

inch; claw of outer toe about the same size as that of the middle toe; inner toe shorter than the outer, with the claw nearly as large as that on hind toe. Eyelids black. Bill bluish-black, pale at base of the lower mandible and tinged with orange. Cere olive-green. (These parts, however, are not very fresh, and may have changed colour.) Occiput with a few lengthened acuminate feathers.

February 15.—A live *Palumbus pulchricollis*, Hodg., that I had in a cage died this morning without giving me the opportunity of hearing its note. Base of bill and tumid cere pinkish-purple; apical half of bill pale yellow, with a slight tinge of lead-colour. Bare skin about the eye leaden-blue; eyelids black. Irides pearly, with a faint tint of yellow.

On the 1st of March was brought to me from the interior a Grass-Owl, which strikes me as new. It appears to have its nearest ally in *Strix candida*, Tickell, of India. It is called by the natives the "Monkey-face," and I will hence introduce it as

*STRIX PITHECOPS*, sp. nov.

Length 15 inches. Wing 13·2 inches. The second quill slightly shorter than the first, which is the longest in the wing. Tail 4·8 inches long, of twelve soft feathers. Tarsus nearly 3·6 inches long; middle toe and claw 2·5 inches. Bill yellowish horn-colour. Toes brownish flesh-colour, with greyish-brown claws. This bird answers in most respects to Dr. Jerdon's description of *S. candida*; but in ours the ruff is white; the tarsus is feathered for nearly half its length, being bare on the hind part of the tibial joint, and partly so along its posterior edge. A few short tufts of feathers were scattered down the tarsi to within an inch of the toes; and among these pale stiff procumbent bristles occur which extend along the upper surface of each toe. Dr. Jerdon's bird (B. Ind. i. p. 118) is "scarcely plumed at the knee." I take this to mean that the feathers scarcely extend beyond the joint where the tibia meets the tarsus. Our bird further differs in having a broad yellowish-buff collar round the neck, which is imperfect and disconnected at the back. It also has a band of bark-brown feathers varied with buff running across the breast. These two last are also not mentioned by Dr. Jerdon as characteristics of the allied Indian form. I should say

that I have no specimen of *S. candida* wherewith to make a comparison.

I received at the same time a specimen of *Salicaria cantans* of the 'Fauna Japonica.' At least it answers well to the description of that species, and recalls to my mind a bird bearing that name that I saw in the Leyden Museum. Length 5·5 inches; wing 2·8 inches; tail 2·4 inches. Fourth and fifth quills the longest in wing; first quill ·7 inch long; second ·4 inch shorter than third, which is ·2 inch shorter than the longest. Tail only moderately graduated. Bill blackish-brown, ochreous on the tomia, and orange at the gape; the base of the gonys somewhat pale. Legs deep brown, blacker on the toes and claws. The bird in stature is intermediate between *Calamoherpe canturians* and *Calliope*, but it has much the plumage of *Sylvia hortensis*. Its feet are heavy, and its claws thick and blunt; but the hind toe is not so disproportionately large as in *C. canturians* and *C. minuta*, its tail is much less, and its primary remiges are differently graduated. At a hasty glance one might mistake it for the immature *Calliope kamtschatkensis*; but there is no chance of confounding it with *Calamoherpe canturians*.

Adieu! "Cras ingens iterabimus æquor." Amoy-ward ho!

Takow, S.W. Formosa,  
8 March, 1866..

On the 8th of March I received from the interior a male of my new *Strix pithecops*. The bird was being brought down alive, but died before it reached me. This specimen, examined before it was skinned, wanted the collar and pectoral band which I noted as specific characters in the specimen before described. I took down the following note of the bird:—Length 14·2 inches; wing 11 inches. Tail of eight feathers, bowed on its surface or hogged, 4 inches long. Angles where the two facial disks meet on the crown lined with deep blackish-brown. Bill pale flesh-coloured, nearly milky-white. Bare portion of tarsi and toes the colour of a labourer's rough scaly hand. Claws pale, with a tinge of brown, their culmens brown.

On the 8th of May a box of birds reached me from Formosa, the captures of my hunters in the interior after my departure for Amoy. One of the birds seems to be my *Tribura squameiceps*