

DESCRIPTION OF SOME NEW BIRDS FROM CEYLON.

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(Plate XVI. and 3 textfigures.)

Since my article «Die ornith. Ergebnisse meiner Reise nach Ceylon» was published in the «Természetrzaji Füzetek» 1897, in which however attention was not paid to the insular and subspecific forms, I have described some new forms of this interesting Island in different Periodicals. As the collection of the Hungarian National Museum increased in material for comparison, it was able to make further descriptions of Ceylonese birds. I take this opportunity of giving the descriptions of three new insular forms from Ceylon, which I propose to name as follows :

Corone anthracina n. sp.

Corone macrorhyncha (nec WAGL.), LEGGE Birds of Ceyl. p. 346 (1880); MADARÁSZ, Természetr. Füz. XX. p. 331 (1897).

Much smaller than *C. macrorhyncha* (WAGL.) and *C. levaillanti*, LESS. and with a more purplish gloss; the bases of the feathers varying from brownish-grey to dusky-grey. Length of the female 410—420, wing 265—285, tail 160—175, bill 50—55, tarsus 45—50 mm.

The drawings on the following page shows the shape of the bill of *C. anthracina*, *C. levaillanti* and *C. japonensis*.

Apus singalensis n. sp.

(Plate XVI. fig. 4.)

Cypselus affinis (nec GRAY), LEGGE, Birds of Ceyl. p. 319 (1880); *Micropus affinis*, MADARÁSZ, Természetr. Füz. XX. p. 370 (1897).

Above and below sooty-black, with brownish gloss on the head and greenish on the back, wings, tail, chest and belly; front hardly lighter than the top of the head; the under tail-coverts brown with greenish gloss; throat and rump white. Wing 131—133, tail 50—55 mm.

Apus singalensis differs from the Indian and East-African specimens of *A. affinis*, GRAY (Plate XVI. fig. 3), not only by its darker colour-

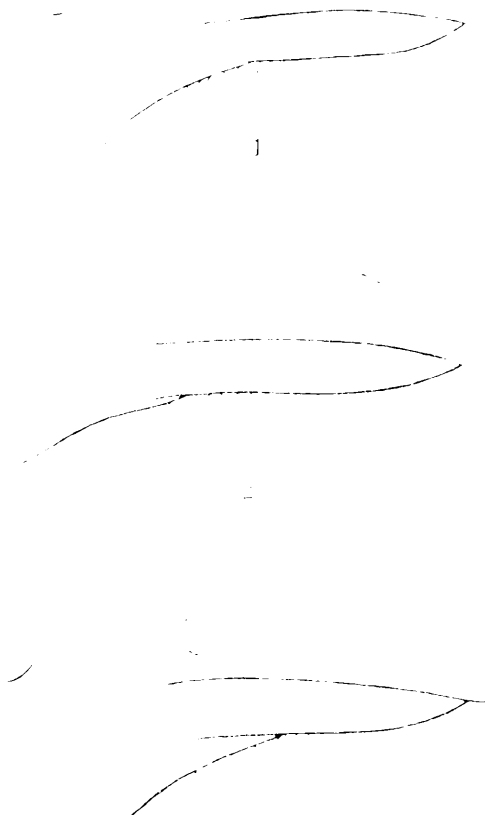


Fig. 1. *Corone anthracina* n. sp.
• 2. *Corone levillanti*, LESS.
• 3. *Corone japonensis*, BP.

ration, but has a proportionally longer tail. Among *A. affinis*, GRAY, *A. koenigi*, RCHW, and *A. galilejensis*, ANT. not so many differences exist in coloration as between *A. singalensis* and *A. affinis*.

Zosterops egregia n. sp.

(Plate XVI. fig. 1.)

Zosterops palpebrosa (nec TEMM.), LEGGE, Birds of Ceyl. p. 583 (1880);
MADARÁSZ, Természetr. Füzetek, XX. p. 357 (1897).

Above light yellowish green (much paler and more yellowish than that of *Z. palpebrosa*, TEMM.) shading into pure yellow on the front; wing and tail brown, edged with the same colour as the back; round the eye broadly white; lores black, which colour surrounds the lower part of the white orbital ring; chin, throat and under tail-coverts primrose-yellow; beneath white, with a delicate hue of greyish-drab; under wing-coverts and inner edges of the wing white; bend of wing sulphur-yellow; thighs white, with a scarcely perceptible hue of light yellow on the lower edge; bill black, base of the lower mandible and feet bluish-grey in life; iris ocker-yellow.

Tot. length 113—115, wing 56—57, tail 44—45, bill (from the gape) 13, tarsus 15 mm.

Male and female are uniform in colour, but the latter is somewhat smaller and has a narrower orbital ring.

The comparison of this species with *Z. palpebrosa* (Plate XVI. fig. 2.) and other species proves we have to do not only with a subspecies of *Z. palpebrosa*, but with a quite different species, which is nearest allied to *Z. citrinella*, Br.
