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I.--Notes on Birds observed in the Ionian Islands, and the Provinces of Albania proper, Epirus, Acarmania, and Montenegro.
By the Hon. THOMAS L. POWYS, F.Z.S.

The following notes were taken between the beginning of January 1857 and the end of July 1858. They are almost entirely the results of my own observation; and in the few instances in which this is not the case, the information was given me by persons on whose accuracy I could depend. My observations were chiefly made during shooting expeditions in the winter, as I had not become sufficiently inured to the summer heats in 1857 to explore the marshes of the mainland, or the olive-groves and *Arbutus*-coverts of Corfu; and during the same season of 1858 I was prevented from so doing by indisposition. - These causes necessarily render my list of summer migrants very imperfect. I may also mention that I had no work on ornithology to refer to, except Temminck's 'Manuel' and only one friend and companion who was at all interested in the subject of birds and their habits. I therefore claim the indulgence of the readers of 'The Ibis' for the many imperfections which they will doubtless discover in the following notes, and, "unaccustomed as I am to public writing," for deficiencies and roughness of style.

1. GRIFFON VULTURE. (*Gyps fulvus*.)

This Vulture is very abundant in Epirus, and indeed in all parts of the mainland which I have visited during the winter months. At Butrinto, a favourite shooting resort from Corfu, I have observed great numbers, particularly during the rainy

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Observation
Sword-knife
wounded

weather of January and February of 1857, when they were attracted by the quantities of horses and cattle which died, and were left to decay in the marshes. Having mentioned to a (or, more properly speaking, to the) bird-stuffer of Corfu that I should like to have one of these birds alive, he in a few days procured me four from the mainland. They were all wounded, apparently by swords or knives, and three died soon after I first saw them. I administered gin-and-water and bullock's liver internally, and olive-oil externally to the fourth, who soon recovered sufficiently to lacerate my hands whenever I attempted to touch him, and eventually escaped with about five feet of stout rope attached to his leg. I never could discover that these Vultures bred in the neighbourhood of the coast; but a pair or two are to be observed at almost all seasons in the vicinity of Santa Quaranta, Tre Scoglie, Butrinto, Ptelia, Pagania, Livitazza, and Phanari, small harbours on the coast of Epirus frequented by sportsmen from Corfu.

2. CINEREOUS VULTURE. (*Vultur monachus*)?

I once, and once only, observed a very large black-looking Vulture engaged on the remains of a horse, near Butrinto, in the winter of 1857. It certainly was not *Gyps fulvus*. The Corfu bird-preserved told me that he had seen a Black Vulture from the mainland, but that it was very rare. This species is common in the island of Sardinia.

3. EGYPTIAN VULTURE. (*Neophron percnopterus*.)

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Very common in summer on the mainland. A pair bred in 1857 in a low sea-cliff near Ptelia, about seven miles from Corfu, across the channel which separates the island from Albania, or more properly Epirus. I have been assured that it also breeds on San Salvador in the island of Corfu. The first I recognized was near Prevesa, in the Gulf of Arta, on the 15th of March, 1857. I have never observed them later than the beginning of September, and I never saw a specimen except in the white adult plumage.

4. BEARDED VULTURE. (*Gypaëtus barbatus*)?

I can speak almost confidently, though not with complete certainty, of having observed this species on three separate

occasions in Epirus and Aetolia. The first instance was on the 29th December, 1857, when shooting near the village of Kinouma, at the head of the lake of Butrinto. I then noticed a large vulturine-looking bird with a wedge-shaped tail, sailing at a considerable height, among a party of Griffon Vultures; his flight struck me as much lighter and more falconine than that of his companions; I noticed also the rich tawny-red colour of his breast. The only reason I had to doubt to what species he belonged arose from his small size, and I went on my way, after he had disappeared, deeply pondering on what he could be. The second time I noticed a Lämmergeyer was at Phanari, on the coast of Epirus. This time he came within twenty yards of us, as we were woodcock shooting, and received three barrels of No 8 with no apparent effect. I was again in this instance struck by the small size of the bird; but there was the wedge-shaped tail—and what could he be but "*Barbuddu*," as the Sardes call him? The third instance was in Acarnania, near Port Platea, not far from the town of Tragomesti. This time there were a pair, and nothing to complain of as regards size. They were enormous birds and very dark coloured; in fact, till they came well over my head, I fancied they were specimens of *Vultur monachus*; but the cuneate tail set my mind at rest. I may mention that I have since noticed this species in Sardinia, and never observed any individuals either so small as the first here mentioned, or nearly so dark-coloured as the second or third. I especially call the attention of ornithologists visiting Turkey and Greece to these facts, as my own conviction is that there is a new species akin to *G. barbatus* to be discovered in those countries.

5. GOLDEN EAGLE. (*Aquila chrysaetos*.)

This species is not very common, as far as my own observation goes, in Albania and Epirus. I have not seen it more than twice—both times near Butrinto.

6. IMPERIAL EAGLE. (*Aquila heliaca*.)

Not rare in winter on the coasts of Epirus. I have often observed it near Butrinto, and on the 18th of January, 1857, picked up a very fine specimen, dying from wounds, on the banks of the Butrinto river. A friend found another dead in

Shooting

woodcock shooting

Dying specimens

Dead specimens

- ③ the winter of 1858, in the great marsh between Santa Quaranta and Delvino in Epirus, about twenty miles north of Corfu. The Corfu bird-preserved assured me that this species breeds in the precipices of San Salvador in the island of Corfu. I have seen an individual of these species seize and carry off a Golden-Eye (*Anas clangula*), which had been wounded a few minutes previously by one of our party, whilst woodcock shooting near Butrinto. This is a much less wary species than the preceding, and will often allow one to approach within gunshot when perched on a tree looking out for wild-fowl, which seem to form its principal food in Albania.

7. SPOTTED EAGLE. (*Aquila nevia*.)

Very abundant, in January and February 1857, in all the marshes of Epirus; less so, though still common, in the following winter. As soon as a gun is fired in any of the marshes about Butrinto, one or more of these birds is sure to appear, and keep flying about from tree to tree, apparently on the watch for prey, though I never saw them pursue any bird, and imagine that they feed chiefly upon rats, frogs, and such "small deer." I have seen this species several times in Corfu. I never observed it in summer, and, as far as I could find out, it is a regular winter visitor in Epirus, appearing in that country about the latter end of September, and remaining until the middle or end of March. I never saw one of this species except in or near marshes, and it is certainly the most tree-loving Eagle with which I am acquainted. It is not, according to my own observation, so common in Acarnania as in Epirus.

8. BONELLI'S EAGLE. (*Aquila bonellii*.)

I was shown a stuffed specimen of this Eagle at Corfu which was said to have been shot on the mainland, and I have several times observed birds in that country which I now believe to have been of this species. A pair haunted the precipitous face of a hill near Butrinto in the winter months of 1857 and 1858, and were the terror of any vultures or other birds of prey which passed near their abode. They were generally to be observed in fine weather, soaring at a great height in the air, and swooping fiercely at any bird larger than a pigeon which ventured to

① → Western Greece

linger in their neighbourhood. I have seen them drive away Vultures, Imperial and Spotted Eagles, Ravens, Crows, and even a Peregrine Falcon. They are at once distinguishable from every other species of Eagle with which I am acquainted by their falcon-like sloop, square-cut tail, and very shrill and piercing scream. I have been lying in wait in a thick reed-bed, watching the flocks of divers species of ducks, coots, and other water-birds which enliven the Albanian lakes and marshes, and have often remarked that whilst the said wild-fowl would take no notice whatever of the numerous Marsh-Harriers which are perpetually hanging about the skirts of the lakes, and would merely lift their heads and utter a warning quack on the appearance of a Spotted Eagle,—immediately that one of these eagle-teasers (as we nicknamed the present species) was visible, the coots would rise and scutter into the reeds, the necks of the ducks would be extended flat along the surface of the water, and the incessant screaming of the waterhens and rails be hushed till the tyrant had passed over. I have twice seen this species settle upon and begin to devour mallards which I had wounded, and which flew to some distance before falling dead, but I never succeeded in getting a shot at the robbers. I have observed this species near Butrinto, as before mentioned, at Livitazza, at the mouth of the Kalamas, and at Phanari at the mouth of the Acheron. I always observed it in pairs and haunting rocks near the marshes.

9. WHITE-TAILED EAGLE. (*Haliaëtus albicilla*.)

This species is often to be seen, though not abundant, in Epirus and Acarnania. A pair were almost always to be observed about the Bay of Butrinto in the autumn and winter. I watched a pair in February 1858 soaring and playing at a great height near the mouth of the Achelous on the mainland of Greece, about twenty miles east from the island of Ithaca. My Greek servant took two eggs of this species from a nest situate in the top of an old ash-tree in a wood on the banks of the Luro river, which runs into the Gulf of Arta, near the ruins of Nicopolis, and not far from the town of Prevesa: this was on the 17th of March, 1857. The old birds were very bold, and often came within gunshot of us, but I would not fire at them, as I did not want a specimen,

egg collection

and the shepherds begged us not to kill them, as they bred there year after year, and kept away other birds of prey which were destructive to their lambs. When my servant was within a few feet of the nest, a large snake put his head out of a hole and hissed fiercely at him, but he having crossed himself and implored the aid of St. Spiridione, the patron of Corfu, went boldly on and took the eggs, which are now in the possession of Mr. Alfred Newton. All the birds of this species which I observed in Turkey and Greece were in adult plumage.

10. OSPREY. (*Pandion haliaëtus*.)

Appears in Corfu and Epirus in March and September in considerable numbers.

11. SHORT-TOED EAGLE. (*Circæetus gallicus*.)

I saw a Short-toed Eagle near Paleocastrizza in the island of Corfu, on the 7th of June, 1858. This was the only occasion on which I observed it in that part of Europe. I had previously become acquainted with this species near Tunis, and have since observed it, and obtained a specimen near Nice. I may here mention that I received a fine specimen of this bird alive from the Crimea in 1856. The favourite food of this individual was fish; and from what I have observed of the habits of these birds in a wild state, I should say that their food consists chiefly of reptiles and small fish, which they catch in the shallow lagoons and marshes. My bird was very fierce and untameable; and I have been informed by persons who have kept this species in captivity that it is generally wilder and more intractable than any other raptorial bird.

12. HONEY BUZZARD. (*Pernis apivora*.)

There is an immature specimen of this bird stuffed at Corfu, which was killed in the island by a friend of mine who has resided many years in the Ionian Islands and is fond of ornithology. He assured me it is the only one of this species that he ever saw, or heard of, either in the islands or in Albania. I saw a bird which I can assign to no other species, in an olive-grove near Prevesa in Epirus on the 21st of March, 1857.

13. COMMON BUZZARD. (*Buteo vulgaris*.)

This bird was very common in Corfu and Epirus during the

early part of 1857. It disappeared about the end of February; and I did not see a Buzzard again till the 7th of November, 1858, when I killed a fine specimen in the island, about six miles from the town of Corfu. I saw very few, either in the island or on the mainland, during the ensuing winter, but I observed one near Govino in the island in June 1858. It frequents the olive-groves in the island and the old woods of the mainland. A pair haunted the citadel-rock of Corfu during the first winter I passed there.

14. PEREGRINE FALCON. (*Falco peregrinus*.)

Common in Epirus in winter, where it is of great assistance to the wild-fowl shooter. Occasionally breeds in the island of Corfu, where I have observed it near Pelleka in April 1857. The friend mentioned above as having shot the Honey Buzzard, assured me that in the island of Cerigo this Falcon is very abundant, and feeds almost entirely on insects! Can he have mistaken La Marmora's Falcon (*Hypotriorchis elephora*) for this species?

15. HOBBY. (*Hypotriorchis subbuteo*.)

Common in Corfu in spring and autumn. I have an immature specimen which was shot by an officer of the 3rd Buffs on the roof of Fort Neuf Barracks at Corfu in April 1857. I saw a Hobby near Cetinje, the chief town of Montenegro, in August 1857.

16. MERLIN. (*Hypotriorchis asalon*.)

Of frequent occurrence in Epirus during the winter months. I have seen a Merlin shot in the Val di Reppa, a marshy valley about seven miles from the town of Corfu, much frequented by sportsmen for snipe-shooting. All the Merlins that I saw, dead and alive, during my stay in Greek waters were in the adult male plumage. I have seen as many as five wounded snipes carried off by a bird of this species in an hour's snipe-shooting near the mouth of the Butinto river.

17. KESTREL. (*Timonculus abundantius*.)

Not common, according to my own observation, in Epirus and Corfu. I have seen one or two Kestrels in the island in April

and May, and once shot one near Santa Quaranta in the winter of 1857. ④

18. LITTLE KESTREL. (*Tinnunculus cenchris*.)

① Visits Corfu and the mainland in spring. I killed a specimen near Prevesa on the 20th of March, 1857, and bought a good pair in the Corfu market in the month of April of the following year. This and the following species are seen in small flocks of from five to ten or twelve, and appear to feed exclusively on insects.

19. ORANGE-LEGGED HOBBY. (*Erythropus vespertinus*.)

Arrives in Corfu, occasionally in great numbers, about the latter end of April. In the spring of 1857 I did not hear of, or see, more than two specimens in the Corfu market; but in April 1858 this species was very abundant in the Ionian Islands, particularly at Fano, a small rocky island to the north of Corfu, celebrated as a favourite resting-place for immense flights of quails during their vernal migration. This Hawk appears to be very fearless of man. I have watched a flock of five or six for upwards of an hour, during which time they often approached within ten or fifteen yards of where I sat, though I was in no way concealed. As far as my own observation goes, this species only remains for a few days in Corfu on its passage northwards. I have never heard of its occurrence in the island except in April and May. The stomach of a specimen which I saw skinned contained the remains of large night-flying moths. Both this species and the Common Hobby are to be observed on the wing as late as 8 or 9 P.M. This bird often alights on the ground, and runs with great ease and speed. ① ② ③

20. GOSHAWK (*Astur palumbarius*.)

Not very common. I have observed it twice only in Epirus: ① the first time near Kinouria, where it stooped at a woodcock ② which I had wounded; this was on the 29th of December, 1857; ③ and again at Butrinto, on the 2nd of January, 1858. Both these were immature specimens. I saw a fine pair of Goshawks ④ stuffed at Santa Maura in March 1857, which had been killed in that island not many weeks before. I am told that this species is common and breeds in Albania proper, Montenegro,

and Bosnia, in which last province it is trained for taking hares. The Goshawk seems to be an object of special aversion to rooks, magpies, jays, &c., who will allow a buzzard, harrier, or falcon to remain unmolested in their haunts, but immediately pursue this species with loud cries, and every appearance of excessive hatred and defiance.

21. SPARROW HAWK. (*Accipiter nisus*.)

Very abundant in winter in Epirus, Acarnania, and Corfu. A few remain to breed.

22. KITE. (*Milvus regalis*.)

Not common in Epirus. I did not see a single specimen during the first winter that I passed among Greek Seas. I noticed a pair several times about Butrinto during the very severe frosts of December 1857 and January 1858, and found the species rather abundant in Acarnania in the last-named and following months. Among the fine oak forests in the neighbourhood of Tragamesti, a pair or two were generally to be seen, soaring in circles at a great elevation, and occasionally swooping down near the tree tops. The bird-stuffer at Corfu did not recognize this species by its Italian, Greek, or English names, and told me that he had never seen or heard of any hawk with a forked tail. The Greek shepherds in Acarnania, when we pointed out this species to them, said they had never before noticed it. From these circumstances I think we may infer that this species is a rare and only occasional visitor to these parts, though it is very common and a constant resident in Sicily and Calabria.

Acarnania

23. MARSH HARRIER. (*Circus aeruginosus*.)

Perhaps the most abundant of the *Raptores* in these parts. It seemed to be less common during the last winter than in the first which I spent in these countries; but from two to a dozen were almost always to be seen in every marsh in Epirus, Acarnania, Albania, and Corfu. Very few remain to breed in these parts, the main body making its appearance in the beginning of November and disappearing in March. I once counted twenty-six of these birds on the wing together near Butrinto.

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24. HEN HARRIER. (*Circus cyaneus*.)

Common, and breeds in Corfu and Epirus.

25. MONTAGUE'S HARRIER. (*Circus cineraceus*.)

Less common than the last species, but not rare in Epirus in winter. The great marsh of Livitazza is a favourite haunt of this Harrier.

[To be continued.]

II.—*On Birds collected or observed in the Republic of Honduras, with a short Account of a Journey across that country from the Pacific to the Atlantic Ocean.* By GEORGE CAVENDISH TAYLOR, F.R.G.S.

I PURPOSE giving some account of the birds collected or observed during a journey across the Central American Isthmus, from Fonseca Bay, on the Pacific Ocean, to Omoa, on the Atlantic, made in the winter of 1857-8, in company with Lieut.-Colonel Stanton, C.B., of the Royal Engineers, Mr. Amory Edwards, of New York, and others.

But before entering into a detailed account of the birds met with, I think it will be advisable to give such a description of our route, and of the country passed through, as may serve to render intelligible many allusions made in the subsequent notes. On meeting Colonel Stanton in New York, he informed me that he was going, under the direction of the Foreign Office, to Honduras, to report upon the feasibility of a scheme for constructing a railroad between the Gulf of Fonseca, on the Pacific, and Porto Caballos, on the Atlantic. To assist in the survey, three Sappers of the Royal Engineer Corps had been sent with him, one of whom was Corporal Church, lately returned, in company with Dr. Barth, from Kuka and Lake Tihad in Central Africa. Church carried a photographic apparatus with him, and made a large collection of photographs during our progress through the country.

Mr. Amory Edwards was connected with the promoters of the railroad, and having been previously in Honduras, and speaking Spanish fluently, was of the greatest service in carrying out the objects of the expedition. I hardly know how we should have got on without him. He was also of great assistance to me in my ornithological researches, as he had a taste for natural his-

large species of Snipe nearly akin to *G. major* of Europe, but having *eighteen* instead of *sixteen* feathers in the tail.

LARUS MELANURUS, Temm. & Schleg.

This Gull, described in the 'Fauna Japonica,' is by no means uncommon here during winter, and should be inserted in the list.

XV.—Notes on Birds observed in the Ionian Islands, and the Provinces of Albania proper, Epirus, Acarnania, and Montenegro. By the Hon. THOMAS L. POWYS, F.Z.S. Part II.

[Continued from page 10.]

26. BARN OWL. (*Strix flammea*.)

Common in the island of Corfu, where it breeds in the old fortifications about the town. I never saw or heard of this species on the mainland.

27. TENGMALM'S OWL. (*Nyctale tengmalmi*.)

I saw a skin of this Owl at Corfu, which I was assured had been shot in the island.

28. LONG-EARED OWL. (*Otus vulgaris*.)

Common in Corfu, haunting the thick coverts of *Arbutus* about Strangili, Govino, and Misonghi. I did not often observe this species on the mainland; I shot one, and saw four or five more on Mavronoros, a mountain near Livitazza in Epirus.

29. EAGLE OWL. (*Bubo maximus*.)

I very often heard, and occasionally saw, birds of this species in Epirus and Albania proper, in which provinces it is common, and breeds. One of our party killed a fine specimen near Prevesa, on the Gulf of Arta, in March 1857. I shot a female near Butrinto in February 1858, and was in at the death of another near Santa Quaranta shortly afterwards. I was watching a pair of Bonelli's Eagles one day near Butrinto, when an Eagle Owl came flying past me in a much more hurried manner than is its wont, and took refuge in a thorn-bush about a gun-shot from where I stood. He had hardly reached this shelter before

⑥ a Perègrine Falcon stooped at him, and, just missing him, rose, and "made her point." I drove the Owl out, and I was witness of a beautiful flight across an open plain of considerable extent; the Falcon making repeated feints, the Owl flying low, and dodging round the scanty thorn-bushes, till he at length reached a hill-side thickly covered with wild olives, amongst which he plunged, and set his pursuer at defiance. The Albanian and Greek specimens of this Owl which I have examined struck me as much lighter-coloured and rather smaller than those from Spain, Sicily, France, Germany, and Norway.

30. SHORT-EARED OWL. (*Otus brachyotus*.)

I saw two of this species near Prevesa in March 1857; and two or three were brought into the Corfu market in the latter part of the same month. I killed one at Butrinto in February 1858. The Corfu bird-stuffer told me that this Owl occasionally visits the island in March in great numbers.

31. LITTLE OWL. (*Athene noctua*.)

I believe this species to be a summer visitor to Epirus. We found it nesting in the ruins of Nicopolis in March 1857, and at Santa Quaranta in May. It is rare in Corfu.

32. SCOPS EARED OWL. (*Scops zorca*.)

Very common in Corfu during the summer months, arriving about the beginning of April, and breeding in the old olive-groves, which, from that time till the middle of October, resound with their melancholy and monotonous cry. The favourite food of a Scops Owl which I kept alive at Corfu for some months was the Humming-bird Moth, which abounds in the island in August and September. I observed one of this species in the island as late as the 17th November, 1857. I was gravely assured by a Spanish lady that this species and the Barn Owl enter the chapels and churches in Andalusia to drink the oil in the lamps which are kept burning in the shrines of the saints, and that it behoved all good Christians to slay them whenever they found them, adding, "Son las gallinas del demonio, Señor."

33. ASH-COLOURED SHRIKE. (*Lanius excubitor*.)

I observed this bird once in Montenegro, in August 1857.

34. GREAT SOUTHERN SHRIKE. (*Lanius meridionalis*.)

I shot a specimen of this bird in the island of Corfu on the 29th April, 1857. It is far from common in these parts. The Corfu bird-stuffer assured me that my bird was the only one he had ever seen.

35. ROSE-BREASTED SHRIKE. (*Lanius minor*.)

A rare summer visitor to the island of Corfu, where I obtained three specimens in May 1858. Abundant in Montenegro in August.

36. RED-BACKED SHRIKE. (*Enneoctonus collaris*.)

Arrives in Corfu in small numbers in April, and remains to breed.

37. WOOD SHRIKE. (*Enneoctonus rufus*.)

Very abundant in all the islands in the summer months, arriving about the end of April, and breeding in the olive-groves.

38. RAVEN. (*Corvus corax*.)

Very common in Corfu and Epirus. A pair breed every year in the citadel rock of Corfu, and are annually robbed of their young by the soldiers. I observed small flocks of Ravens in September, haunting the Bay of Corfu, and particularly the island of Vido. I saw a Raven near Scutari, the capital of Albania proper, with white wings.

39. HOODED CROW. (*Corvus cornix*.)

An occasional winter visitor in Epirus, where I observed it near Prevesa, in March 1857. Common on the coasts of Albania proper in December; abundant in Montenegro in August. Apparently quite unknown in Corfu.

40. ROOK. (*Corvus frugilegus*.)

Arrives in Corfu and Epirus in immense numbers about the end of October, and disappears about the beginning of February.

41. JACKDAW. (*Corvus monedula*.)

Common in summer; in Epirus I have occasionally seen a single individual during the winter months.

42. MAGPIE. (*Pica melanoleuca*.)

Very common, and resident in Epirus and Corfu.

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43. COMMON JAY. (*Garrulus glandarius*.)

Abundant, and breeds in Epirus and Corfu. I never could discover *Garrulus melanocephalus* in these parts, though I fancied that I sometimes saw, in the thorn coverts of Butrinto, a Jay larger than the common species. I found a Jay's nest built in a ruined fort near Butrinto,—a very unusual locality, I fancy, for this peculiarly thicket-loving species.

44. ALPINE CHOUGH. (*Pyrrhocorax alpinus*.)

I only once observed a pair of this species in Epirus; this was in May 1857, when I was chamois-hunting in the Acroceranian Mountains, above Khimara, about forty miles north of Corfu. I have since had many opportunities of observing closely the habits of this very graceful bird, in the mountains of Nice and Piedmont. Often, when I have been crouched behind a rock waiting for a shot at chamois, they would settle on a point of rock or ice within a few yards of me, and hop fearlessly about, occasionally whistling and chattering, as if to inquire of each other what possible business brought me up to their haunts. I was on one occasion surrounded by a party of about a dozen of this species, which kept up an incessant noise for about half an hour, when one of them suddenly turned his head towards the sky, uttered a very peculiar croak, and the whole party immediately crouched close down on the rocks and snow. I looked up, and a Golden Eagle came whizzing past me with wings nearly closed, in pursuit, I think, of a Marmot: the Choughs immediately sneaked off, and paid me no more visits that day. I have seen a pair of these birds go through a sort of game of catchball with a small pebble, tossing it up from one to the other, and catching it in their bills. I have been informed on good authority that the Cornish Chough (*Fregilus graculus*) is not rare on Parnassus and the Pin-dus range, but I have never seen it in Turkey or Greece.

45. COMMON STARLING. (*Sturnus vulgaris*.)

This species visits Corfu and Epirus in October, and remains till about the middle of March. I observed immense flocks of Starlings near Port Platea in Acarnania in January 1858.

46. SARDINIAN STARLING. (*Sturnus unicolor*.)

I shot one of this species in Corfu in May 1857. This was the only instance in which I observed it in these parts.

47. ROSE-COLOURED PASTOR. (*Pastor roseus*.)

These beautiful birds arrive at Corfu, occasionally in great numbers, early in June, and haunt the orchards, feeding almost entirely on mulberries. In 1857 very few visited the island, and I only obtained one specimen; but in June 1858, the mulberry gardens were full of them for some days, and I obtained specimens in abundance and in all their different states of plumage. As far as my own observation goes, they are not easily approached, and have the same habit as the Golden Oriole of remaining motionless amongst the thick foliage, allowing the tree in which they are concealed to be shaken, or beaten, without stirring. These birds remain only a few days on the island, and are well known to the Corfiote peasantry by the name of "Mulberry-eaters," *σκαμνοφάγοι*.

48. COMMON HOUSE SPARROW. (*Passer domesticus*.)

Resident, but not very abundant in Corfu and Epirus.

49. TREE SPARROW. (*Passer montanus*.)

I once observed a pair of this species near Ptelia in January 1857.

50. HAWFINCH. (*Coccothraustes vulgaris*.)

Common in winter in the thorn-coverts of Epirus. I have observed old nests in that country which I am pretty sure belonged to this bird, though I never saw it or heard of its occurrence there during the summer months.

51. CHAFFINCH. (*Fringilla caelebs*.)

Common in winter in Corfu and Epirus, arriving in October and disappearing in February or March. The sexes appear to keep apart, and the females are by far the most numerous.

52. ROCK SPARROW. (*Petronia stulta*.)

I observed several of these birds in the Acroceraunian mountains in May 1857, and in Montenegro in August of the same year.

53. GREENFINCH. (*Coccothraustes chloris*.)
Resident and very common in Corfu and Epirus.
54. SISKIN. (*Chrysomitris spinus*.)
Very abundant in Epirus in winter.
55. CITRON FINCH. (*Fringilla citrinella*.)
Common in Corfu and Epirus in summer. I cannot positively state whether it leaves the island in winter, but it is certainly less numerous than during the summer.
56. COMMON LANNET. (*Linota cannabina*.)
Very common, and resident in Corfu and Epirus.
57. GOLDFINCH. (*Carduelis elegans*.)
Common, and breeds in Corfu. I have not noticed it on the mainland, except in winter; it is then very common.
58. BULLFINCH. (*Pyrrhula vulgaris*.)
A rare winter visitor to Corfu and Epirus. Common in December in Albania Proper, about the mouth of the River Drin, where I observed it feeding on the berries of the Privet.
59. COMMON CROSSBILL. (*Loxia curvirostra*.)
I saw a pair of this species in a cage at Corfu, which I was assured had been brought from the pine-forests of the Black Mountain in Cephalonia. It is decidedly a rare bird in Corfu, though the bird-stuffer assured me he had occasionally seen it.
60. GIRL BUNTING. (*Emberiza cirrus*.)
Resident, but not very abundant, in Corfu.
61. ORTOLAN BUNTING. (*Emberiza hortulana*.)
This Bunting arrives in Corfu in April, and remains to breed. It is rather common. I never observed it in winter.
62. FOOLISH BUNTING. (*Emberiza cia*.)
I noticed this species only once in these parts. This was a single bird, seen near Paganis in January 1857.
63. COMMON BUNTING. (*Emberiza miliaria*.)
Occurs sparingly in Corfu and Epirus in winter.
64. REED BUNTING. (*Emberiza schoeniclus*.)
Common in Epirus in winter, but less so than the next species.

65. MARSH BUNTING. (*Emberiza palustris*.)
Common in Corfu and Epirus in winter. A few remain to breed on the island.
66. BLACK-HEADED BUNTING. (*Emberiza melanocephala*.)
Arrives in Corfu and Epirus in great numbers in April, and remains to breed, disappearing in September; has an agreeable song. This bird is known in Corfu by the name of "Ortolano."
67. MISSEL THRUSH. (*Turdus viscivorus*.)
Not very common in Corfu and Epirus in the winter; more so in continental Greece.
68. FIELDFARE. (*Turdus pilaris*.)
I, on one occasion only, observed this species in these parts; this was near Kataito in Epirus, on the 23rd February, 1858.
69. SONG THRUSH. (*Turdus musicus*.)
Very common in winter in Corfu, Epirus, and Acarmania, arriving in October and disappearing in April; a few, I think, occasionally remain to breed in Epirus.
70. REDWING. (*Turdus iliacus*.)
I have observed this bird occasionally in Epirus during the winter months.
71. RING OUSEL. (*Turdus torquatus*.)
I saw one of this species near Scutari, in Albania, about the middle of August 1857.
72. BLACKBIRD. (*Turdus merula*.)
Abounds in Corfu, Epirus, and Albania, in winter. I imagine, as in the case of the Song Thrush, that a few pairs breed in Epirus.
73. BLUE ROCK THRUSH. (*Monticola cyaneus*.)
Resident, and very abundant in Corfu and Epirus, as in all parts of the Mediterranean shores which I have visited. A bird of this species, which I bought at Palermo, immediately attacked and devoured a Willow Wren which came on board our yacht in a gale off the south coast of Sicily in November 1856.
74. COMMON ROCK THRUSH. (*Monticola saxatilis*.)
Common in May 1857, among the Aeroceraunian moun-

tains, where I found the nests of this species, among *débris* and carried down by the melting of the snows, on Ischika, one of the highest points of that range. I have once or twice observed the Rock Thrush in the Island of Corfu, where it is highly prized as a singing bird.

75. COMMON WHEATEAR. (*Saxicola ananthe*.)

Arrives in Epirus in March; common during the summer months.

76. RUSSET WHEATEAR. (*Saxicola stapazina*.)

More abundant than the preceding species in Epirus during the summer.

77. EARED WHEATEAR. (*Saxicola aurita*.)

This is the least common of the three species of Wheatear that I have observed in these parts. It arrives at the same time as the preceding.

Eastern Greece summer

78. WHINCHAT. (*Pratincola rubetra*.)

79. STONE-CHAT. (*Pratincola rubicola*.)

Both these species are common in summer, and I have occasionally observed the latter in winter, in Corfu and Epirus.

(4)

80. ALPINE ACCENTOR. (*Accentor alpinus*.)

Common in the Acroceraunian mountains in May 1857.

[To be continued.]

XVI.—*The Ornithology of Northern Celebes.*

By ALFRED RUSSEL WALLACE*.

I HAVE just returned from a three months' exploration of Menado and the surrounding district of Minahassa, forming the north-eastern extremity of Celebes. My collection of birds is not a very extensive one, but it comprises some very interesting species, and I have made some observations on habits and economy which I think will be interesting to your readers.

I first visited the most elevated district, taking up my residence in a village at an elevation of 3500 feet. The weather, however,

* Communicated in a letter from Mr. Wallace to the Editor.

as their feathers readily fall off, and their skins are tender and easily torn.

Length $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Irides reddish; legs and feet pale flesh-colour; upper surface of body pale brown, each feather tipped with darker, forming transverse bars; chin and breast dove-colour, feathers tipped with darker; belly buff, feathers with darker tips; six outer tail-feathers black, with white tips; two next black, with basal part of the shaft red; centre feathers brown; wing-feathers rich chestnut-red, edged with blackish-brown.

[To be continued.]

XXVII.—Notes on Birds observed in the Ionian Islands, and the Provinces of Albania proper, Epirus, Acarnania, and Montenegro. By the Hon. THOMAS L. POWYS, F.Z.S. (Part III.)

[Continued from page 140.]

81. HEDGE SPARROW. (*Accentor modularis*.)

Very common in Corfu in winter. I have observed one or two individuals during the summer months, and seen some eggs (which I believe belonged to this species) taken in Epirus. (2)

82. ROBIN REDBREAST. (*Sylvia rubecula*.)

Arrives in Corfu in great numbers about the end of October, and disappears in March. Not very abundant on the mainland.

83. BLUE-THROATED WARBLER. (*Sylvia cyanecula*.)

I only once saw a bird of this species in these parts; this was in the V. di Roppa, in Corfu, in April 1857.

84. COMMON REDSTART. (*Sylvia phoenicea*.)

Arrives in March in small numbers, remaining, I think, only a few days.

85. BLACK REDSTART. (*Sylvia tithys*.)

Common in Corfu and Epirus in winter. A few remain to breed in the island. (2)

86. WHITE WAGTAIL. (*Motacilla alba*.)

Common, and resident in Corfu; I have not observed it on the mainland except during the winter months. Epirus

87. GREY WAGTAIL. (*Motacilla boarula.*)

Common in winter in Corfu and Epirus.

88. GREY-HEADED WAGTAIL. (*Motacilla cinereocapilla.*)

Arrives in great numbers in Corfu about the middle of April, at which season it is to be found in small flocks in all the low meadows and maize-fields of the island. I never could find a nest of this species, though I have observed a few pairs during the whole summer.

probably breeding

89. BLACK-HEADED WAGTAIL. (*Motacilla melanocephala.*)

Arrives with the above species, but in much smaller numbers; and only remains for a few days. The locality in which I have most frequently observed this bird was the marsh at the mouth of the Kataito river, near Butrinto in Epirus. They appear to be more arboreal in their habits than the other Wagtails, and have a very distinct and peculiar note. The Corfu bird-stuffer told me, on my showing him one of this species, that he had never before observed it, and insisted that it was only a variety of the above; but there are slight differences of habits, flights, &c., which at once distinguish it from that bird, were the plumage not at once sufficient to settle the question. To myself this species appears to resemble *Motacilla rayi* (which I have never observed in these parts) in all particulars more than any other of its congeners.

April

90. ROCK PIPIT. (*Anthus rupestris.*)

Common on the coasts of Epirus and Corfu.

91. MEADOW PIPIT. (*Anthus pratensis.*)

Very common in Corfu and Epirus in winter. A few are to be seen in the island at all seasons.

92. TREE PIPIT. (*Anthus arboreus.*)

Not common. I have now and then observed it in Corfu during the winter.

93. SKYLARK. (*Alauda arvensis.*)

Common in Corfu and Epirus in winter.

94. WOODLARK. (*Alauda arborea.*)

Common in winter in Corfu. A few remain to breed in the island.

95. CRESTED LARK. (*Galerida cristata*.)
Very common in all seasons in Corfu and Epirus.
96. CALANDRA LARK. (*Alauda calandra*.)
A few of this species are to be observed in summer in Corfu where they breed. I have never observed this bird on the main land.
97. SHORT-TOED LARK. (*Alauda brachydactyla*.)
Common in winter in Corfu and Epirus.
98. WHITE-NECKED FLYCATCHER. (*Muscicapa albicollis*.)
I observed several of these birds in May 1857 near Pelleka, in the island of Corfu.
99. SPOTTED FLYCATCHER. (*Muscicapa grisola*.)
Common in summer in Corfu and Epirus.
100. THRUSH WARBLER. (*Sylvia turdoides*.)
Common, and resident in Corfu and Epirus.
101. RUFOUS SEDGE WARBLER. (*Sylvia galactodes*.)
I twice observed this species in these parts; once in the island of Corfu, on which occasion a friend killed a fine specimen; and a few weeks afterwards near Kataito, in Epirus, where I watched a pair for some time, but refrained from shooting them, as my gun was loaded with large shot.
102. NIGHTINGALE. (*Sylvia luscinia*.)
Very common in Corfu and all parts of the mainland that I have visited during the summer; at Delvino especially, in May 1857, we could hardly sleep for the multitude of Nightingales that were singing on the banks of a little stream that ran under the windows of the house in which we lodged.
103. OLIVE-GROVE WARBLER. (*Sylvia olivetorum*.)
I shot one of this species near Corfu in April 1857, and have seen the skin of another from Zante.
104. COMMON WHITETHROAT. (*Sylvia cinerea*.)
I have occasionally observed this bird in Corfu in September and October.

105. LESSER WHITETHROAT. (*Sylvia curruca.*)

I shot one of this species in Corfu in September 1857. This is the only instance in which it came under my notice in these parts.

106. SUBALPINE WARBLER. (*Sylvia subalpina.*)

A beautiful specimen of this pretty little bird was brought to me by one of my yacht's crew, who had picked it up close to the lighthouse of Santa Maura, on the 24th of March, 1857. I have occasionally noticed this species in Epirus in February and March. (2)

107. BLACK-HEADED WARBLER. (*Sylvia melanocephala.*)

Very common, and resident in Corfu and Epirus. I have found the nest of this species on the citadel rock of Corfu. (3)

108. ORPHEAN WARBLER. (*Sylvia orphea.*)

Occasionally seen in spring, but decidedly not common in Corfu.

109. GARDEN WARBLER. (*Sylvia hortensis.*)

I found a nest of this bird, containing eggs, near Khimàra in Epirus, in May 1857. I do not remember to have noticed it in these parts on any other occasion.

110. WILLOW WREN. (*Phylloscopus trochilus.*)

I have occasionally seen this species in winter in the gardens in the vicinity of Corfu.

111. CHIFF-CHAFF. (*Phylloscopus rufus.*)

Common in Epirus in spring and summer. I have occasionally heard it in sunny weather in December.

112. WOOD WREN. (*Phylloscopus sibilatrix.*)

I picked up one of this species on the beach near Govino, in the island of Corfu, in March 1857. It is decidedly far from common in Corfu and Epirus.

113. SOUTHERN WILLOW WREN ?

I have often seen, and once or twice killed, a Willow Wren in Epirus in winter, which I believe to be the Hypolais salicaria of Brehm. It certainly does not belong to any of the three preceding species. I always found a few of these birds among the ?

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2.45 → 9 6/10 5/10

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tamarisks at the mouth of the Kataito river in Epirus, in December and January.

114. AQUATIC WARBLER. (*Calamodyta aquatica*.)

This species is to be found in considerable numbers, for a few days about the beginning of May, on the banks of a fecdy pond near Govino, about seven miles from Corfu. I never noticed it in any other locality, either in Corfu or on the mainland; but from the 2nd and 3rd till the 8th or 10th of May, 1857 and 1858, in the above-mentioned spot, it was very abundant. I could not observe a single individual after the 10th instant in either year, and searched in vain for their nest. This species is very common at Nice in August and September. (2)

115. CETTI'S WARBLER. (*Calamodyta cetti*.)

This species occurs sparingly in Corfu in April. I do not think that it remains to breed.

116. FANTAIL WARBLER. (*Calamodyta cisticola*.)

Very common, and resident in Corfu and Epirus.

117. REED WARBLER. (*Calamodyta strepera*.)

Common in winter in Epirus and Acarmania.

118. COMMON WREN. (*Troglodytes europæus*.)

Common, and resident in Epirus. I have not noticed it in the island of Corfu, except during the winter.

119. SYRIAN NUTHATCH. (*Sitta syriaca*.)

Common in certain suitable localities in Epirus, particularly amongst the stony and precipitous hills near Santa Quaranta, where I have frequently observed it in small parties of five or six, flitting about and busily examining the holes and crevices of the rocks. It is a lively and restless bird, and has a note entirely different from that of the Common Nuthatch (*Sitta cæsia*). I never observed this bird to perch on a tree or shrub, but almost invariably found them on the most exposed and barren hill-sides.

120. GREAT TITMOUSE. (*Parus major*.)

Occasionally seen in Corfu and Epirus in winter.

121. MARSH TITMOUSE. (*Parus palustris*.)

Common, and I believe resident in Epirus.

122. COLE TITMOUSE. (*Parus ater.*)

Occasionally seen in Corfu in winter.

123. BLUE TITMOUSE. (*Parus caeruleus.*)

Common, and resident in Corfu and Epirus.

124. LONG-TAILED TITMOUSE. (*Parus caudatus.*)

Common in winter in Epirus.

125. BEARDED TITMOUSE. (*Parus biarmicus.*)

I observed several of this species about the banks of the Lake of Scutari in Albania proper in August 1857.

126. PENDULINE TITMOUSE. (*Parus pendulinus.*)

Common in the great marshes at the mouth of the Acheron in Epirus in winter, and I believe resident there. It is curious, that, though I am acquainted with many apparently equally suitable haunts for this species in Epirus, the above is the only locality in that country in which I have ever seen or heard of it.

127. GOLDEN-CRESTED WREN. (*Regulus cristatus.*)

Common in the evergreen coverts of Epirus in winter.

128. DIPPER. (*Cinclus aquaticus.*)

Common on the mountain streams of Albania and Epirus.

129. GOLDEN ORIOLE. (*Oriolus galbula.*)

This species arrives in Corfu and Epirus about the middle of April, and is eagerly sought after by the 'cacciatori' for the market. I think very few remain to breed in the island; but I have often observed them on the mainland in May and June. I always found it very difficult to get a shot at these birds; for immediately they discover that they are pursued, they ensconce themselves in the thickest covert at hand, and nothing will induce them to quit it. They have, besides the musical whistle from which they take their French, Italian, Spanish, and Greek name, a very peculiar guttural chatter, which I have often heard within a few yards, though I could not see the bird, or force it to take wing. In September they are very abundant in the gardens of Corfu, and are very fat, and delicious eating. I never could obtain an adult specimen at that season; though I have seen dozens hanging up in the market, they were all birds

12.03
of the year. I saw several of this species in Montenegro in August 1857.

130. HOUSE SWALLOW. (*Hirundo rustica*.)

Very common in summer in Corfu and Epirus.

131. COMMON MARTIN. (*Hirundo urbica*.)

Common in summer in Corfu and Epirus.

132. SAND MARTIN. (*Hirundo riparia*.)

Not very common in Epirus in summer.

133. ROCK SWALLOW. (*Hirundo rupestris*.)

Common, and resident in Epirus, haunting the high and precipitous mountains of the interior in summer, and coming down to the coast during the winter months.

134. COMMON SWIFT. (*Cypselus apus*.)

Common in Corfu in summer, but less so than the next species.

135. ALPINE SWIFT. (*Cypselus melba*.)

Arrives in May in great numbers in Corfu, and remains till the end of September. Several pairs breed annually in the citadel rock.

136. CUCKOO. (*Cuculus canorus*.)

(3) Arrives in Corfu in small numbers in April, and remains a few days; occasionally seen on its return south in the early part of September. I once saw a Cuckoo on the mainland in July.

137. BLACK WOODPECKER. (*Picus martius*.)

I saw two specimens of this Woodpecker at Santa Maura, which I was assured had been killed on the Black Mountain of Cephalonia. I caught a glimpse of a bird, which I believe to have been one of this species, in a wood near the mouth of the river Drin, in December 1857.

138. WHITE-RUMPED WOODPECKER. (*Picus leucorotus*.)

I killed two specimens of this bird in the woods about Bu-trinto, in the winter. It is not uncommon, but very wary, and difficult to shoot. Its note and general habits very much resemble those of *Picus major*.

12.22
139. LITTLE SPOTTED WOODPECKER. (*Picus minor.*)

Common in winter in the woods of Epirus.

140. GREEN WOODPECKER. (*Gecinus viridis.*)

I saw a Green Woodpecker near the mouth of the Drin in December 1857. This is the only instance in which this species came under my observation in these parts.

141. GREY-HEADED GREEN WOODPECKER. (*Gecinus canus.*)

I saw a fine specimen of this bird near Cettinje, in Montenegro, in August 1857; he settled on a tree close to me, and I watched him for several minutes, much regretting that I had not a gun.

142. WRYNECK. (*Yunx torquilla.*)Not very common. I only twice observed it in Epirus; the first time in the great marsh at Phanari, in March 1857, and again near Kinouria, at the head of the Lake of Butrinto, in December of the same year. On the first occasion I mistook it for *Sylvia nisoria*, and pursued it through dense thickets of Tamarisk, till at last I succeeded in shooting it, and was greatly disappointed when it turned out to be nothing but a "Cuckoo's mate."143. ROLLER. (*Coracias garrula.*)Arrives in great numbers in Corfu about the middle of April; it only remains for a few days in the island, but breeds on the mainland. I found a nest in the walls of a ruined house at Delvino, in May 1857. The birds had quite lost their usual timidity, and flew round my head chattering and screaming as I approached the nest, which I suspect was an old one of some other bird. This species is known to the *cacciatori* as '*Corvo marino*,' and among the Greek peasantry as 'Αλκοκορώνη. I discovered another nest, in June 1857, in the banks of the Kataito River, near the village of Mursyah. In this instance, the nest was in a hole in the bank, and consisted of a few twigs, carelessly put together.144. COMMON BEE-EATER. (*Merops apiaster.*)

Arrives in Corfu and Epirus in great numbers in April, and breeds in the latter country on the banks of the Kataito River, near Mursyah, and many other similar localities. In all the

12.48

holes that we examined, the eggs were laid on the bare sand, without any attempt at a nest. I several times observed three, and once or twice four birds fly from the same hole. These birds leave the country as soon as the young are able to fly. I have never seen them later than the beginning of August. I observed also, in August 1858, on the banks of the Guadalquivir, near San Juan de Alfarache, where there is a large colony of this species, that, although the banks were mined in every direction, and exhibited signs of recent occupation, not a Bee-eater was to be seen.

145. COMMON KINGFISHER. (*Alcedo ispida.*)

Very abundant, and resident in Corfu and Epirus.

146. HOOPOE. (*Upupa epops.*)

Very common in summer in Epirus, arriving about the 20th March, and leaving the country in September. I do not think that the Hoopoe breeds in the island of Corfu, though it is common there in March and August. I once found a nest of this bird in Epirus on the ground, under a large boulder on a stony hill-side, but the usual site for it in that country appears to be the hole of a tree.

147. COMMON NIGHTJAR. (*Caprimulgus europæus.*)

(3) Arrives in small numbers in Corfu and Epirus in April, but does not, I think, remain to breed. I found a small party of Nightjars at Paganía in September 1857.

148. RINGDOVE. (*Columba palumbus.*)

(2) I noticed very large flocks of Wood-pigeons near Phanari, in the plains through which the Acheron runs. This was in March 1857. I have occasionally seen a few in different parts of Epirus during the winter months, but it is not abundant in that province. I never saw it in Corfu.

149. STOCK-DOVE. (*Columba anas.*)

(3) Common about the shores of the Gulf of Arta in March 1857. I have seen single birds at all seasons of the year near Butrinto and Kataito, and once or twice in the island of Corfu.

150. ROCK-DOVE. (*Columba livia.*)

Very common, and resident on the coasts of Albania, Epirus,

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and Corfu. Near the mouth of the river Kalamo these birds breed on the bare rocks, after the manner of some of the Gulls. On the peninsula of Pagania there is a curious natural pit, some 60 or 70 feet in depth, frequented by this species in great numbers. In this, my servant (who was once lowered into it by a rope, for the purpose of forcing out the doves) had an encounter with a wild cat, which at last retreated into a side gallery and was lost sight of. On throwing stones down this pit, a dozen or two of Doves, Blue Thrushes, Blackbirds, Little Owls, and Nuthatches (*Sitta syriaca*) would often dash out in confusion, with now and then a large Bat; and on one occasion a Peregrine Falcon. There are small colonies of Rock-doves in many parts of the coast of the island of Corfu, particularly at Paleocastrizza and near Porto Serpente.

151. TURTLE-DOVE. (*Columba turtur*.)

Arrives in Corfu and Epirus early in April in great numbers, and remains to breed, disappearing about the end of August. (2)

152. COMMON PHEASANT. (*Phasianus colchicus*.)

The only localities in which I have myself seen Pheasants in these parts, were, once on the Luro River, near Prevesa, in March 1857, on which occasion I only saw one, the bird having never previously been met with in that part of the country; and again, in December of the same year, in the forests near the mouth of the river Drin, in Albania, where it is comparatively common, and where several fell to our guns. In this latter locality, the Pheasant's habitat seems to be confined to a radius of from twenty to thirty miles to the north, east, and south of the town of Alessio,—a district for the most part densely wooded, and well watered, with occasional tracts of cultivated ground, Indian Corn being apparently the principal produce, and forming, with the berries of the Privet (which abounds throughout Albania), the chief food of the present species. We heard many more Pheasants than we saw, as the woods were thick and of great extent, our dogs wild, and we lost a great deal of time in making circuits to cross or avoid the numerous small but deep streams which intersect the country in every direction. This species is particularly abundant on the shores of the Gulf of (2)

13.14
Salonica, about the mouth of the river Vardar; and I have been informed, on good authority, that Pheasants are also to be found in the woods of Vhrakori in Aetolia, about midway between the Gulfs of Lepanto and Arta. (3)

153. GREEK PARTRIDGE. (*Perdix græca*.)

This is the Common Partridge of Epirus and the Ionian Islands; it is not very abundant in Corfu, where it is only to be met with on the ridge of San Salvador. The Greek Partridge haunts the stony hill-sides,—never, as far as my own observation goes, descending to the plain. It is not easy to make a good bag of these birds, even in localities where they are numerous, as the coveys disperse on being disturbed; and on alighting, each bird takes a line of its own, and sets off running to the nearest covert, which in these parts generally consists of thick evergreen scrub, from which it is very difficult to flush them. In the Ionian Islands they are most abundant in Cephalonia, Santa Maura, Kalamo, Petala, Arkudi, and Meganisi. The flesh of this species is, to my taste, far superior to that of either of its congeners, *P. rubra* or *P. petrosa*. 3-8

154. GREY PARTRIDGE. (*Perdix cinerea*.)

This species is common in the cultivated plains of Albania proper, in which provinces I have seen and shot it near Antivari. In Epirus it is found in considerable numbers near Joannina, and in the plains of Arta. I have also heard of its occurrence in the neighbourhood of Aylona, about eighty miles north of the island of Corfu. (2)

155. QUAIL. (*Coturnix vulgaris*.)

A few Quails remain the whole year in Corfu and Epirus; but great numbers arrive every year in April, and remain for a few days. On the little island of Pano especially, they sometimes at that season alight in incredible numbers, often only remaining a single night. I have occasionally met with good sport at Quails in the maize-fields of Epirus in September; these were chiefly young birds that had been bred in the country. A few are always to be found in winter on the grassy hills of the mainland opposite to Corfu, particularly on those near the little harbour of Pagania. (2) spring 3 4 5

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156. PIN-TAILED SAND-GROUSE. (*Pterodes alchata*.)

Three of this species flew across our bows towards the east, as I was going from Corfu to Malta, on board H.M.S. Coquette, on the 1st August, 1858. We had just sighted Sicily when they passed us. I have never seen or heard of the occurrence of Sand-grouse in any part of Greece or European Turkey.

157. GREAT BUSTARD. (*Otis tarda*.)

A Great Bustard flew over my head one day in February 1858, as I was chasing Grebes in the Bay of Butrinto. This is the only occasion on which I saw this species in these parts; but I was shown some of the feathers of one which had been killed in Acarnania in March 1857; and in the following winter several were killed near Cape Papas, in the Morca, where they are not uncommon. Great numbers were brought into Athens in January 1858. The Great Bustard breeds in the Morea, in the vicinity of Tripolitza.

158. LITTLE BUSTARD. (*Otis tetrax*.)

I saw a Little Bustard in the island of Corfu in December 1856, and two more near Livitazza in Epirus in March 1858. It is far from common in these parts. I only saw one freshly killed specimen during my stay amongst Greek seas, which was shot at Livitazza in January 1857, by an officer of the garrison of Corfu. The bird-stuffer had never before seen a specimen.

159. COMMON PRATINCOLE. (*Glareola pratincola*.)

Arrives in Corfu and Epirus in considerable numbers in April, and remains a few weeks in the country. I have found that, though these birds are not easy to approach by walking straight at them, they will squat, if one makes a circuit round them, gradually lessening the distance, and will allow themselves to be nearly trodden upon before taking wing. Large numbers frequent the race-course at Corfu in April. The Corfiote name for this species is "*Pernice di mare*." The food of the Pratincole appears to consist almost exclusively of various species of beetles.

13.20
of the lower part of their belly, and gradually lowering themselves till their breasts touch the ground, the male bird of each pair standing upright alongside of the female. A Crested Cormorant makes a nest composed of mud and sea-weed, and lay indiscriminately among these Penguins. I was once amused to see three of the Cormorants attack the nest of an absent Penguin and steal nearly the whole of it, adding it to their own. As soon, however, as the proprietor returned, they left off, and the latter did not appear to take any notice of the robbery that had been committed. These Cormorants lay three eggs, about the middle of November. Both *Aptenodytes chrysocome* and *Eudyptes papua* suffer much from the depredations of a Skua Gull (*Lestris antarctica*), which is always on the watch to carry away their eggs; consequently the ground near their rookeries is covered with egg-shells. *Lestris antarctica* breeds contiguously to the Penguin rookeries; but as they do not lay till the end of November or beginning of December (I saw young ones and eggs on the 15th of December), they cannot feed their young on Penguins' eggs, as the latter have all been hatched previously to this: perhaps they steal the young ones.

I have now to remark upon another Penguin which breeds among the Rock-hoppers: this bird is called in the Falkland Islands the Maccaroni Penguin; its technical name I do not know*. It has an orange-coloured crest. In a rookery of Rock-hoppers in the North Camp, I counted fifteen of them among, perhaps, twenty thousand of *Aptenodytes chrysocome*. They only lay one egg to my knowledge; at least, I took one egg from under nine different birds, and many of them were sat upon. They come up and lay at the same time as *Aptenodytes chrysocome*.

XLIV.—Notes on Birds observed in the Ionian Islands, and the Provinces of Albania proper, Epirus, Acarnania, and Montenegro. By the Hon. THOMAS L. POWYS, F.Z.S. (Part IV.)

[Concluded from page 239.]

160. COMMON THICK-KNEE. (*Eidienemus crepitans*.)

Occasionally visits Corfu and Epirus in April and May.

* Mr. Tristram has received from Capt. Abbott skins of this fourth species, which he informs us is *Eudyptes chrysolophus*, Brandt.—ED.

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observed in the Ionian Islands, &c.

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161. GOLDEN PLOVER. (*Charadrius plumialis*)
Common in severe weather in Corfu and Epirus.

162. RINGED PLOVER. (*Charadrius hiaticula*)
I observed this species occasionally at Butrinto in February and March.

163. LITTLE RINGED PLOVER. (*Charadrius minor*)
Tolerably common in Corfu in April and May, particularly in the Val di Corissia and at Potamo, only remaining a few days in the island. (2)

164. KENTISH PLOVER. (*Charadrius cantianus*)
Common in Corfu and all suitable localities in Epirus during the winter months, disappearing about the middle of March.

165. PEEWIT. (*Vanellus cristatus*)
Very abundant throughout the islands and mainland in winter. I never saw one of this species later than the beginning of March in these countries.

2
166. GREY PLOVER. (*Squatarola helvetica*)
I occasionally saw this species in Corfu and Epirus, in January, February, and March 1857. Some specimens killed in the island in the latter month were in full breeding plumage. I never saw the Grey Plover in large troops, but almost invariably in pairs, or small parties of four or five individuals. This bird has a curious habit, which I do not recollect to have seen mentioned in any work on ornithology, of throwing somersaults in the air, in the same manner as the Tumbler Pigeon and Roller. I noticed this particularly in March 1857, on the Gulf of Arta, about the mouth of the Luro river, where a few of this species are generally to be seen.

167. TURNSTONE. (*Stropsilas interpres*)
A large flock of Turnstones flew past the ship as we were going to Antivari, in December 1857, on board H.M.S. Ariel. I never observed this species in Greek waters on any other occasion.

168. OYSTER-CATCHER. (*Hematopus ostralegus*)
Common on the shores of Corfu and Epirus for a few weeks in March and April.

169. WOODCOCK. (*Scolopax rusticola*.)

So much has been said and written concerning the abundance of this species in these countries, that it is unnecessary for me to add to the mass of information already in print on the subject but a few words on my own experience may not be out of place here. That part of the mainland which lies opposite to the island of Corfu, and which is usually called Albania, is, properly speaking, Epirus, of which Joannina is the capital, Albania proper being the contiguous province to the north. The country near the coast consists for the most part of rocky hills of moderate elevation, thickly overgrown in most places with long grass and various species of evergreen scrub and thorn bushes. The valleys are marshy, cultivated in some parts, and in others more or less covered with woods of alder, poplar, oak, plane, sycamore, willow, &c., and in many places a thick undergrowth of black-thorn, briars, sedge, reeds, &c.; the fields are also dotted with patches of tamarisk, thorn, and briars, and intersected by numerous small streams. The Woodcocks generally begin to arrive about the 10th of November, their numbers depending on the state of the weather, and in a good season are to be found in abundance from that time till the 15th of March. I arrived at Corfu on the 24th of December, 1856; the weather was then, and had been for some weeks, very stormy and unsettled; heavy rains had turned the valleys into lakes, and everyone told us that Woodcocks were not to be found. For some days the weather was so bad that it was useless to attempt an expedition to the mainland, and we contented ourselves with wandering about the beautiful arbutus-coverts of the island, occasionally finding a Snipe or two in the low grounds, and hearing of, but very seldom seeing, a Woodcock. At last we could stand it no longer, but sailed about one A.M., on the 5th of January, from Corfu, and on awaking about seven A.M. found ourselves snugly at anchor in the well-known bay of Butrinto. We went ashore, and waded through about two miles of thorn-covert, and had what appeared to me very fair sport, till the rain came down in torrents, and drove us back to our yacht. We were three guns, and our bag at one P.M. contained 21 Woodcocks, 2 Snipes, 1 Water Rail, 1 Little Gull, 1 Common Buzzard, 1 Marsh Harrier, 3 Sparrow-

hawks, 1 Barred Woodpecker, and 1 Red-crested Whistling Duck. My companions complained bitterly, saying that it was not worth the trouble of coming over for such a paltry bag, and vowing that they would put up their guns till the weather improved. Now it struck me that the Woodcocks had been flooded out of the wood which we had beaten, and would probably be found on the hills in thicker covert, where they could avoid the drip of the trees; and so it proved, as on the next expedition in which I joined, on which occasion we were bent on the slaughter of Wild Boars and Roedeer, we flushed great numbers of Woodcocks on the hill-sides, in the steepest places and most impenetrable thickets. Forty and fifty couple of Woodcocks had been killed in November 1856, on several occasions, by two guns. The weather improved about the beginning of February 1857, and the Cocks came down again into the valleys, where we allowed them but little peace, and used to bag from ten to fifteen couple frequently, till the end of March, when they left the country. To myself, the great charm of shooting in these countries consists in the variety of birds to be observed, and the power of roaming about in every direction, through a beautiful country, without let or hindrance. (To show in some degree the variety of sport to be met with, I subjoin a few extracts from my game-book. Our party consisted generally of myself and two friends. February 8th, 1857, 24 Woodcocks, 1 Hare, 2 Bitterns, 1 Marten Cat;—9th, 20 Woodcocks, 2 Golden-eyes, 1 Snipe;—10th, 38 Woodcocks, 1 Hare, 4 Snipes;—26th, 14 Woodcocks, 5 Teal, 3 Snipes, 1 Hare, 1 Water Rail;—March 5th, 31 Woodcocks, 1 Otter, 1 *Picus leucnatus*;—11th, 2 Woodcocks, 1 Duck, 1 Teal, 1 Garganey, 1 Snipe.

The above sport, with the exception of the 10th of February, occurred in the valley of Vrana, from the anchorages of Butrinto, Kataito, and Paganja: on the 10th of February we shot from Santa Quaranta. In the Gulf of Arta, from about the 14th till the 18th of March, our party of five bagged 204 head, including 2 Roedeer, about 80 Woodcocks, 12 Hares, Wild Ducks, Shovellers, Teal, Garganey, 3 Wood Pigeons, Gadwall, Pochard, Tufted Duck, 1 Solitary Snipe, Common and Jack Snipes, Bitterns, Grey Plover, Water Rails, Spotted Rails, Black-tailed

Godwits, Coots, Grebes, 1 Eagle-Owl, 1 Short-eared Owl, Green-shanks, Redshanks, and Dunlin. I only quote the above extracts to show the sort of sport to be met with in a season which I was assured was the worst for Woodcocks in the recollection of "the oldest inhabitant."

The next season, a very severe one, was much better, but was not reckoned anything very remarkable. My companion and I then devoted our energies chiefly to the pursuit of wild-fowl, and met with tolerable success. To return to the habits of what I once heard an auctioneer term "that popular bird the Woodcock" (he was offering its eggs for sale), it arrives in Corfu generally a week before it makes its appearance on the mainland, and fair sport may there be met with for a few days, in the arbutus-coverts of Strangili, Govino, and Mesonghi. I must now wind up my long digression from the "scientific descriptions of birds," to which we have been informed the 'Ibis' is chiefly devoted, and in conclusion strongly recommend any lover of sport, for its own sake, to spend a winter in Greek waters, and in wet weather to try the hills about Butrinto, Kataito, and Tre Scoglie; in bright frosts, the old woods in the valley of Vrana, from Butrinto to Pagania; and in all weathers, Santa Quaranta, Phanari, and the Gulf of Arta; to wear the strongest jean he can procure, lined with flannel; and, above all, to be uniformly courteous and civil to the natives, who can, and occasionally will be of great service to those who treat them kindly.

170. SOLITARY SNIPE. (*Scolopax major*.)

Arrives in Corfu and Epirus in small numbers in March, remaining about a month in the low-lying maize-fields and vineyards; a few are always to be met with at that season in the Val di Roppa. I have occasionally killed this species in Epirus in September.

171. COMMON SNIPE. (*Scolopax gallinago*.)

Very common in all the marshes of the mainland and the islands, from September till the end of March. In the months of October and November 1857, it was no unusual occurrence for two good shots to bag from fifty up to a hundred couple

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of Snipes in two days' shooting, in the great marshes of Santa Quaranta. Eighty couple of Snipes were killed in one day, some years ago, at Butrinto, by a gentleman well known at Corfu as the keenest of sportsmen and one of the best of shots. From ten to twenty couple may often be killed in the Val di Roppa, about seven miles from the town of Corfu.

172. JACK SNIFE. (*Scolopax gallinula*.)

Common, but less so, in proportion to the number of the preceding species, than in any country I know.

173. BLACK-TAILED GODWIT. (*Limosa melanura*.)

Occurs sparingly in winter. More common on the Gulf of Arta than in any other locality with which I am acquainted.

174. BAR-TAILED GODWIT. (*Limosa rufa*.)

Not common; occasionally seen in September at Butrinto.

175. PIGMY CURLEW. (*Tringa subarquata*.)

Occurs at Corfu, occasionally in great numbers, and generally in full breeding plumage, about the end of May.

176. DUNLIN. (*Tringa alpina*.)

Occurs sparingly in winter in Epirus and the islands.

177. LITTLE STINT. (*Tringa minuta*.)

Rather common in April and May, particularly on the race-course of Corfu, which is an excellent locality for birds of many species at various seasons. I never shot a specimen of *Tringa temminckii* in this part of the world; but I feel no doubt about having once or twice seen it in company with the present species, on the race-course above-mentioned.

178. SANDERLING. (*Calidris arenaria*.)

Rare; the bird-stuffer brought me three specimens in the spring of 1858, to ask what they were. These were the only birds of this species that came under my observation during my stay at Corfu.

179. RUPP. (*Machetes pignar*.)

In large flocks on the spit of low land opposite Prevesa, at the entrance of the Gulf of Arta, in March 1857, in company with the Black-tailed Godwits. Not uncommon in Corfu at the same

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season. These birds, although usually rather difficult of approach, may be obtained in great numbers by tying a bright-coloured handkerchief on to a stick, and concealing oneself near it. Bright colour seems to have some invincible attraction for them, and they will fly round, and dart down at the object of their curiosity, regardless of repeated shots, and the consequent diminution of their numbers.

180. COMMON SANDPIPER. (*Tringoides hypoleuca.*)

2 Common at almost all seasons on the rocky parts of the coasts of Epirus and Corfu.

181. GREENSHANK. (*Totanus glottis.*)

Occurs in small numbers in Epirus and Corfu in winter and early spring.

182. MARSH SANDPIPER. (*Totanus stagnatilis.*)

Abundant in March, April, and the early part of May, on the race-course of Corfu. The habits of this species closely resemble those of the Green Sandpiper (*Totanus ochropus*), but it is less shy, and not so clamorous. I have had excellent opportunities of observing closely the habits of this and many other allied species on the race-course, having sometimes seen within a few yards of the spot on which I lay hidden, *Totanus glottis*, *T. stagnatilis*, *T. glareola*, *T. ochropus*, *Himantopus melanopterus*, *Tringa minuta*, *Numenius phaeopus*, and *Glareola pratincola*.

183. WOOD SANDPIPER. (*Totanus glareola.*)

Common, but less so than the above, at the same season, and in the same locality.

184. GREEN SANDPIPER. (*Totanus ochropus.*)

Common from the beginning of September till the end of May, and occasionally seen in June and July in Corfu and Epirus. This and the following species are great enemies to the snipe-shooter, as they are for ever flying round the marshes, and indulging in shrill screams and extraordinary aerial evolutions, thereby alarming many an honest *Scolopax* who is digesting his worms of the previous night, and would, without the uncalled-for interference of these noisy cousins, fall a prey to the sportsman.

185. REDSHANK. (*Totanus calidris.*)

A great deal too common, for the reasons mentioned above, in winter and early spring, in Corfu and Epirus.

186. CURLEW. (*Numenius arquatus.*)

Very abundant from October till April; a few may be occasionally observed at all seasons. I have several times seen Curlews at Corfu, exactly like the common species in plumage, weight, and all other respects, except the bill, which was from half an inch to two inches longer than usual. As far as I could ascertain, this difference had no reference to sex or age; the long-bills and short-bills flocked together, and had precisely the same habits. I never observed this difference in any other part of the world, though the Curlew has always been a favourite object of pursuit with me, and a great many have consequently passed through my hands.

187. WHIMBREL. (*Numenius phaopus.*)

Occurs sparingly in April and September in Corfu and Epirus.

188. SLENDER-BILLED CURLEW. (*Numenius tenuirostris.*)

Two specimens only of this bird came under my observation at Corfu; both were killed on the race-course in September 1857. I obtained a good specimen at Nice in the winter of 1858.

189. AVOCET. (*Recurvirostra avocetta.*)

I was shown a specimen of this bird in December 1856, which had been killed a few days previously at Butrinto, and I once or twice heard of others, but never saw one alive myself in these parts.

190. BLACK-WINGED STILT. (*Himantopus melanopterus.*)

Common on the shores of Corfu and Epirus in March, April, and May; generally to be seen in small flocks, standing mid-leg in water, and snapping at the midges and other small insects. This species breeds in great numbers in the marshes of Dalmatia, in the neighbourhood of Spalatro.

191. PURPLE HERON. (*Ardea purpurea.*)

Common in April and May, and I believe breeds in Epirus, as young birds are often to be seen in July and August.

192. COMMON HERON. (*Ardea cinerea*.)

Common in Corfu and all parts of the mainland in winter. I observed it in August in Albania and Montenegro.

193. GREAT WHITE HERON. (*Ardea alba*.)

Common in Epirus in winter, particularly at Butrinto. Not nearly so difficult of approach as most of its congeners, although I never observed it to skulk amongst the reeds and aquatic herbage, as the last-mentioned species often does. I could not find out that it ever remains to breed in Epirus; but the natives are so singularly unobservant of all birds except the *Anatida*, that it is difficult to extract any information from them.

194. LITTLE EGRET. (*Ardea garzetta*)

Very common in winter on the coasts of Epirus, in which province some few remain to breed. I observed this species on the Bojana river, and the Lake of Scutari in Albania, in great numbers in August 1857. The birds of this species which frequent the shores of the Bay of Butrinto in the winter, and spend the day in wading about the marshes, collect their forces regularly about sunset, and fly in a compact body to the jungles at the head of the lake, where they roost. They appeared to pursue exactly the same course every evening; and I used always to consider their appearance in a body as a sign that it was time to take up my post for shooting Ducks in a small marshy pool between the proper right of the Butrinto river and the rocks which shut in the valley to the north. The Egrets almost invariably flew over this pool from west to east, and generally preceded the arrival of the first flight of Ducks by about ten minutes.

195. SQUACCO HERON. (*Ardea comata*.)

Arrives in great numbers in Epirus in March, and I believe breeds in the marshes of the interior. Very abundant on the Lake of Scutari in August 1857. I found this species the most difficult of approach of any of the *Ardeida*.

196. BUFF-BACKED HERON. (*Ardea bubulcus*.)

I saw a stuffed specimen of this bird at Corfu, which was killed at Butrinto; and I think I may speak pretty positively to

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having once seen two specimens on the race-course in April 1857.

197. NIGHT HERON. (*Ardea nycticorax*.)

Tolerably common in Epirus, arriving in March, and remaining only a short time on its passage northwards. Common on the Lake of Scutari in August, where it doubtless breeds.

198. COMMON BITTERN. (*Botaurus stellaris*.)

Common in Epirus from October till May. Its abundance or scarcity seems to depend on the severity of the weather. I do not think the Bittern breeds in Epirus, at all events not in those parts of that province with which I have any acquaintance, but it is found throughout the year in some of the marshes of Albania and Dalmatia.

199. LITTLE BITTERN. (*Ardetta minuta*.)

Arrives in considerable numbers in Corfu and Epirus in April, and remains to breed, leaving the country about the end of September. In Corfu they are often to be found perched in the olives near the marshes, motionless, with outstretched neck, and beak pointing to the sky. More than once I have caught this species with my hand; and my old retriever often brought me Little Bitterns alive, in the marshes of Butrinto, where I have found the nest in a tamarisk a few inches above the water. The curious habits of this species make it an interesting pet, though I have not found it easy to keep it alive for any length of time. All the birds of this species from Holland, which I have at different times procured in Leadenhall Market, were more or less injured about the eyes.

Epirus

200. WHITE STORK. (*Ciconia alba*.)

Arrives in Epirus in March, and breeds on the house-tops. Two pairs nested and reared their young annually on the top of the old fort, known as the Aga's house, at Butrinto. The Mahomedan population protect the Stork, and consider it a bird of good omen.

201. BLACK STORK. (*Ciconia nigra*.)

This species is very rare in these parts. The bird-stuffer at Corfu told me, that two specimens only had passed through his

hands in the course of thirty years. One of these was killed at Butrinto, and the other in the island of Corfu.

202. GLOSSY IBIS. (*Falciuellus igneus*.)

2 Occurs tolerably abundantly in Corfu and Epirus in March, April and May. The only locality in which I have myself seen this species is the often-mentioned race-course, where a pair were generally to be found in the months above-named, keeping aloof from the other Waders, and stalking about after the manner of the Herons. Corfu

203. CRANE. (*Grus cinerea*.)

2 Often to be heard and seen, passing over Corfu at a great elevation, in the months of March and October. The only spot in these parts in which I have seen this species on the ground was on the Greek frontier, opposite Prevesa, where I fell in with a troop of several hundreds in March 1857. I saw a freshly-killed specimen in a ditch near Corfu on the 2nd of April, 1857.

204. WHITE SPOONBILL. (*Platalea leucorodia*.)

3 Occurs sparingly in Epirus in severe winters. I saw a few at Livitazza in January 1858. More common in Greece about Petalà and the Gulf of Lepanto. I could not hear of the occurrence of this species in the island of Corfu.

205. FLAMINGO. (*Phenicopterus antiquorum*.) (?)

I place a mark of interrogation after the name of this bird, as I have never seen it myself in these parts; but the Corfu bird-stuffer described to me a bird which had been killed out of a small flock on the race-course, some years previous to my arrival in Corfu, which must have been a Flamingo. It struck me as curious that this species should be so rare in these parts, as it is abundant in Tunis and Sardinia, and not uncommon in the south of Spain, in all which localities I have myself seen it. I have been assured that the Flamingo occurs in great numbers in winter in the island of Cyprus.

206. COMMON COOT. (*Fulica atra*.)

Common, and resident in Epirus.

207. MOOR-HEN. (*Gallinula chloropus*.)
Common in winter in Epirus. I believe a few of this species breed in that province.
208. SPOTTED CRAKE. (*Crex porzana*.)
Common at all seasons in Epirus, but more so in September and October than at any other time.
209. LITTLE CRAKE. (*Crex pusilla*.)
The Corfu bird-stuffer had a specimen of the Little Crake, which was killed at Butrinto. I once flushed a small Crake there in September 1857, which was either of this species or a *Crex baillonii*.
210. LAND RAIL. (*Crex pratensis*.)
Occurs sparingly in Corfu in April and September.
211. WATER RAIL. (*Rallus aquaticus*.)
Very common, and, I believe, resident in Epirus.
212. CRESTED GREBE. (*Podiceps cristatus*.)
Common in winter on the lakes and lagoons of Epirus.
213. RED-NECKED GREBE. (*Podiceps rubricollis*.)
Rare; occasionally occurs in winter at Butrinto.
214. SCLAVONIAN GREBE. (*Podiceps cornutus*.)
Not uncommon in winter on the lakes of Butrinto.
215. EARED GREBE. (*Podiceps auritus*.)
Very abundant on the lakes and lagoons of Epirus in winter. I believe a few pairs breed among the reeds at the head of the great lake of Butrinto. This species appears to be the most gregarious of the Grebes.
216. LITTLE GREBE. (*Podiceps minor*.)
Common in winter in Epirus.
217. GREAT NORTHERN DIVER. (*Colymbus glacialis*.)
I once unsuccessfully chased four Divers on a small lake at Butrinto, which from their great size must, I think, have belonged to this species.
218. RED-THROATED DIVER. (*Colymbus septentrionalis*.)
Occurs sparingly on the coasts of Epirus and Albania in

winter. One of our party killed an immature specimen at the mouth of the river Drin, in the latter province, in December 1857.

219. GREY-LAG GOOSE. (*Anser ferus*.)

Common in February 1858, on the west coasts of continental Greece, about Petalà and the plains of the Acheloiüs, where we shot several. I have seen Wild Geese in most parts of Epirus and Albania that I have visited, but could not make out whether they belonged to this, or either of the following species.

220. BEAN GOOSE. (*Anser segetum*.)

Common in winter on the coasts of Epirus and Greece, particularly at Petalà. We used to take up a position on one of the numerous small islands which skirt the little Gulf of Petalà to the north, and had very good sport at wild-fowl of all sorts. The Geese did not come within shot much before dark, but Mallards, Shovellers, Wigeon, Pintail, Teal, Poehard, and Tufted Ducks kept us pretty busy during the day. We did not fire at Golden-eyes, Smews, &c., and when such birds passed us, used merely to exclaim to one another, "Muck." On one occasion we were much excited by the evolutions and music of a small flock of Wild Swans, which, however, declined our acquaintance. Pelicans also would often flap heavily within a few yards of us, totally regardless of green cartridges and B.B. shot. My companion would not shoot at any Ducks whenever there appeared to be a chance of our getting a shot at Geese; but we nevertheless contrived to load ourselves to that degree, that wading through the mud to our boat became a feat by no means easy of accomplishment. The present species was the most common of the three *Anseres* that presented themselves to our guns at Petalà, and I am disposed to think that it is the most abundant of its family in Greece and Turkey; it is far superior for the table to either of the other species. Our bag at Petalà I find to have been as follows:—

February 5th, on the island above mentioned: 2 Bean Geese, 1 White-fronted Goose, 1 Grey-lag Goose, 14 Wild Ducks, 4 Wigeon, 1 Teal.

February 6th, in the plains of the Acheloiüs: 14 Wild Ducks,

7 Teal, 2 Gadwalls, 2 Shovellers, 1 Pintail, 1 Pochard, 1 Tufted Duck, 1 White-eyed Duck, 1 Quail, 2 Black-tailed Godwits, 7 Woodcocks, 1 Hare.

February 7th, on our island: 2 Bean Geese, 3 White-fronted Greese, 1 Grey-lag Goose, 16 Wild Ducks, 3 Wigeons, 1 Spoonbill.

February 8th, on the plains of the Acheloius: 1 Grey-lag Goose, 2 White-fronted Geese, 9 Wild Ducks, 6 Teal, 2 Shovelers, 3 Woodcocks, 1 Hare.

I do not mention this as anything extraordinary, as much more has, I have no doubt, often been done in the same localities, but the above extracts will help to show the variety of sport to be met with in these parts in severe winters; and if any reader of the 'Ibis' should be induced by these facts to try his luck in Greek waters, and should enjoy himself half as much as I did, I shall think that our sport has not been recorded in vain. I consider, with Burns, "that some of the happiest hours that e'er I spent were spent amongst the rushes;" although the adjunct to this happiness mentioned by the poet was in our case absent, unless my old retriever can be considered to have in some degree supplied that defect.

221. WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE. (*Anser albifrons*.)

Common in winter in Epirus and continental Greece.

222. POLISH SWAN. (*Cygnus immutabilis*.)

Not uncommon in Corfu and Epirus in severe winters. Several were shot in the island in January 1858.

223. HOOPER. (*Cygnus musicus*.)

The same remarks apply to this as to the above. It is perhaps the less common species of the two.

224. WILD DUCK. (*Anas boschas*.)

This species actually swarms in winter in some of the marshes of Epirus and Albania. The best localities with which I am acquainted for wild-duck-shooting are, Butrinto, Phanari, the Luro river in the Gulf of Arta, Livitazzo, and last, but by no means least, the great marshes between Santa Quaranta and Delvino. As I have before mentioned, my friend and usual

companion, Colonel C——, and I, during the severe weather of 1857-8, devoted ourselves almost exclusively to the pursuit of the *Anatida*, often allowing Woodcocks to rise at our feet without further notice than an exclamation from one to the other—"O, don't shoot that carrion," and treating Snipes with the most supreme contempt. Perhaps the best sport of all sorts to be had within easy distance of Corfu is at Santa Quaranta, where Wild Boars, Roes, Hares, and Woodcocks are plentiful in the thickets and ravines among the hills, and wild-fowl of all kinds and Snipes are generally to be found in myriads. Besides this, the above locality has the ornithological recommendation of being the haunt of *Aquila imperialis*, *A. navia*, *A. bonellii*, *Strix bubo*, *Falco asalon*, and (I have now reason to believe) *F. lanarius*. Few parts of the great marsh are impenetrable to a determined sportsman, who of course must be prepared to wade, with the water seldom below his knees, and often up to his middle, the safest place for his powder-flask being the top of his hat. In my opinion, the sport amply repays any amount of fatigue or cold; and from the marsh of Santa Quaranta there is a rough walk of about two miles to the anchorage, which will serve to restore circulation. I cannot resist again giving some extracts from my 'game-book,' with reference to this well-beloved spot:—

On the 15th of January, 1858, we were a party of five, and shot the hill-sides for Woodcocks. We bagged 64 Woodcocks and 1 Snipe.

On the 16th four of our party took to the Snipe-marsh, and the other, in search of Woodcocks, to the fern-clad banks of the small river which separates the hills from the plain. The result of our combined exertions was, 100 Snipes, 11 Wild Ducks, 16 Teal, 26 Woodcocks, 9 Quails.

On the 20th, Col. C—— and I spent the day in the great marsh, and bagged 27 Wild Ducks, 15 Teal, 1 Pintail, 6 Woodcocks, 1 Hare.

21st January. We were a party of six, and shot for Woodcocks. Our bag contained at the end of the day, 81 Woodcocks, 8 Wild Ducks, 2 Teal, 2 Hares.

22nd January. Two guns in the great marsh. Bagged 12 Wild Ducks, 18 Teal, 1 Pochard, 1 Sheldrake.

The greatest amount of wild-fowl killed in one day during the above winter was by a party of three, on the Luro river, about the beginning of February. They brought to the yacht 107 head of Ducks of various species and two Wild Geese. A good many Wild Ducks breed in Epirus and Albania. In the Acherusian marsh at Phanari, without exaggeration, they literally darken the air; but this is not a very good shooting locality, as the best portion of the marsh for ducks is utterly impenetrable to man or dog, and may, for aught I know, contain Hippopotami, Alligators, or Whale-headed Storks!

225. TEAL. (*Anas crecca*.)

Very abundant in winter, arriving about the end of September and disappearing in March.

~~Western Greece~~

226. MARBLED DUCK. (*Anas marmorata*.)

I saw a boy at Butrinto with a mutilated specimen of this rare Duck in his hand, which he had just killed on the lake; he said it was alone when he shot it. I once flushed three Ducks at Phanari, which puzzled me very much at the time, but which, I have now little doubt, belonged to this species; and an officer of the garrison of Corfu described to me a small Duck he had killed near Arta, which I think can have been no other but this. The Marbled Duck is not uncommon in the island of Sardinia, and very common at Tunis in January and February.

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227. GARGANEY. (*Anas querquedula*.)

Appears in great numbers about the end of February in Epirus and Corfu; remains till April. I think a few pairs breed in the country.

✓

228. WIGEON. (*Anas penelope*.)

Abundant in winter, particularly at Livitazza.

~~Eastern Greece~~

229. GADWALL. (*Anas strepera*.)

Common in winter; the easiest of approach, and by far the best for the table, of the European *Anatidæ*.

230. PINTAIL. (*Anas acuta*.)

Tolerably common in winter, but very wary, and difficult to kill.

231. SHOVELLER. (*Anas clypeata*.)

Common in winter.

232. SHELDRAKE. (*Tadorna vulpanser.*)

Appears in small numbers in severe winters.

Eastern Greece

233. RUDDY SHELDRAKE. (*Tadorna rutila.*)

Very rare. Two instances only of the occurrence of this species came to my knowledge during my stay at Corfu. The bird-stuffer brought me a beautiful specimen on the 17th April, 1857. It was killed at Potamò, about two miles from the town of Corfu. Another was killed at Santa Maura about the same time. The bird-stuffer had never seen this species before.

234. COMMON SCOTER. (*Oidemia nigra.*)

I saw a few of this species out at sea in the Adriatic, off Antivari, in December 1857. It is unknown at Corfu.

235. WHITE-HEADED DUCK. (*Erismatura mersa.*)

Common, and, I believe, resident on the lake of Butrinto and on the lagoons of Nicopolis.

236. GOLDEN EYE. (*Clangula glaucion.*)

Not uncommon in winter.

EG

237. TUFTED DUCK. (*Fuligula cristata.*)

Very common in winter.

EG

238. SCAUP DUCK. (*Fuligula marila.*)

I only saw one pair of this species in Greek waters. This was at Livitazza in January 1858.

239. POCHARD. (*Fuligula ferina.*)

Very common in winter.

EG

240. WHITE-EYED POCHARD. (*Fuligula nyroca.*)

Arrives generally in March in small numbers, and breeds in Epirus and Albania. Occasionally seen in winter, but far from common at that season.

241. RED-CRESTED WHISTLING DUCK. (*Fuligula rufina.*)

This species was common at Butrinto during the first winter I passed at Corfu, but I saw very few in the succeeding one.

242. GOOSANDER. (*Mergus merganser.*)

An uncertain and rare visitor in Epirus.

243. RED-BREASTED MERGANSER. (*Mergus servator.*)

Not uncommon, in winter, in Epirus, Albania, and Corfu.

244. SMEW. (*Mergus albellus*.)

Common in Epirus in February and March, in immature plumage. Very few adult males are to be seen in these parts.

245. CRESTED PELICAN. (*Pelecanus crispus*.)

Common throughout the year on the coasts of Epirus: breeds at Suttanieh, on the Gulf of Arta.

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246. WHITE PELICAN. (*Pelecanus onocrotalus*.)

Passes over Corfu to the south in enormous numbers, at the beginning of November. A few remain about the coasts of Epirus throughout the winter.

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247. GREAT CORMORANT. (*Carbo cormoranus*.)

Not uncommon in winter on the coasts of Epirus.

248. CRESTED SHAG. (*Carbo desmarestii*?)

A Shag is common at all seasons in the Ionian and Adriatic Seas; but, after pretty careful examination and comparison with Temminck's description, I am quite unable to state whether it is our common species, or the variety known as *Carbo desmarestii*. It is more than probable that I have seen specimens of both.

??
unclear

249. DWARF SHAG. (*Carbo pygmaeus*.)

Very abundant in winter in Epirus; appears to have no particular preference for salt water to fresh, as it is often to be found in ditches and flooded meadows far from the sea. I saw this species in Albania in August 1857.

250. HERRING GULL. (*Larus argentatus*.)

Common in immature plumage. I have only seen two individuals in the adult dress. The commonest large Gull at Corfu exactly resembles this species in plumage, size, colour of naked parts, length of tarsi, &c.; in short, in every particular except that the primaries, in at least a dozen specimens that have come under my observation, are entirely white. This variety or species breeds on the coasts of Epirus, Tre Scoglie, Livitazza, &c.

251. COMMON GULL. (*Larus canus*.)

Not uncommon in winter in Corfu and Epirus. I saw one of this species pursue, capture, and devour a Redshank at Petalà, in February 1858.

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252. LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL. (*Larus fuscus*.)

Not common; occurs occasionally in immature, but is very rare in adult plumage.

253. AUDOUIN'S GULL. (*Larus audouinii*.)

A fine specimen of this Gull was killed near Corfu in May 1857. I never saw it on any other occasion, although I am tolerably sure it is not very uncommon.

254. MEDITERRANEAN BLACK-HEADED GULL. (*Larus melanocephalus*, Natt.)

Very common in winter in Corfu, and on the coasts of the mainland; breeds in the marshes of Albania and Dalmatia.

255. LAUGHING GULL. (*Larus atricilla*, Linn.)

Common in winter in Corfu.

256. LITTLE GULL. (*Larus minutus*.)

Tolerably common in winter, particularly in the yacht-harbour of Mandrachio at Corfu. This species arrives about the end of October, and leaves the country about the beginning of March.

257. CASPIAN TERN. (*Sterna caspica*.)

Occurs sparingly in winter at Corfu and on the coasts of Epirus.

258. SANDWICH TERN. (*Sterna cantiaca*.)

Rare; occasionally occurs in autumn at Butrinto.

259. GULL-BILLED TERN. (*Sterna anglica*.)

Not uncommon at Butrinto in January, February and March. I have heard of the nests of this species at Livitazza, and am informed that it breeds in great numbers at Mesolonghi.

260. COMMON TERN. (*Sterna hirundo*.)

Rare; occurs occasionally in spring at Corfu and on the coasts of the mainland.

261. LITTLE TERN. (*Sterna minuta*.)

Occurs sparingly at Corfu at the period of the vernal migration.

262. BLACK TERN. (*Sterna nigra*.)

Exactly the same remarks apply to this as to the above species.

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263. WHITE-WINGED BLACK TERN. (*Sterna leucoptera*.)

Common in April and May at Corfu.

264. WHISKERED TERN. (*Sterna leucopareia*.)

Common in winter at Butrinto; breeds in the marshes of Durazzo.

265. CINEREOUS SHEARWATER. (*Puffinus cinereus*.)

Occasionally seen in the channel of Corfu; more common further to the north, on the coasts of Albania and Dalmatia.

266. STORMY PETREL. (*Thalassidroma pelagica*.)

I only once saw this species in the Ionian Sea; this was near Pagania in December 1857.

XLV.—Further Corrections and Additions to the "Ornithology of Amoy," with some Remarks on the Birds of Formosa. By ROBERT SWINHOE, of H. M. Consular Service*.

A FEW necessary corrections having again suggested themselves on reperusing my article on the "Ornithology of Amoy," as printed in the 5th Number of 'The Ibis,' I hasten to communicate them to you, that they may appear before the public as soon as possible.

Arundinax canturians, sp. 32, and *A. miniatus* (nec *minutus*), sp. 33, should be again compared with *Salicaria cantans* and *S. cantillans* of the 'Fauna Japonica' before they can be considered as good species. They belong more correctly, I think, to the genus *Luscinopsis*.

~~*Thamnobis nipponensis*~~ ~~is a new species~~ ~~of the~~ ~~genus~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~same~~ ~~genus~~ ~~as~~ ~~the~~ ~~one~~ ~~described~~ ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~present~~ ~~work~~. I cannot understand how I came to be so mistaken. The description given is that of a female bird, which Mr. Blyth considers to be referable to *Erythrosterna leucura* (Gmel.) of Bengal. All the specimens we procured were females and immature birds until lately, when M. Schlegel shot a male. The extent of red on the lower parts of this individual proves the species to be *Erythrosterna mugimaki* of the 'Fauna Japonica' rather than the Indian bird.

Motacilla lugens (v. *lugubris*), mentioned in the 'Fauna Japonica,' has also been shot here after stormy weather, and should be inserted after *M. luzoniensis*.

* Communicated in a letter from Mr. Swinhoe to the Editor.