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Correction: King Eider Duck

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An Dubh Lochan.—This was examined very late in the season. The chief peculiarity noted was the red colour of the *Diaptomus*, a feature found in more marked degree in Lochan Lùnn dà-Bhrà. Desmids were abundant, and the two fine species, *Staurastrum braziliense* and *S. longispinum* occurred.

Lochan Lùnn dà-Bhrà.—The *Diaptomus* in this loch was so deep red that when the nets were taken out after towing, they seemed to contain blood.

Loch nan Gabhar.—From its shallow weedy character an abundant fauna would be expected here, yet we found the collections exceptionally poor.

CORRECTION.—*King Eider Duck.*

In our paper on the "Lochs of the Tay Basin," Part III., which appeared in the *Journal* for January, 1904 (vol. 23, p. 40), the following sentence occurs: "The king eider is said to have bred in the White Loch for some years, and to have successfully reared its young." This is evidently an error, and I am sorry the sentence should have escaped my notice in reading the proof of the paper. The statement was entered in the note-book of one of the assistants of the Survey on the authority of one of the neighbouring proprietors of the district, familiar with the ornithology of the White loch. I am not able to state what bird was taken for the king eider.—JOHN MURRAY.

THE VOLCANO OF SMEROE, JAVA.

By I. A. STIGAND, B.A., F.G.S.

THE Smeroe, the highest peak and most persistently active volcano in Java, is situated in a wild and uninhabited district of East Java, and its cone has raised itself on the southern edge of an elevated and extensive system of ancient craters. As viewed from a distance, it appears as a lofty grey cone, upraised above the surrounding mountains, and from time to time—at intervals of from one minute to half an hour—a steam-cloud of globular structure is discharged from the crater, which, gradually detaching itself from the mountain, is borne away towards the leeward horizon. The form of these outbursts is variable; sometimes all the materials blown out by the steam fall in the vicinity of the crater, sometimes blocks of all sizes are scattered over the mountain. There are also times when the volcano is in a state of violent activity, e.g. in the year 1885 there was a great eruption.

The ascent of the mountain can either be made from Malang, to the north-west, or from one of the resorts situated on the Tengger mountain—above Passeroean, to the south. In the latter case, a descent to the plains is not necessary, but the route keeps on a high level across the system of ancient craters.

I will not dwell on the Tengger and the well-known "sand sea," enclosed by the ring of hills forming its crater, and enclosing the volcano of the Bromo with the extinct volcanoes of the Widodaron and Battaq,