

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. pygmaea*, 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