopical Society of London, and entitled "An Explanation of the Cause of the rapid Decay of many Fruits, more especially of those of the Apple Tribe:"—

"Complete observations on this interesting subject have been made known by Professor Ehrenberg so far back as 1820 in the 'Regensburger Flora,' ii. p. 535, and more fully in the 'Nova Acta Nat. Cur.' vol. x., under the title 'De Mycetogenesi Epistola.'"

A repetition of the substance of the same observation, affixed to a paper on the Influence of Fungi in the Production of Disease, in-