

is the third which has reached Europe alive. The only appearance of horns that our animal possesses consists of two small protuberances just elevated above the skin. Except in the absence of these appendages, it exactly resembles the male of the species.

Mr. R. B. Sharpe, F.Z.S., exhibited some specimens of Blue Rock-Thrushes (*Petrocossyphus*). Referring to an article in the tenth part of the 'Birds of Europe' for full details and proofs of the conclusions at which he had arrived, Mr. Sharpe pointed out that the female of the Blue Rock-Thrush of Europe did not always remain in a spotted plumage, as was stated by authors, but ultimately got blue like the male, though she took a much longer time than the latter in assuming the mature livery. In the same way, *P. solitarius* of China ultimately passed from the blue-and-red stage (*P. manilla* of authors) into a fully blue plumage, in which state it was only distinguishable from *P. cyanus* of Europe by its smaller size. It was shown that the change from a spotted plumage to the blue-and-red dress was very gradual, as was also the gradation from the blue-and-red plumage to the full blue garb of the adult. *P. affinis* of Blyth was stated to be nothing but the intermediate stage of the last gradation, and that the variation in this supposed species was caused by the more or less advanced character of the plumage. Mr. Sharpe exhibited specimens (chiefly from the collection of Mr. Swinhoe), tracing all the stages through which the species passes, from the spotted nestling to the fully mature blue bird.

Mr. Sclater exhibited a skin of the Yellow-billed Cuckoo of the U. S. of America (*Coccyzus americanus*), which had been shot by Mr. W. H. Hudson, C.M.Z.S., at Quilines, Buenos Ayres, April 21, 1870, and was stated by that gentleman to be the only specimen of this species he had ever obtained. Except in its slightly larger dimensions, Mr. Hudson's bird did not differ from other examples of this widely wandering species, of which Mr. Sclater exhibited specimens from Jamaica, Mexico, and the U. S. of Columbia. Mr. Sclater remarked that there could be little doubt that the bird obtained by Natterer in S. Paulo, Brazil, and referred by v. Pelzeln to *Coccyzus bairdi**, was also an accidental visitor of this species, which had so often strayed even into Europe.

Major Godwin-Austen, F.Z.S., exhibited a skin of *Cerriornis blythii*, and called attention to the differences between this species and *C. satyra*, *C. melanocephalus*, and *C. caboti*. *Cerriornis blythii* had been first obtained in Upper Assam by Dr. Jerdon, having been brought from the neighbouring hills. Its exact locality and range to the west, however, were doubtful. The specimen exhibited had been shot by Mr. Roberts, of the Topographical Survey, in the Naga Hills,

* Orn. Brasil. p. 274.