

# BULLETIN

OF THE

## BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

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### No. VIII.

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THE seventh meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 19th of April, 1893.

*Chairman*: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

*Members present*:—E. BIDWELL, P. CROWLEY, H. E. DRESSER, W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT, ST. GEORGE MIVART, F.R.S., H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, ROBERT H. READ, HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), HENRY SEEBOHM, R. BOWDLER SHARPE, G. E. SHELLEY, J. STONEHAM, J. T. TRISTRAM-VALENTINE.

*Guests*: E. HARTERT, W. HARTMANN, R. B. NEWTON, Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD, W. H. SIMPSON.

MR. W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT exhibited some skins of rare species of Game-Birds, the principal being *Caccabis magna*, Prjev., and *Phasianus satscheunensis*, Prjev., specimens of which had recently been sent in exchange to the British Museum by Dr. Pleske.

MR. ERNST HARTERT exhibited a new Scops-Owl, which he characterized as follows:—

PISORHINA SOLOKENSIS, sp. n.

Top of head and neck deep brown, nearly blackish; ear-

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tufts white, with black on the tips and outer webs of the feathers; a white line, varied with some small blackish spots, extending from the ear-tufts over the eyes, and meeting on the forehead; a white spot on the occiput; a broad, whitish, nuchal band and another one on the lower hind neck. Back and rump blackish brown, with pale rusty brown spots and blotches. Rectrices similar in colour to the back, but somewhat duller. Primaries deep brown, with very pale brown, almost whitish, spots along the outer webs; secondaries spotted on both webs. Wing-coverts deep blackish brown, with very large white spots on the outer webs. Throat and breast mixed pale brown, rusty, blackish, and whitish, more albescent towards the abdomen. Lower abdomen, vent, and under tail-coverts white. Tarsal plumes nearly white. Under wing-coverts brown and white. Toes entirely bare up to the tarsus, which is thickly feathered, yellowish brown (in skin). Bill whitish horn-colour (in skin). Total length about 10 inches, wing 6·7, tail 3·1, tarsus 1·2, middle toe 0·9, culmen 1·2.

*Hab.* Hills of Solok, west coast of Sumatra.

*Remarks.* The type specimen belongs to the Stuttgart Museum, and was sent me for comparison by Count von Berlepsch, who believed it to be new to science. Its nearest ally is *Scops everetti*, from which it is chiefly distinguished by the great amount of white on the ear-tufts and wing-coverts and by the white bands on the neck, as well as by the pure white lower abdomen and whitish tarsal plumes.

I am indebted to Professor Lampert, of the Stuttgart Museum, and to Count Berlepsch, for the opportunity of describing this new species from an island in the natural history of which I am particularly interested.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD exhibited an example of a new species of Rail, which he described as follows:—

*RALLUS MUELLERI*, sp. n.

Upper surface of head, occiput, and neck brownish red, faintly and irregularly striated with black; back and rump