On some Specimens of Birds from British North Borneo.*

By

Nagamichi Kuroda, D. Sc.

I have received a small but fine series of bird-skins collected by Mr. Seikichi Tanaka, M.O.S.J., in the British North Borneo. He has in the second time visited the island between the end of February and the end of October, 1931. The specimens, which I have referred to 25 forms, have been already noted in several periodicals by many authors; but I have been so much interested that it is very apt to list the birds here with some notes. Finally I must express my deepest thanks for Mr. Tanaka's kindness of giving me these skins.

Family NECTARINIIDÆ.

1. *Aethopyga siparaja siparaja* (Raffles).

Aethopyga eupogon Cabanis, Mus. Hein., i.p. 130 (1850-Borneo).

Aethopyga chalcopogon Reichenbach, Handb. Scans., p. 303, pl. 586, figs. 3982-3983 (1854-Borneo).

1 ♂ ad., Tawao, 15. v. 1931 (no. 13809). Wing 48.5; tail 37; tarsus 13.5; exposed culmen 15.5; entire culmen 18 mm.

Messrs. Chasen & Kloss (Bull. Raffles Mus., Singapore, no. 4, p. 103, 1930) have united *eupogon* from Borneo with typical *siparaja* from Sumatra.

2. *Leptocoma jugularis ornata* (Lesson).

1 ♂ ad., Tawao, 24. v. 1931 (no. 13810). Wing 51.5; tail 34; tarsus 14; exposed culmen 15.5; entire culmen 18.5 mm.

3. *Anthreptes malacensis bornensis* Riley.

Anthreptes malaccensis rhodolaema Kuroda, Tori, iv, p. 2 (1925-Tawao, British N. Borneo) (nec Shelley).

3 ♂ ♂ (ad.) & 2 ♀ ♀ (ad.), Tawao, 1. & 24. v. and 1. & 3. vi. 1931 (nos. 13811-13815).

* Cf. "Tori," Vol. iv, no. 19, pp. 1-11 (23 April, 1925).

No.	Sex	Wing	Tail	Tarsus	Exposed culmen	Entire culmen
13812	♂	68	44.5	16.5	15.5	19 mm.
13813	♂	66.5	46.5	16.5	16	18.5
13814	♂	68	46.5	17	16.5	19.5
13811	♀	63.5	42.5	16.5	15.5	18
13815	♀	64	41	16.5	16	18

These examples are identical with the description given by Riley (Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., vol. 33, p. 55, 1920—Sandakan, British N. Borneo).

Family ARTAMIDÆ.

4. *Artamus leucorhynchos leucorhynchos* (Linnaeus).

1 ♂ ad., Tawao, 13. iv. 1931 (no. 13808). Wing 138.5 mm.

Family PYCNONOTIDÆ.

5. *Aegithina tiphia viridis* (Bonaparte).

2 ♂♂ (ad.) & 1 ♀ (ad.), Tawao, 14. iv.—1. vi. 1931 (nos. 13797–13799).
Wing ♂ 60, 62; ♀ 60 mm. Wing paler in ♀ and blacker in ♂.

Family CAMPEPHAGIDÆ.

6. *Lalage nigra schisticeps* Neumann.

1 ♀ ad., Tawao, 21. iv. 1931 (no. 13796). Wing 91 mm.
Cf. Chasen & Kloss (*t.c.*, p. 60).

Family MUSCICAPIDÆ.

7. *Rhiphidura javanica longicauda* Wallace.

1 “♂” = ♀?, Tawao, 1. v. 1931 (no. 13795). Wing 74.5; tail 85 mm.

8. *Pseudogerygone* (or *Gerygone*?) *sulphurea salvadorii* (Büttikofer).

Gerygone salvadorii Büttikofer, Notes Leyden Mus., xv, p. 174
(1893—Southern Borneo).

1 ♂ ad. & 1 ♀ ad., Tawao, 24. vi. 1931 (nos. 13816, 13817).

Sex	Wing	Tail	Tarsus	Exposed culmen	Entire culmen
♂	51	35	16	8+x	mm. 10.5+x
♀	49.5	32.5	16	9	11

These two skins before me have the following wing formula: the 2nd primary about equals to the secondaries in length, instead of the 2nd primary longer than the secondaries as in the genus *Gerygone*; nostrils linear and shut in by a membrane; rectal bristles a few in number. From these characteristics, I have considered this to be a species belonging to the genus *Pseudogerygone* rather than that of *Gerygone*. If my consideration is right then the bird is a species and not a subspecies of *sulphurea*¹⁾, but I have no specimens of the latter bird for comparison.

The present male specimen lacks the white lores and without an incomplete pectoral band. The white spot on the inner web of the three outer rectrices is well marked and it occurs on the fourth as a mere dot as stated by Mr. Riley. The female before me has indistinct greyish lores (not whitish) and with a faint indication of pectoral band which is widely separated on both sides of the breast. The both skins have greyish brown upper parts and clear sulphur yellow on the under side; the chin, vent, under tail-coverts, under wing-coverts, axillaries and edge of wing white, very faintly washed with yellowish.

In Borneo, it is hitherto known only from the southern parts (type locality) (Moulton²⁾), Kina Balu, N. Borneo (Sharpe³⁾), and North-east coast of Dutch Borneo (Pulo Raboe Raboe and Pulo Samama—Riley⁴⁾), while the present specimens were obtained at Tawao in the British North

1) Robinson & Kloss, Journ. Fed. Malay States Mus., viii, pp. 161-162 (1918).

2) Moulton, Guide Coll. Bornean Birds Sarawak Mus., p. 142 (1914).

3) Sharpe, Bornean Notes, Ibis, 1893, p. 561 (Kinokok, Kina Balu).

4) Riley, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., Vol. 77, Art. 12, p. 16 (1930).

5) Meise, Zur Systematik der Gattung *Gerygone*. Nov. Zool., xxxvi, pp. 371-373 (1931).

Borneo. The occurrence of the bird in the locality perhaps shows the northern limit of the distribution of the species.

It should be noticed that Dr. Meise has recently united *salvadorii*, *modiglianii*, *jacobsoni*, etc. with *sulphurea* which has been considered by him as a subspecies of *fusca* of Western Australia.

Family SYLVIIDÆ.

9. *Orthotomus sepium cineraceus* Blyth.

Orthotomus borneonensis Salvadori, Uoc. Born., p. 247 (1874-Borneo).

Orthotomus sepium borneensis Chasen & Kloss, Bull. Raffles Mus., no. 4, p. 93 (1930-Sarawak and N. Borneo).

2 ♂♂ (ad.) & 1 ♀ ad., Tawao, 1. & 24. vi. 1931 (nos. 13804-13806).

Sex	Wing	Tail	Tarsus	Exposed culmen	Entire culmen
♂	46	40.5	18.5	15	17 mm.
♂	46.5	40.5	19.5	15.5	17
♀	41.5	35	18.5	13	16

Messrs. Chasen & Kloss (*l.c.*) consider that "adult males from Sarawak and North Borneo are perhaps rather purer grey above and have less white on the abdomen than *cineraceus* Blyth, of the Malay Peninsula and Sumatra but we have only maintained *borneensis* after a certain amount of hesitation."

The two males in this collection show that one specimen has very dark abdomen as Chasen & Kloss considered, while another male has a large amount of white on the central parts of lower breast and abdomen! These two males were collected in the same month. From the above examples I am inclined to think that *borneonensis* (not *borneensis*) seems to be a synonym of *cineraceus* rather than that of a valid race.

10. *Orthotomus ruficeps sericeus* Temminck.

1 ♂ ad., Tawao, 1. v. 1931 (no. 13807). Wing 54; tail 46; tarsus 23; exposed culmen 16.5; entire culmen 20 mm.

Family TURDIDÆ.

11. *Copsychus saularis niger* Wardlaw Ramsay.

Copsychus saularis amoemus Kuroda, Tori, iv, no. 19, p. 6 (1925)
(nec Horsfield).

1 ♂ ad. & 1 ♀ ad., Tawao, 5. and 6. v. 1931 (nos. 13800, 13801).

Wing ♂ 116, ♀ 103; tail ♂ 103.5, ♀ 88; tarsus ♂ 32.5, ♀ 29;
entire culmen ♂ (damaged), ♀ 25 mm.

This pair of the form have entirely black rectrices without any white bases. The plumage of these birds has a bad smell as in *Tubinares*.

Messrs. Chasen & Kloss have very well demonstrated on and recognized the six forms of *Copsychus saularis* from the Malay Peninsula and Sumatra (*musicus*), West Java (*javensis*). East Java and Bali (*amoemus*), East Borneo (*pluto*), North Borneo (*niger*), South Sarawak and West Borneo (*problematicus*) (Bull. Raffles Mus., no. 4, pp. 84-90).

12. *Kittacincla stricklandi stricklandi* (Motley & Dillwyn).

1 ♂ ad. & 1 ♀ ad., Tawao, 1. & 6. v. 1931 (nos. 13802, 13803).

Wing ♂ 94.5, ♀ 84; tail ♂ 113, ♀ 81; tarsus ♂ 26.5, ♀ 25;
exposed culmen ♂ (damaged), ♀ 14; entire culmen ♂ (damaged),
♀ 19 mm.

Messrs. Chasen & Kloss (*t. c.*) have mentioned that the length of wing and tail as follows:

Sex	Locality	Wing	Tail
♂♂	Mainland of Borneo	93-102	mm. 105-136
♀♀	" " "	92-95	100-108
4♂♂	Islands of Borneo	96-106	112-142
2♀♀	Banguey	94-95	102-105

Sharpe (Cat. B. Brit. Mus., vii, p. 89, 1883) gives the measurements of a specimen (♀) from Labuan as: wing 3.6 in. = 92 mm.; tail 3.8 in. = 96.5 mm.

From the above measurements it is clear that my ♂ skin is one of the smallest birds from the mainland of Borneo and a ♀ before me is the

smallest of all! Sharpe (*t. c.*) states that "four centre tail-feathers black, the rest pure white, with a slight blackish mark near the base of the inner web, increasing towards the outermost". But my specimens having these patterns are very different and the three outer tail-feathers are all entirely white.

Family ALCEDINIDÆ.

13. *Halcyon chloris cyanescens* (Oberholser).

1 ♀ ad. & 1 ♀ subad., Tawao, 1. v. 1931 (nos. 13790, 13791).

Sex	Wing	Tail	Tarsus	Exposed culmen	Entire culmen	Bill from gape
♀ ad.	105.5	67	15.5	45	50.5	59.5
♀ subad.	108.5	68	15	47.5	51	59.5

Family PICIDÆ.

14. *Dryobates nanus aurantiiventris* (Salvadori).

Yungipicus picatus Kuroda, *Tori*, iv, no. 19, p. 7 (1925). *Cf.*

Chasen & Kloss, *Bull. Raffles Mus.*, no. 4, p. 38 (1930).

1 ♀ (imm.?), Tawao, 1. v. 1931 (no. 13792). Wing 73; tail 34; tarsus 13.5; exposed culmen 14; entire culmen 15.5 mm.

Dr. Stresemann has kindly informed me that "*Yungipicus picatus* is certainly nothing else than an individual variety of the common *Y. conicapillus aurantiiventris* (*in litt.*, 10 Sept. 1925).

A specimen before me have also a brown crown without any ashy grey wash on top of head. Possibly it is an immature bird as it has considered by Mr. Kloss (*t. c.*).

15. *Meiglyptes tukki tukki* (Lesson).

1 ♂ ad., Tawao, 6. v. 1931 (no. 13793). Wing 101.5 mm.

16. *Dryocopus javensis javensis* (Horsfield).

1 ♀ ad., Tawao, 24. v. 1931 (no. 13794). Wing 223 mm.

Family FALCONIDÆ.

- 17.
- Haliastur indus intermedius**
- Gurney & Blyth.

1 ad., Tawao, 16. viii. 1931 (no. 13674). Wing 361 mm.

- 18.
- Accipiter virgatus gularis**
- (Temminck & Schlegel).

1 ♀ juv., Tawao, 16. x. 1931 (no. 13818). Wing 187 mm.

I have another skin of this form from Cheribon, West Java (16. x. 1930). These are no doubt autumn migrants from the north.

Family ARDEIDÆ.

- 19.
- Butorides striatus javanicus**
- (Horsfield).

1 ♀ ad. (breed. pl.), Tawao, 15. viii. 1931 (no. 13673). Wing 167; tail 60; tarsus 45; exposed culmen 61 mm.

Family COLUMBIDÆ.

- 20.
- Streptopelia chinensis inornata**
- (Bonaparte).

1 ♂ ad., Tawao, 16. x. 1931 (no. 13789). Wing 141.5; tail 133.5; tarsus 23.5; exposed culmen $14.5+x$ mm.

Family RALLIDÆ.

- 21.
- Hypotaenidia striata gularis**
- (Horsfield).

1 ad., Tawao, 8. vii. 1931 (no. 13787). Wing 113; tail 37.5; tarsus 35.5; exposed culmen 31.5 mm.

The lower throat and chest are very dark as in the Philippine skins. The subspecific difference between *siriata* and *gularis* is very doubtful.

- 22.
- Amaurornis phoenicura javanica**
- (Horsfield).

1 ♀ ad., Tawao, 15. viii. 1931 (no. 13788). Wing 134 mm.

Family PHASIANIDÆ.

- 23.
- Rollulus roulroul**
- (Scopoli).

1 ♂ ad., near Tawao, 28. x. 1931 (no. 13786). Wing 139 mm.

24. *Lobiophasis bulweri* Sharpe.

1 ♂ ad., Tawao, 25. ii. 1931 (no. 13672). Wing 247; tail (stretched) 436; tarsus 89; exposed culmen 35.5; bill from nostril 20 mm.

25. *Argusianus argus grayi* (Elliot).

1 ♂ ad. & 1 ♀ ad., near Tawao, 18. x. 1931 (no. 13670, 13671).

Sex	Wing to end of secondaries	Wing to end of primaries	Tail	Tarsus	Exposed culmen	Bill from nostril
♂	775	440	860	103	37.5	19 mm.
♀	322	286	208+x	86	31	14.5

Ogilvie-Grant (Cat. B. Brit. Mus., xxii, pp. 365-366) has given the measurements of a pair of this form as follows:

Sex	Wing to end of secondaries	Wing to end of primaries	Tail	Tarsus
♂	840	432	1067	101 mm.
♀	356	320	300	91

From the above measurements it is clear that my specimens are smaller in size than the measurements given by O.-Grant.