

any pieces that might be thrown to them. They commence calling just before daybreak; the cry is rather like the crow of a Cock, only whistled, not crowed.

268. CAIRINA MOSCHATA, Linn.

Common in the swamps of the low forests. *Anas boschas*, Linn., and *Dafila acuta*, Linn., are also given by Mr. Lawrence.

Fam. LARIDÆ.

269. HYDROCHELIDON PLUMBEA, Wils.

Common on the coast of British Honduras.

Fam. PELECANIDÆ.

270. PELECANUS FUSCUS, Linn.

Fam. COLYMBIDÆ.

271. PODICEPS DOMINICUS, Linn.; Lawr. *l. c.* vii. p. 334.

Fam. HELIORNITHIDÆ.

272. HELIORNIS FULICA, Bodd.; Lawr. *l. c.* vii. p. 302.

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November 8, 1864.

Prof. Huxley, F.R.S., V.P., in the Chair.

The Secretary reported the safe return from India, on the 25th of July, of Mr. James Thompson, the Society's head keeper, with the following fine series of animals, which had been brought together for the Society at Calcutta by the exertions of their Corresponding Members the Baboo Rajendra Mullick of Calcutta, Mr. A. Grote of Alipore, Dr. John Squire and Mr. Wm. Dunn of Akyab.

*From Calcutta.*

- 2 Rhinoceroses (*Rhinoceros indicus*).
- 2 Black Cuckoos (*Eudynamys orientalis*).
- 2 Rose-coloured Pastors (*Pastor roseus*).
- 1 Rhinoceros Hornbill (*Buceros rhinoceros*).
- 2 Concave Hornbills (*Buceros cavatus*).
- 3 Green-necked Pea-fowl (*Pavo spicifer*).
- 3 Lineated Pheasants (*Euplocamus lineatus*).
- 2 Rufous-tailed Pheasants (*Euplocamus erythrophthalmus*).
- 1 Peacock Pheasant (*Polyplectron chinquis*).
- 2 Indian Tantali (*Tantalus leucocephalus*).



- 2 Indian Jabirus (*Mycteria australis*).
- 2 Saras Cranes (*Grus antigone*).
- 2 Land-Tortoises (*Testudo indica*).

*From Capetown.*

- 1 Black Kite (*Milvus niger*).
- 1 Crested Spizaëtus (*Spizaëtus occipitalis*).
- 3 Madagascar Francolins (*Francolinus madagascariensis*).

Mr. Thompson had experienced very few losses on the voyage home, the only noticeable occurrence under this head being the Polyplectrons. Of these birds a large number had been shipped at Calcutta, but nearly all of them died before reaching Madras.

Dr. Sclater also called the attention of the Meeting to several recent interesting additions to the Society's Menagerie, amongst which were—

1. A Brown Bear from Hakodadi, in the northern island of Japan, probably referable to *Ursus arctos*, var. *beringensis*, of Middendorf (Sib. Reise, ii. p. 4 *et seq.*). Dr. Sclater remarked that the Society now possessed living examples of the two distinct species of Bears from Japan referred to in the Fauna Japonica, Mamm. p. 29, as *Ursus ferox* and *Ursus tibetanus*. Of the latter, correctly named *Ursus japonicus*, a figure had already been given in the 'Proceedings,' 1862, pl. xxxii. p. 261. The former, on the authority of Von Schrenck (Amur-reise, i. p. 16), must be *Ursus arctos*, var. *beringensis*.

2. Pairs of the Sömmering's Pheasant of Japan (*Phasianus scemmeringii*). Fourteen birds of this fine species had been successfully imported into this country in June last by Mr. Reginald Russell, Corr. Memb., of which two pairs had been secured for the collection.

3. A young male Abyssinian Ass (*Equus tæniopus*, Heuglin), and a young female of the true Zebra (*Equus zebra*). These two acceptable additions rendered the series of the genus *Equus* in the Society's collection complete, it now embracing examples of all the six known species.

- (1.) *Equus hemionus* from Tibet, one female.
- (2.) ——— *onager* from India, Persia, and Syria, three females.
- (3.) ——— *tæniopus* from Abyssinia, one male.
- (4.) ——— *zebra* from South Africa, one female.
- (5.) ——— *burchelli* from South Africa, male and female.
- (6.) ——— *quagga* from South Africa, one female.

4. A second specimen of the Apteryx, or Kiwi, of New Zealand (*Apteryx mantelli*), presented to the collection by Major E. Ruck Keane, of Swyncombe, Henley-upon-Thames, on the 29th of September last. This bird (which appeared to be immature, and had been obtained by Major Keane in Auckland, in September 1863, from a Maori, who had caught it in a swamp in that neighbourhood) had been placed in the Collection, along with the female of the same



species, received in 1851. After a few days they agreed perfectly together; so that hopes were entertained that they would prove to be a pair, and that the eggs laid next season by the old female would prove to be fertile.

5. A fine living specimen of the rare Parrot of the Feejees (*Pyrrhulopsis splendens*, referred to, *anteà*, p. 158), which had been purchased from a dealer on the 27th of June last.

The Secretary laid before the Society a series of specimens of birds' eggs, collected in the vicinity of Barrackpore, and presented to the Society by Lieut. R. C. Beavan, of the Bengal Revenue Survey Department. The following is Lieut. Beavan's list of the species, with his notes on their nesting-habits. The nomenclature is that used in Dr. Jerdon's recently published work on the 'Birds of India,' where a description of the eggs will be found.

1. *ATHENE RADIATA*, Tickell; Jerdon, *Birds of India*, i. p. 143.

Two eggs from a hole in a tree. Maubhoon, April 1864.

2. *CYPSELUS AFFINIS*, Gray; Jerdon, *Birds of India*, i. p. 177.

Eggs from a nest under the roof of an out-house. Barrackpore, May.

3. *CAPRIMULGUS ALBONOTATUS*, Tickell; Jerdon, *l. c.* i. p. 194.

Two eggs laid on the bare ground. Maubhoon, April.

4. *CAPRIMULGUS ASIATICUS*, Lath.; Jerdon, *l. c.* i. p. 197.

Two eggs placed similarly to the last. Maubhoon, April.

5. *CAPRIMULGUS MONTICOLUS*, Franklin; Jerdon, *l. c.* i. p. 198.

Two eggs found on the bare ground. Maubhoon, March.

6. *MEROPS VIRIDIS*, Linn.; Jerdon, *l. c.* i. p. 205.

One egg taken from a female bird. Maubhoon, April.

7. *ARACHNECHTHRA ASIATICA*, Lath.; Jerdon, *l. c.* i. p. 370.

The nest of this species is domed like that of the European Wren (*Troglodytes vulgaris*). It is hung from the bough of a tree, to which it is attached by cobweb, the nest itself being chiefly composed of the same material. The bird is very common. Maubhoon, April 15th.

8. *DICRURUS MACROCERCUS*, Vieill.; Jerdon, *l. c.* i. p. 427.

The nest is made of loose twigs placed in a tree. Barrackpore, May.

9. *MALACOCERCUS TERRICOLOR*, Hodg.; Jerdon, *l. c.* ii. p. 59.

Builds in bushes. The nest resembles the English Blackbird's. Maubhoon, April.