

Gould describe? The bird called *P. a. tunneyi* has a bluish tinge, and so have all the subspecies.

Apparently Gould's *Puffinus assimilis* is indeterminable, as the colour and measurements do not fit any subspecies of *P. a. tunneyi*. Neither does Gould's description apply to *Reinholdia reinholdi*, as the sides of the face in this species are not white, nor do the measurements agree.

The oldest name may be *Procellaria baroli* Bonaparte, 1857, if it belongs to the blue-black species. The next name is *P. elegans*, 1869, which has been made a species by some workers.

Does Gould's repeated description of his original description, with the synonym "*P. australis* Eyton", establish this name, taken from Eyton, on the Norfolk Island bird figured? Or is *australis* an absolute synonym of *assimilis* Gould?

We have a similar case in vol. vi. (part 33, 1 December, 1848) of Gould's 'Birds of Australia', where on plate 54 this author figured *Typhon sumatranus* under the name of *Ardea rectirostris* Gould, Proc. Zool. Soc. 1843, p. 22. On plate 54 he figured a bird which did not agree with the description, but we were able to correct this change in name from one bird to another quite distinct species. On plate 55 (part 36) Gould figured *Ardea leucophaea* Gould, which is *A. rectirostris* Gould.

The Correct Names of Three Asiatic Birds.

By H. G. DEIGNAN *.

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I.

Stuart Baker, Bull. Brit. Orn. Club, vol. 47, 1927, p. 151, proposed *Gyps indicus nudiceps* as a new name for *Gyps tenuirostris* "Hume", because "Gray in 1869 in his 'Hand-List' gives this name and *G. tenuiceps* as synonyms of *G. indicus* Neither *G. tenuirostris* nor *G. tenuiceps* were therefore available for use by Hume in 1878".

The name *G. tenuirostris* was, in fact, wholly available for Hume's use, since it had become a valid name as early as 1844 in 'The Genera of Birds', vol. i. p. 6, pl. 3.

One may raise the question whether the specimen depicted in 'The Genera of Birds' really represents the form of Nepal; lack of material makes it impossible for me to decide. But if it be truly Hodgson's bird, the race must again be known as *Gyps indicus tenuirostris* "Hodg.", G. R. Gray, and the name *G. i. nudiceps* must be placed in its synonymy.

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II.

The Malayan Falconet, commonly known as *Microhierax fringillarius*, takes its name from *Falco fringillarius* Drapiez, 1824. This designation is preoccupied by *Falco fringillarius* Sprüngli, 1784 (in Storr, Alpenreise vom Jahre, vol. i. 1781, p. 71), an unnecessary renaming, and thus a synonym of *Falco nisus* Linnæus, 1758.

The oldest available name for the Malayan species seems to be *Hierax horsfieldii* Lesson, 1843, L'Écho du Monde Savant, vol. 19, no. 31, column 728: Java, Sumatra.

III.

A. H. Clark described *Acredula trivirgata magna*, Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus. 1907, vol. 32, p. 475, from an adult male taken at Seoul, central Korea. In 1910, Hartert, 'Vögel der paläarktischen Fauna', vol. i. p. 35, footnote 3, gratuitously asserted that Clark's description was that of a young bird, and synonymized *A. t. magna* with *Ægithalus caudatus* (Linnæus).

In 1923, Kuroda, 'Auk', vol. 40, p. 312, misled by Hartert, named the resident form of central Korea *Ægithalus caudatus shimokoriyamae*. That Kuroda's bird is identical with Clark's will be seen at once by comparison of the measurements given of the two descriptions. *A. c. shimokoriyamae* must therefore be treated as a synonym of *Ægithalus caudatus magna* (Clark).

The Mallophagan Parasites of the Passeriformes.

By THERESA CLAY, B.Sc.

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Dr. P. R. Lowe, in 'The Ibis', 1946, p. 103, refers to some remarks by G. H. E. Hopkins, see Ibis, 1942, p. 104, on the Mallophaga of the Passeriformes; it might be of interest to expand these, and to see how far it is possible to use the classification of the Mallophaga to support the classification of their host families in such cases.

The genera listed below are among those which parasitize the Passeres; these genera are also found on certain non-Passerine families as shown:—

Mallophagan Genus.	Host.	
<i>Philopterus</i> Nitsch.	Passeres.	Momotidae.
<i>Penenirmus</i> C. & M.	Passeres.	Cepitenidae.
	Picidae.	Indicatoridae.
	Passeres.	Cepitenidae.
<i>Bruelia</i> Kéler	Picidae.	Rhinophastidae.
	Momotidae.	Meropidae.
<i>Picicola</i> C. & M.	Passeres.	Picidae.
<i>Myrsidea</i> Waterston	Passeres.	Rhinophastidae.

The fact that the families Picidæ, Indicatoridæ, Capitonidæ and Rhamphastidæ, placed by Lowe in the suborder Pici, of the order Passeriformes, are parasitized by species of genera also occurring on the Passeres, suggests some basic relationship between these families and the Passeres; it also suggests a similar relationship between the Passeres and the Momotidæ and Meropidæ.

The genera found on the Upupidæ, Cuculidæ, Coraciidæ and Trogonidæ need further study, but it seems likely that when more material is available, and the relationships between the Mallophagan genera better understood, that some of the genera on these four families will be found to be close, if not inseparable, from the genera listed above.

It is now well accepted that in general the classification of the Mallophaga can be correlated with that of their hosts, but there are a number of factors which may obscure the relationships and give rise to various anomalies. These factors may include ignorance of the true relationship between certain Mallophagan genera, convergence, rare cases of ancient straggling, incompleteness of distribution*, and different rates of evolution.

Factors causing different rates of evolution include changes in the environment and the inherent stability of the species. Inter-relationships between Avian groups is based largely on muscles and skeletal structures, the characters of which do not in themselves affect the parasite. The environment of the parasite is formed in general by the external characters of the host, such as skin-texture and feather-structure. Such characters, which may be of little importance in showing host relationships, are liable to cause considerable modifications in the parasite, and this has led to the erection of genera in such a way as to obscure the fundamental relationships. Some groups of Mallophaga appear to have been more stable than others, and this is reflected in the extent of their distribution. A genus may be restricted to a host family, host order, or it may be possible that some will be found throughout the Aves, except in those orders and families where they have become extinct, having remained relatively unchanged in comparison with the evolution of their hosts.

The present distribution of a Mallophagan genus is due, therefore, to one or more factors which have affected its evolution, and which are now unidentifiable; these include the variability of the species, shown both in adaptive and non-adaptive † characters, and of the degree of change in the environment caused by the superficial characters of the host, which may or may not reflect relationships between the hosts.

* See Hopkins, Ibis, 1942, p. 104, for discussion of some of these factors.

† The Sewall Wright effect may have been an important factor in the evolution of these small isolated populations.

For these reasons the Mallophaga do not reflect any constant degree of relationships between the hosts, and are of assistance in indicating only the broadest relationships.

Hypochera camerunensis Grote and *Hypochera nigeriae*
Alexander in Sierra Leone.

By Dr. WILLIAM SERLE.

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Two male Indigo-Finches collected by me recently in Sierra Leone appear to belong to different species.

One male in mature plumage shot on 16 November, 1942, at Bendugu, 9° 32' N., 10° 56' W., in the savanna country, has dark brown remiges and rectrices, and the rest of the plumage glossy dark blue. It agrees with the series of *Hypochera camerunensis* Grote in the British Museum (Natural History).

The other male, also in mature plumage, was collected on 5 December, 1942, at Makeni, 8° 53' N., 12° 04' W., which is also in the savanna country. Its plumage has an oily dark green appearance. The remiges and rectrices are dark brown. It agrees with the series of *Hypochera nigeriae* Alexander in the Museum.

Knowing the difficulty of identifying members of the *Hypochera* group, I asked Captain C. H. B. Grant for his opinion. He very kindly examined them, and pronounced them to be *Hypochera camerunensis* and *Hypochera nigeriae* respectively.

This is a considerable extension westwards of the recorded range of *Hypochera nigeriae*, given in the 'Systema Avium Æthiopicarum' as Northern Nigeria and northern Cameroon, east to Upper Uole and Darfur.

Letters to the Editor.

Obituary Notices.

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SIR,—I believe that life-long members of the B. O. U., who in advanced age cease to remain members, are frequently lost sight of, and do not have an obituary notice in 'The Ibis' when they die.