

serai tres flatté. Je regrette de ne savoir pas assez d'anglais pour vous éviter la peine de les faire traduire. En attendant, agréez, je vous prie, l'assurance de ma considération distinguée.

Votre dévoué,
LEON OLPH-GALLIARD.

Norwich, June 14th, 1862.

SIR,—Having before recorded the unusual appearance of Shore-Larks (*Otocorys alpestris*) on our coast during the past winter, it may be interesting to some of the readers of 'The Ibis' to learn that another specimen has occurred during the spring migration. This bird (a *male*, like all the others) is now in my possession, and was killed at Yarmouth about the 24th of April. The man who shot it brought it up to Norwich, with several Skylarks and Wagtails killed at the same time, and, not knowing its value, gave it to a birdstuffer in this city, of whom I purchased it directly afterwards. This specimen, as may be supposed from its appearing so late in the spring, had very nearly assumed its full summer plumage. The gorget on the neck and the patches on the cheeks are pure black, and the yellow portions very bright, with the horns clearly developed. It is by no means improbable that this may have been a remnant of that small band, of which the numbers were so thinned on their southward passage down our eastern coast. I am, &c.,

H. STEVENSON.

Letters recently received from Mr. Blyth, dated January 20th last, announce his return on the 6th December last to Calcutta, "after making a great haul of fishes during a fortnight's stay at Akyab." Mr. Blyth subsequently writes:—

"February 2.—Mr. Jerdon has just returned from a fortnight's trip into the Colgong district of the Ganges and Rajamahals. He has obtained at least one new bird, of a new genus akin to *Tephrodornis* and *Hemipus*, with comparatively large legs. He found my *Pratincola leucura* abundant, and obtained a female of *Calliope pectoralis* (the Himalayan species).

“Among his other gatherings Mr. Jerdon obtained a female *Caprimulgus mahrattensis*, Sykes—the first I have ever seen of this species. It is quite new to this part of India.

“March 11th.—With regard to the *Caprimulgidae* of these countries, one grand error pervades all the books hitherto, viz., the mal-identification of *Podargus cornutus*, Temm., with *Batrachostomus javanensis*, Horsfield. We have a very fine specimen of the former bird, sent to us under that name by the Batavian Society, and it exactly agrees with the figure in the ‘Planches Coloriées,’ which is copied by Stephens in the continuation of Shaw’s ‘Zoology.’ We have also an excellent specimen of *B. javanensis* from Malacca, equally according with Horsfield’s figure of that bird in his ‘Zoological Researches in Java.’

“The *Podargus cornutus* is an *Otothrix*, as distinguished from a *Batrachostomus*, and appears to me to be absolutely identical with *O. hodgsoni*, G. R. Gray, P. Z. S. 1859, p. 101, Aves, pl. clii., that plate representing the juvenile plumage, and Temminck’s the adult. Mr. Jerdon agrees with me in this opinion. But what is *Podargus crinitus* of Temminck? This, from its name, should be another *Otothrix*. Gould’s *B. stellatus* I do not know. Moore, in his list of Cantor’s specimens, makes it distinct from *B. javanensis*.

“The *Pod. parvulus* of Temminck I suspect to be identical with my *Batr. affinis*, which is found both in Malacca and Sikhim, and perhaps also in Java, as *O. cornutus* (v. *hodgsoni*) is both from Sikhim and Java.

“*B. moniliger*, nobis, is a good species from Ceylon; and Jerdon suspects that this must be the *Batrachostomus* of peninsular India, which he has heard of, but never seen. He is certain about its existence.”

Mr. Swinhoe’s last letter, dated Tamsuy in Formosa, January 17th last, says:—

“I am not doing much in birds just now, as we are scarcely settled yet at this new port; but by next month you may hear of my making some progress.

“*Suya striata*, nobis, is common on these hills, and, as I imagine, *Cisticola volitans*; but the latter I have not seen this trip. No