

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.

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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

a Peregrine 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 collurio*.)

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.

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 Khimàra, 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 Pindus 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 cælebs.*)

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 LINNET. (*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. CIRL 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 Paganía in January 1857.

63. COMMON BUNTING. (*Emberiza miliaria.*)

Occurs sparingly in Corfu and Epirus in winter.

64. REED BUNTING. (*Emberiza schæniclus.*)

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 Acarnania, 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 Acroceraunian moun-

tains, where I found the nests of this species, among *débris* 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 ænanthe*.)

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.

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.

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.