August 11, 1846.

William Yarrell, Esq., Vice-President, in the Chair.

A letter was read, addressed to the Secretary by Sir Robert Heron, Bart., M.P., and containing the following observations in reference to the Curassows in his menagerie:—"It appears to me that the different species of the *Crax* are not well-defined. I had a male black and a female brown, which bred for three years, always producing two, which were always a black male and a brown female. I have now a pair black, with yellow bills, and from their eggs I have a brown young one: there can be no doubt of the parentage, as I have only one other *Crax*, which is also black, with a black bill."

A letter from the Society's Corresponding Member, Lieut. Fayrer, R.N., dated Bermuda, July 11, 1846, was also read. It accompanied some specimens of the "Bische de Mer" or Trepang, which Lieut. Fayrer states is to be found on the reefs round those islands in vast quantities, and probably of various kinds.

The next paper read contained descriptions of six new species of birds, by John Gould, Esq. :—

TROGON ASSIMILIS. *Mas. Trog. vertice, corpore superiore, et pectore aurco-viridibus; loro, auribus, guldque nigris; rectricibus intermediis duabus aurco-fuscis, viride tinctis; pogonis lateralium duarum his proximarum utrinque externis virido-fuscis aurco splendentibus, internis autem, apicibusque, nigris; nigris quoque rectricibus externis, modo marginibus pogoniarum fasciis albis tenuibus transversim ornatis; alis nigris, tectricibus et secundariis lincis latè griseis transverse flexuosis delicatissime pictis.*

Male.—Crown of the head, all the upper surface and chest rich golden green; lores, ear-coverts and throat black; two middle tail-feathers golden greenish brown, tipped with black; the two next on each side have the inner web and tip black, and the outer web golden greenish brown; outer feathers black, crossed for a short space on either side the web by very fine irregular bars, and largely tipped with white; wings black, the coverts and secondaries finely penciled with irregular zigzag markings of light grey; primaries margined externally with light grey; abdomen and under surface fine scarlet, separated from the green of the chest by a narrow crescent of white; bill orange-yellow; feet yellowish brown.

Female.—Head, chest and upper surface brown; two middle tail-feathers dull chestnut-brown, tipped with black; the two next on

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each side black on their inner webs and at the tip, and dull chestnut-brown on their outer webs; the remaining feathers black on their inner webs at the base, largely tipped with white, the intermediate portion crossed by alternate irregular bars of black and white; wings as in the male, but with the coverts and secondaries freckled with yellowish brown instead of grey; ear-coverts black; under surface scarlet, separated from the brown of the chest by a crescent of white; bill and feet yellowish brown.

Total length, 10 inches; bill, 1; wing, 5; tail, 6; tarsi, $\frac{5}{8}$.

Hab. Peru.

Remark.—Nearly allied to *Trogon personata*, but differing from that species in the tail being nearly black, in the transverse markings being very slight and in the extremities more largely tipped with white; the freckled markings of the wing are also much more minute.

CINCLOSOMA CINNAMOMEUS. *Cinc. toto superiore corpore, scapularibus, rectricibus duabus intermediis, pectore ad latera, et lateribus cinnamomeis; alarum tectricibus nigris, plumis singulis ad apices albis; lined superciliari indistinctè albâ; gulâ loroque nitidè nigris; magnâ ovatâ maculâ infra oculum, et corpore inferiore albis; pectore magnâ maculâ nitidè nigra, formâ tanquam sagittæ, signatâ.*

The whole of the upper surface, scapularies, two central tail-feathers, sides of the breast and flanks cinnamon-brown; wing-coverts jet-black, each feather largely tipped with white; above the eye a faint stripe of white; lores and throat glossy black, with a large oval patch of white seated within the black, beneath the eye; under surface white, with a large arrow-shaped patch of glossy black on the breast; feathers on the sides of the abdomen with a broad stripe of black down the centre; lateral tail-feathers jet-black, largely tipped with pure white; under tail-coverts black for four-fifths of their length on the outer web, their inner webs and tips white; eyes brown; tarsi olive; toes black.

Total length, $7\frac{3}{4}$ inches; bill, $\frac{7}{8}$; wing, $3\frac{3}{4}$; tail, $3\frac{1}{4}$; tarsi, $1\frac{1}{8}$.

Hab. South Australia. Shot by Capt. Sturt at the Dépôt, lat. $29^{\circ} 40'$, June 9, 1845.

This fine new species, discovered by the enterprising traveller Sturt, is of peculiar interest, as being one of the few inhabitants of the sterile and inhospitable interior of Australia, and as forming the third species of the genus known to belong to that portion of the globe; it is considerably smaller than either of its congeners, and also differs from them in the beautiful cinnamon colouring of the upper surface. It now forms part of the national collection at the British Museum.

RAMPHASTOS INCA. *Fœm. Ramph. nigra; rostro nigro, in lateribus sanguineo obnubilato; culmine mandibulâ superioris ad apicem, et latâ fasciâ basali flavis, hac posticè lined nigra, anticè lined coccineâ cinctâ; gulâ et pectore albis flavitinctis, hoc torque sanguineo infra succincto; tectricibus caudæ inferioribus aurantiacis.*

Bill black, clouded on the sides with blood-red, with the culmen

and point of the lower mandible yellow, and with a broad basal belt of the same colour, bounded posteriorly with a narrow line of black, and anteriorly with a narrow line of scarlet; the yellow clouded with olive on the lower mandible; naked skin round the eye purple, passing into yellow on its outer margin; irides brown; legs and feet bluish lead-colour; general plumage black; throat and chest white, tinged with yellow, and bounded below by a band of blood-red; upper tail-coverts rich orange; under tail-coverts blood-red.

Total length, 20 inches; bill, $5\frac{1}{2}$; wing, $9\frac{1}{4}$; tail, 7; tarsi, $2\frac{1}{4}$.

Hab. Bolivia: in the elevated and dense forests at Chimorée, in the country of the Yuracaras Indians. Brought to this country by Mr. Bridges, and now in the collection of the Earl of Derby.

Remark.—Nearly allied to *Ramphastos erythrorhynchus*.

The above is the description of a female.

PTEROGLOSSUS CUCULLATUS. *Pter. vertice et occipite aterrimis; latâ maculâ semilunari ad nucham griseo-cæruleâ; dorso, humeris, apicibusque tectricum alarum majorum aureo-oleagineis, uropygio autem et tectricibus caudæ superioribus virido-flavis infectis; tectricibus alarum superioribus, pogoniis externis primariarum, et secundariis saturatè viridibus; pogoniis internis nigris; genis gulique ferrugineis, harum colore cum inferioris corporis cæruleo-griseo gradatim confuso; tectricibus caudæ inferioribus nitidè coccineis; rostro flavo-viridi obnubilato, nisi tertîâ parte apicali, et maculâ oblongâ utrinque ad basin inferioris mandibulæ, nigris.*

Crown of the head and occiput deep shining black; at the back of the neck a broad crescentic mark of blue-grey; back, shoulder, and tips of the greater wing-coverts golden olive, passing into greenish yellow on the rump and upper tail-coverts; greater wing-coverts, outer webs of the primaries and the secondaries dark green; inner webs black; sides of the face and throat sooty black, gradually blending with the dark bluish grey of the under surface; under tail-coverts shining crimson; thighs light chestnut; bill yellow, clouded with green for two-thirds of its length from the base, and black for the remainder of its length; the under mandible with an oblong irregularly-shaped patch of black on each side near the base; feet greenish lead-colour.

Total length, 18 inches; bill, 4; wing, 7; tail, $7\frac{1}{2}$; tarsi, 2.

Hab. The forests of Cocapata, department of Cochabamba, Bolivia.

Remark.—Three specimens of this highly interesting new species were brought home by Mr. Bridges; two of them are now in the possession of the Earl of Derby, and the third in the collection at the British Museum. The sexes are precisely similar in colour and markings, but the female may be readily distinguished by her somewhat smaller size and by the much smaller size of the bill.

The whole of the plumage is very dense or thick.

ODONTOPHORUS BALLIVIANI. *Odont. capite cristâque ferrugineo-rufis; infra et pone oculum latâ aterrimâ maculâ, supra et subter*

lined rubro-cervina marginata; corpore inferiore castaneo-fusco, nigro minutissime maculato; plumis singulis macula alba ornatis.

Head and crest rich rusty red; beneath and behind the eye a broad patch of deep black, bounded above and below by a stripe of reddish buff; upper surface olive, minutely freckled with black; the feathers of the centre of the back and scapularies with a fine line of buffy white down the apical half of the stem, and with a small double spot of black on their inner, and a large patch of black on their outer webs, bounded above and below with rusty red; primaries and secondaries brown, crossed with irregular bands of rusty red, freckled with black; under surface dark chestnut-brown or coffee-colour, minutely freckled with black, each feather with an irregularly-shaped patch of white, bordered with black near the centre, giving the whole of the under surface a singularly rich and sparkling appearance; bill black; feet lead-colour.

Total length, 12 inches; bill, 1; wing, $6\frac{1}{4}$; tail, $2\frac{3}{4}$; tarsi, 2, middle toe and nail, $2\frac{1}{4}$.

Hab. The forests of Cocapata, department of Cochabamba, Bolivia.

Remark.—I have named this new bird *Balliviani*, in honour of General Ballivian, President of the Republic of Bolivia. It is one of the finest species of that section of the group to which the term *Odontophorus* is now restricted, is nearly allied to the bird I have named *Odontophorus guttatus*, and may be readily recognised by its larger size and by the still more conspicuous marking of the under surface.

We are indebted to the researches of Mr. Bridges for our knowledge of this beautiful bird.

CALLIPEPLA VENUSTA. *Call. fronte mento gulâque holoserico-nigris, fasciâ albâ ab oculi posteriore angulo latâ circumdatâ; nigrâ cristâ rectâ et erectâ; occipite ferrugineo-rufo; pectore caeruleo-griseo; abdomine superiore cervino, medio nigro, inferiore tectricibusque caudæ inferioribus arenaceis; plumis ad latera castaneis, mediis sed pogoniis stramineo-albis.*

Forehead, chin and throat deep velvety black, encircled from the posterior angle of the eye with a broad line of white; across the head and passing down behind the eye another line of white, bounded posteriorly with black; crest straight, erect, and of a deep black; occiput rusty red; feathers of the sides and back of the neck lanceolate in form and of a blue-grey, encircled all round with brown; back, wings, rump and upper tail-coverts olive-grey; tertiaries edged with buff narrowly on their outer webs and broadly on their inner ones; tail grey; chest blue-grey; upper part of the abdomen buff; centre of the abdomen black; flank-feathers rich chestnut, with a line of buffy white down the centre; lower part of the abdomen and under tail-coverts sandy buff, with a broad stripe of greyish brown down the centre of each of the latter; bill black; feet brown.

Total length, $8\frac{3}{4}$ inches; bill, $1\frac{1}{8}$; wing, $4\frac{1}{2}$; tail, 4; tarsi, $1\frac{3}{8}$; middle toe and nail, $1\frac{3}{8}$.

Hab. Supposed to be California.

Remark.—I am indebted to the kindness of M. Louis Coulon, Director of the Museum at Neuchâtel, for the loan of this species, for the purpose of figuring in my monograph : it is the only specimen I have seen, and in all probability is the only one that has been sent to Europe ; it is a bird whose rarity is only equalled by its beauty : it is very nearly allied to *Callipepla Californica*, but is distinguished from that bird by the straight form of the crest, the rich colouring of the flank-feathers, by the absence of the scale-like markings of the abdomen, and the greater length of the tail.