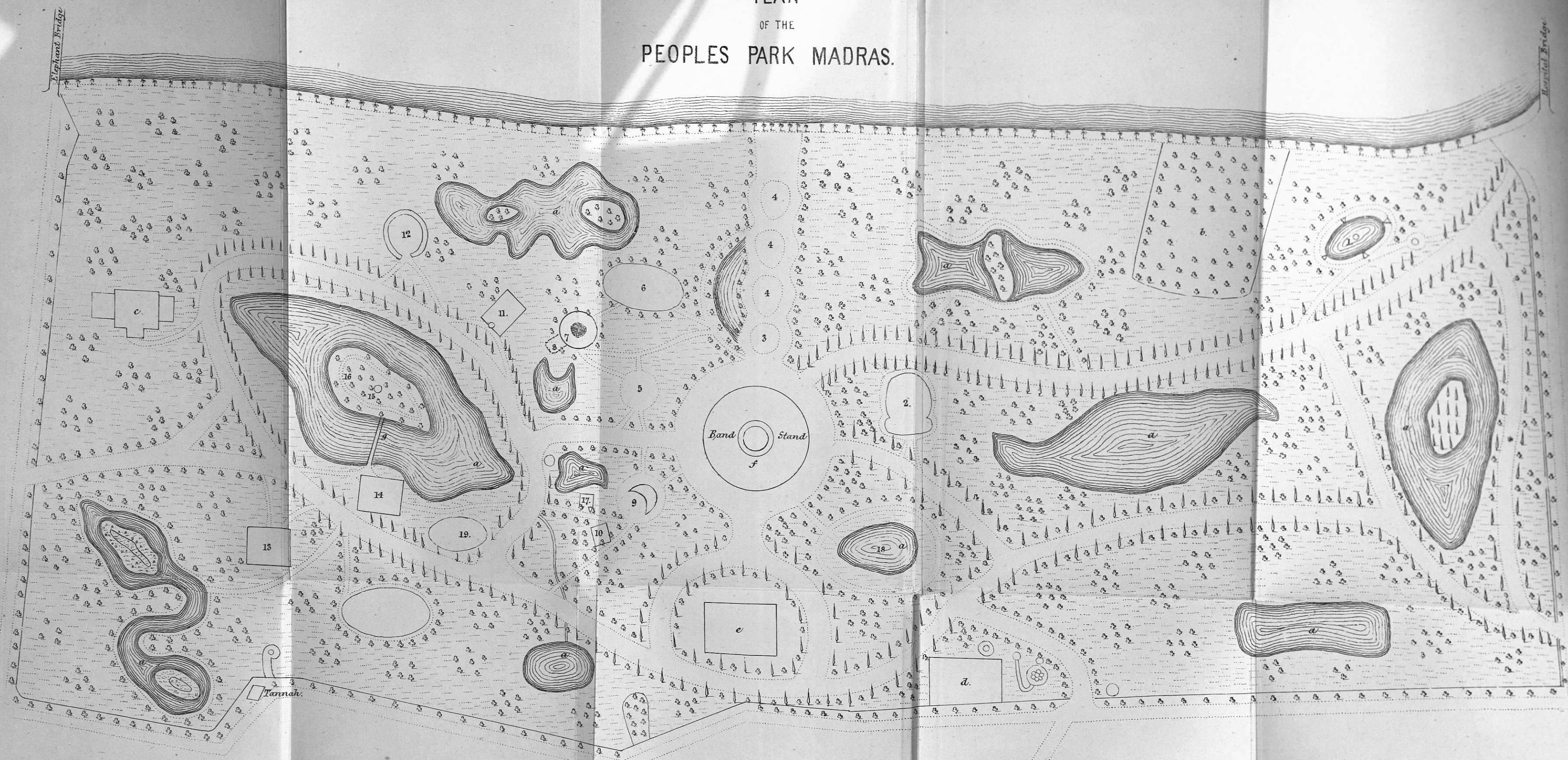


PLAN
OF THE
PEOPLES PARK MADRAS.



1. The Public Swimming Bath.
2. Enclosure with Saras Crane and Antelopes.
3. Parakeets.
4. The Monkey Enclosures.
5. Cocatoo's Cage.

6. Deer Enclosure.
7. The Mixed Cage.
8. The Common Rabbits.
9. The Semi-circular Aviary.
10. The Indian Wild Boar.

11. Pigeon House.
12. The Indian Elephant.
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- a. The Different Lakes in the Park.
- b. Old Native Burial Ground.
- c. Warder's House and Store Rooms.
- d. Park Constable's House.

- e. Park Superintendent's House.
- f. Band Stand.
- g. The Bridge from Great Carnivora House leading to the Island.

LITHO BY C. PALCENSKY FOR MESSRS. HIGGINBOTHAM & CO. MADRAS.

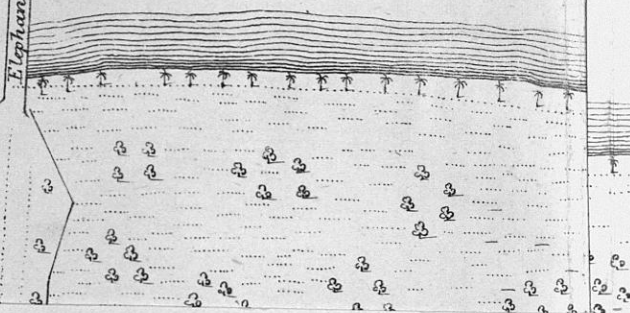
A
GUIDE
TO
The People's Park,

WITH
A DESCRIPTION OF THE ZOOLOGICAL
CONTAINED THEREIN

Printed by:
HIGGINBOTHAM AND
1876.

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON
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Elephant Bridge



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A

GUIDE

TO

WITH

A DESCRIPTION OF THE ZOOLOGICAL COLLECTION
CONTAINED THEREIN.

PEOPLE OF MADRAS

Madras:
HIGGINBOTHAM AND CO.
1876.



A
GUIDE

TO

The Zoological Garden, Madras

WITH

A DESCRIPTION OF THE ZOOLOGICAL COLLECTION

CONTAINED THEREIN.

PRINTED BY
HIGGINBOTHAM AND CO.

1878



THIS GUIDE

IS

DEDICATED

THROUGH THE PRESIDENT

AND

MEMBERS

OF

THE MUNICIPAL COMMISSION

TO THE

PEOPLE OF MADRAS.

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The History and Origin of the Park.

1. The Park.
2. The History and Origin of the Park.

PREFACE.

BELIEVING that a Guide would materially help visitors to the PEOPLE'S PARK, and thus enable them to see to advantage all the Animals and Birds therein contained, a brief account of each is given in this Pamphlet which, it is hoped, will tend to add to the interest of the Visitor who can refer to the Specimens on the spot, and that the interest thus awakened may lead to the study of Natural History itself.

10. A Black Vulture.
11. The Grey Partridge.
12. The Tame Swan.
13. The Australian Emu.

PREFACE.

It is the object of this Pamphlet to give a brief account of each of the Animals and Birds therein contained, and to enable the Visitor to the Park, and thus enable them to see to advantage all the Animals and Birds therein contained. A brief account of each is given in this Pamphlet, and it is hoped, will tend to add to the interest of the Visitor who can refer to the Specimens on the spot, and that the interest thus awakened may lead to the study of Natural History itself.

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After this plan the Park was laid out, some slight modifications having been introduced since. On the recall of Sir Charles Trevelyan his immediate and zealous carried the plan into execution. The area of the Park is 88 acres, or 116 English acres. There are four entrances to the Park, one on the North, one on the South-west, one on the South-east, and one on the North-west. A third on the West, and a fourth on the North.

The People's Park, Madras,

WITH
A DESCRIPTION OF THE ZOOLOGICAL COLLECTION
CONTAINED THEREIN.

To Sir Charles Trevelyan we are indebted for this Park, prior to his time, and as far as memory serves us, this plot of ground formed an immense swamp.

In the North-west angle was an extensive Cart-stand always reeking with filth. On the South-west angle was a stand for the Commissariat Cattle, and on the East was a native burial ground where, at all hours of the day, dead bodies were to be seen either undergoing cremation, or being interred with the usual din of tom-toms and other native music, whilst the rest of the ground was vacant, and during a great part of the year it formed a swamp.

In 1859, the Governor of the day, Sir Charles Trevelyan, first suggested, and subsequently put into execution, what is now The People's Park. A prize was offered for a plan, and the same was awarded to Mr. R. I. Baldry for his plan, with the motto "Water and Trees for a Hot Climate."

After this plan the Park was laid out, some slight modifications having been introduced since. On the recall of Sir Charles Trevelyan his immediate successor carried the plan into execution. The area of the Park is 88 cawnies, or 116 English acres. There are four entrances to it, one on the South-east, another on the South-west, a third on the West, and a fourth on the North.

There are twelve lakes of various size and shape, some with small islands and rustic bridges communicating with them. The roads of the Park embrace about five miles in extent. A plan of the Park accompanies this Guide, in which the various buildings and enclosures are numbered as well as the names of the animals confined in them given; so there will be no difficulty in ascertaining the different buildings and their contents by its aid.

The route taken in this Guide is supposed to commence at the entrance near the General Hospital Bridge, from thence passing straight down the main road, the first building that meets us is

1. THE PUBLIC SWIMMING BATH,

an enclosure with four sheds as dressing-rooms opening within, and a fountain at play in the centre of a large cistern or lake; this is a late construction for which the public are indebted to the Honorable J. G. Coleman, who, during the time he officiated as President of the Municipality in 1875, had it constructed.

On the left is to be seen a lake with an island on which are several casuarina trees. As we proceed further on we pass the old native burial ground on the right enclosed and planted with trees. Another large lake is seen on the left with a group of odallum trees the *Cerbera odallum* on the bank about the centre. A

third lake on the right contains a small island on which are growing a couple of neem trees. As we proceed further and approach the Bandstand on the left is

2. AN ENCLOSURE CONTAINING A SARAS CRANE, AND A PAIR OF ANTELOPES.

(a) The Saras Crane or *Grus antigone*

is a fine, tall, handsome bird, and is found in Central and Northern India and Burmah. It feeds chiefly about marshes and swamps. I have only met with them in the wilds of Orissa not far from water. In 1856, I remember seeing a tame one in the town of Cuttack going about the bazaars. I believe the Crane in the Park came from the Zemindary of Madugola in the Vizagapatam District, where I saw it going about the dilapidated fortress in 1866 in which the Zemindar resided.

(b) The Indian Antelope or *Antelope bezoartica*

is well known and is abundant in most districts in which the country is open, and it forms a favourite object of pursuit to sportsmen. The sexes are of different colour as may be seen from the pair in this enclosure. They make good pets, and become very tame, breeding freely in confinement; the doe has but one young at a time which she carries for three months; the young is called a *fawn*. The bucks are always dangerous as pets, for they take to butting, and their sharp pointed antlers readily inflict punctured wounds. The buck in the Park has his horns deformed from one of them being curved downwards; this is quite unusual among antelopes.

We now return to the main road and pass on towards the Bandstand, and on turning to the right or towards the East about the centre of the stand, a footpath

leads on to the Monkey enclosures, before reaching these, we come to a circular cage of parakeets.

3. PARAKEETS or *Palæornis torquatus*.

These rose-ringed parakeets are common to India and are met with in most districts. It is not only a common but a familiar bird from being made pets of so frequently, and are met with about towns and villages, perching on the house tops and frequently building their nests in crevices in the walls, or in holes in trees, pagodas, wells, &c. They lay from four to five eggs of a white colour, and rear three, four, or five young at each brood. The breeding season lasts from March to June. In July the young broods may be seen congregating in large numbers with their parents to roost in some grove in the vicinity of a town or village where they become very noisy. They are destructive not only to fruit gardens, but to most kind of grains carrying away the ear to the nearest tree to feed on at leisure. Childless women make great pets of them, from which they are called in Tamil *killi pillai*—*killi* meaning parrot, and *pillai* child—when taught they imitate the human speech fairly well, and learn to repeat several sentences. They are long lived. I have known some to have been caged twenty years.

As we proceed further towards the East we come on

4. THE MONKEY ENCLOSURES.

Here we come on three successive oblong enclosures, each containing eight wooden boxes on low pedestals for the monkeys. "The monkeys are divided by Zoologists into two great groups, which are as distinct in their anatomical characters as they are in their geographical distribution."

"1. The monkeys of the Eastern hemisphere (*Catarrhina*) inhabiting Africa, Arabia, India, Japan, China, Ceylon, and the Islands of the Indian Archipelago."

"2. The monkeys of the Western hemisphere (*Platyrrhina*) inhabiting the warmer portions of Central and Southern America. The first group or *Catarrhina* are characterized by nostrils which converge at their lower extremity, and are there only separated by a very narrow cartilage. Their dentition is the same as man consisting of eight incisor teeth—four canines and twenty molars." Of the *Catarrhina* monkeys the following are to be seen in the Park:

(a) The Baboon or Dog-Faced Ape.

"The grey baboon or *Cynocephalus hamadryus* of Naturalists is a native of the Eastern coast of Africa and the opposite shores of Arabia. It grows to a large size measuring from three to four feet when standing erect. The head, neck and front of the body are covered with long shaggy hair, whilst that on the hips, thighs and legs is short, and when contrasted with the former, has the appearance of being clipped, so that the whole resembles a shaved French poodle. These animals dwell amongst craggy rocks and precipices, which they climb with great agility. Their diet consists of bulbous roots, berries, grain, eggs, insects and scorpions—the latter they devour with great dexterity, nipping off the sting with an action so rapid as to prevent their being wounded by it. They are morose and daring in their temper, and their physical power render them very formidable opponents. They congregate in troops, and are bold and skilful in their predatory excursions, maintaining their ground even against large parties of men."

(b) The Hanuman or *Semnopithecus entellus*.

This monkey is common to Southern India, and is met with in large numbers in some districts and is held in veneration as being the representative of the Monkey-god of that name. I believe they are allowed unmolested to visit villages in some parts of the West-

ern Presidency where they are made great pets of and fed. They are somewhat shy in this Presidency and are very destructive to fruit and other trees, as well as to grain fields in which they do much damage.

They feed on grain, fruit of various kind as well as on the young shoots and leaves of most trees. Jerdon says, "that the males live apart from the females who have only one or two males in the colony who drive away or kill when they can the younger males." I have frequently seen a solitary male wandering about alone. Some attain a large size and weigh over 50 pounds, standing when erect about four feet in height. The females have but one young which they carry with them till they are old enough to provide for themselves. "Hanuman is the name of the king of the Monkey kingdom who aided Rama in conquering the Island of Ceylon and greatly distinguished himself." His figure is to be seen in Hindu temples represented as half-man half-monkey; when captured and tamed these monkeys are docile, but grow morose with age, and do not thrive well in confinement.

(c) The Madras Monkey

is the *Macacus radiatus* or the Bonnet Macaque; the Asiatic species of this genus are plentiful in most parts of India, dependent on the length of their tails which in some species are reduced to a rudiment. They are common to India and Ceylon. The young is inoffensive, and can be readily taught to perform various tricks, and is the most inquisitive and mischievous of its tribe, but with age it grows morose. They have but one young and rarely breed in confinement.

We retrace our way back now from the Monkey enclosures to the circle of the Bandstand.

A large circular enclosure with a wide road for carriages and an inner circle railed off with an outer raised footpath for pedestrians. The circle has four

entrances facing each point of the compass. At either side of the East and West entrances are two large very handsome French vases on pedestals, and each enclosed by an iron rail. These vases were presented by Lady Napier to the Park in 1868. In the centre of the circle is the Bandstand on a raised platform covered over with an octagonal roofed dome, and around the stand are placed various foliage and flower plants, with handsome iron and wooden seats scattered within the circle. If we now retrace our way out of the Bandstand keeping to the main road on the right just as we get out of the main Bandstand circle, a footpath leads off to the right, and by following it we come to a large cage with some Cocatoos, a Magpie and some Pigeons.

5. COCATOO'S CAGE.

The genus *Cocatuna* or white Cocatoo contains various species distinguished by their being all more or less of a pure white, having a very moveable crest tinted with yellow and orange. They are natives of India and Australia. Leadbeaters cocatoo, *C. leadbeateri*, is one of the prettiest of the genus. These birds are easily tamed and are the most attached of all. They are remarkable for their singular antics and extraordinary gestures, constantly raising or depressing their crests according as they are agitated by surprise, fear, or curiosity.

(a) The Magpie or *Pica caudatus*

is famed above all other species for the habit of stealing and hiding money and other glittering and metallic substances. It is smaller than the jackdaw and has more variety of colour. The head, neck, and breast are of a deep black, glossed with green, purple and blue, whilst the under parts and scapulars are of a snowy white. It feeds upon both animal and vegetable

substances, and destroys great numbers of grubs and slugs. It builds its nest very carefully defending it externally with sharp thorns and leaving only a narrow entrance. It is noisy, mischievous, restless and quarrelsome, but easily tamed and taught to pronounce words and short sentences. It is a social, but not a gregarious bird, and has always been an object of superstition with the vulgar. There are a few pigeons also in this enclosure—a description of them will be given when we arrive at the dovecote or pigeon-house. By retracing our steps back down the same path and turning to the North we come on the

6. DEER ENCLOSURE,

which contains the following species: The Sambar Deer or *Cervus aristoteles*, the Nilgai or *Portax pictus*, and the Spotted Deer or *Axis maculatus*.

(a) The Sambar Deer or *Cervus aristoteles*

is met with in all the large forests of India, and it ascends mountains up to about 10,000 feet elevation, wherever sufficient cover is afforded it by the forests. These deer prefer hilly regions and seldom leave the forests, unless perhaps in hill regions when they turn out morning and evening to feed on the new grass. They are sometimes gregarious forming herds, even being from fifteen to twenty or more, but occasionally both males and females are met with singly. During the heat of the day, they keep to the more dense parts of the jungle to avoid the sun. They feed on grass and young shoots and different sorts of fruit. The young is called a *fawn*, and are not complete in form till about the fourth year, and do not attain their full size till the eighth. When taken young they become tame and breed in confinement both in Europe and India. The females have but one young at a birth. The stags shed their horns in April, and the new ones are not perfected before September, about which time

the rutting season commences when the stags become fierce and bold, and their peculiar call may be heard night and morning.

(b) The Nilgai or *Portax pictus*

is found throughout India, being most abundant in Central India. It frequents the forests and low jungles associating in small herds of from ten to twenty or more. The young when taken grow very tame, and may be allowed to wander at large, but it is a vicious animal and of uncertain temper, bold, powerful and resolute. It often turns upon its pursuers. It browses a great deal, and is fond of fruit. It rarely breeds in confinement and has one young at a birth.

(c) The Spotted Deer or *Axis maculata*

is met with in most parts of India. In size and form it resembles the fallow deer and is of a rich fawn-colour spotted with white. It has a white longitudinal streak on the flank, and is generally met with near water in the jungles feeding at night. It is timid, indolent and gentle, easily tamed, and breeds freely in captivity having but one young at a birth. The skin and horns of the spotted deer form an article of commerce. They are very numerous in some districts, and go about in large herds.

Continuing our walk to the North we find in a large building a miscellaneous collection of small animals and birds.

7. THE MIXED CAGE.

(a) Screech Owl or *Strix javanica*;

it is met with throughout India, Ceylon and Burmah. It was long believed to be identical with the English Barn Owl, but it is now decided that it is not the same bird. It lives in ruins and in holes in trees in large topes. It remains concealed all day, coming out

to feed at dusk in the evening, and feeds on rats, mice, shrews, and sometimes small birds. It breeds in holes of trees and crevices of buildings, pagodas, &c., laying from three to four eggs. The natives consider it a bird of ill-omen, and should it roost on a house at night, they believe it foreshadows the death of some member of the family; consequently they call it *chavoo kuruvie* or death-bird.

(b) **Hill Squirrel** or the *Sciurus maximus*.

This animal is found in Malabar, Wynaad, Travancore, and the Neilgherries. It attains a good size and is much petted. I saw some caged in Cochin several years ago; they become very tame and friendly, but are extremely destructive to articles of furniture, &c., when at liberty. They have large heads and prominent eyes, and are quite arboreal in their habits and build their nests in the holes of trees or in a forked branch at the top of a tree, having four to five young; they breed twice a year. The hill natives eat the flesh and esteem it a luxury.

In another compartment of the same building is

(c) **The Lesser Civet Cat**

or *Veveria malaccensis*.

This animal is common all over the continent of India and resides in holes on the ground, in crevices of rocks, and sometimes is found under heaps of rubbish, wood, &c. It breeds twice a year having three to four young at a birth. I have often taken the young at Chingleput from heaps of firewood stacked in the vicinity of the Jail. It feeds on rats, squirrels, mice, birds, frogs, &c., as well as fruit. The natives are fond of confining them in cages to procure the civet. It grows quite tame. I have had them as pets at different times.

In another cage is the

(d) **Mungoos** or *Herpestes griseus*.

This animal is found in most parts of Southern India. It frequents open country as well as low jungles and hills, residing in rock crevices, holes in banks, hedges or dense bushes. It is very destructive to ground-frequenting birds, and when it can get access to the poultry-yard, or pigeon-houses, it destroys almost the whole of the birds by biting off their heads and sucking the blood of several. They breed twice a year and rear a brood of four to five young. They are frequently made pets of by the natives, more especially by childless women to whom they become greatly attached, and grow very tame, roaming about the place. They are called *keree pillai* or the striped child. It is reported to attack snakes, but this it does not do, except in self-defence or when pressed by hunger. I have seen a rock snake capture and swallow one. The natives believe that it has an antipathy to serpents and attacks them at once, and that to avoid the poisonous wounds inflicted by the cobra, it rushes off to roll itself on a certain plant to neutralize the poison. This plant by some is believed to be the *Aristolochia*? Experiments have proved repeatedly that the mungoos like other animals succumb to the poison of the cobra when fairly bitten, but from its extreme agility, it is very rarely wounded by a poisonous snake, and in a fight it always manages to kill the snake without being wounded itself. They are worth making pets of to clear a house of rats and other vermin, provided the poultry-house is well secured from their aggression.

In another cage are two

(e) **Common Jungle Cats** or *Felis chaus*.

It is the common wild cat of India and frequents jungles as well as the open country, and sometimes takes up its residence in villages where it does much damage to the village poultry. It frequents the fields

adjoining and destroys hares, partridges, &c. It breeds twice a year having three or four young at a time. It does not take kindly to domestication, but it breeds freely with the village cats.

In the enclosure adjoining this building are numerous rabbits.

8. THE COMMON RABBITS or *Lepus cuniculus*

is the best representative of the hare family, and is more abundant and social in its habits than the hare living in society and forming burrows underground, often very extensive, and when numbers are found living together in one spot, the place is termed a *warren*. The fecundity of rabbits is very great; they breed six and seven times a year, producing from six to eight young at a birth; the young are born blind. The flesh is much esteemed and furnishes a valuable article of food to man; the fur forms a considerable article of trade. Rabbits when frightened have a curious habit of striking with violence the ground with their hind feet. Great numbers of rabbits are domesticated; they are readily tamed. The rabbit has now been naturalized in most parts of the civilized world. There are several varieties, one termed the lop-eared is the chief and attains a large size; the average size of a good rabbit should be 6lbs., but 10lbs. is no uncommon weight. The period of gestation is thirty days, and an average of from four to six broods a year is very good. The young should be weaned at from four to six weeks; the brood may comprise from five to twelve but an average of six young is good. Here is also to be seen

(a) The Guinea Pig or *Cavy coboya*.

The common Guinea Pig, or restless cavy was originally a native of South America; it is now domesticated in most countries, being often kept in houses under the impression that its odour drives away rats.

It is shy and timid though cheerful and lively, continually running about and making a grunting noise; this and its coarse bristly hair have obtained for it the name of Guinea Pig. It breeds several times a year, sometimes every two months, and the usual litter is from two to four young. Here are also seen a number of

(b) White Rats or the *Mus decumanus*. Var.

An albino variety of the common rat which on account of its pure white colour has been domesticated and made a pet of. It is very prolific, breeding several times a year and producing at each birth from six to ten young.

If we now retrace our way back to the Bandstand proceeding towards the West we come on a footpath leading to the North, where we see

9. THE SEMI-CIRCULAR AVIARY DIVIDED INTO THREE COMPARTMENTS.

In the small western compartment are a few fancy pigeons, the large central compartment contains a miscellaneous collection of birds and water-fowl.

(a) Common Peafowl or *Pavo cristatus*.

The peafowl is too well known. It inhabits most parts of India, and frequents forests and jungles mostly preferring hilly districts. It is domesticated in many countries and grows very tame. It is venerated in many districts from having formed the vehicle for *Shiva* during one of his perigrinations, and many Hindoo temples have large flocks of them. They frequently enter villages and roost on trees and huts. The Peafowl breeds from April to October, varying according to the locality, laying from six to eight eggs in some sheltered bush. During breeding season, the male raises its tail and struts about very proudly to attract the females; he has the power of quivering his

tail; it is a very pretty sight to see several males displaying their charms in this manner together and strutting about before the fascinated females. The tail is shed and renewed about once a year. They are frequently netted or ensnared in horse hair nooses alive and brought in with their eyes stitched up to the Madras market in large numbers for sale. In their wild state they feed on grain, insects, snakes, as well as on young shoots, and flower buds of various kinds.

(b) **The Grey Jungle Fowl**
or *Gallus sonneratii*

is confined to Southern India and is met with in many districts—it is abundant in Malabar, Wynaad and the Eastern Ghâts—they are often netted within sixty miles of Madras, and brought in alive with their eyes stitched up to the Madras market for sale. The hen lays from February to May from seven to twelve eggs of a pinkish colour generally, amongst bamboo bushes to which they are partial; they are wild and untameable when taken in the adult state, but the young become tame, but do not thrive in confinement unless liberty is given them to wander about at pleasure. The wild ones may be got to breed in confinement, and may be crossed with the domestic fowl.

(c) **The Brown-Headed Gull**
or *Xema brumicephala*

is abundant throughout the sea coasts of India; it frequently follows ships to long distances to pick up garbage thrown over. It is believed to nest in lonely sea shores; when taken young, it grows tame; even adult birds thrive in confinement. It feeds on small fishes, worms, sea molluscs, &c.

(d) **The Blue Heron** or *Ardea cinerea*

is found over most parts of India, frequenting tanks, rivers and rice-fields. It breeds on trees, and I have

captured a large number of the young from a village named Vadan Tangle about fifteen miles from Chingleput, and have met with another Heronry in the South Arcot District. Though a solitary bird it breeds in societies not only with its own species, but with Cranes and Ibises. It has long legs and neck; the eggs are about the size of a common duck's egg; it lays from four to six of a pale greenish colour; the young are helpless and are fed by their parents till nearly full grown; the sexes are alike. It feeds chiefly on fish, frogs and insects. The specimen in the Park was sent by me.

(e) **The White Ibis**

or *Threokionis melanocephalus*

is met with in the same districts, frequenting rivers, tanks, paddy-fields, &c., in groups of three and four or more, feeding on molluscs, crustacea, insects, worms, &c.; a large number breed at Vadan Tangle, the Heronry, some fifteen miles from Chingleput where I have frequently taken the young, and the specimen now in the Park Aviary was one I contributed. They build their nests on trees standing in water of twigs, &c., and lay five or six white eggs about the size of a large hen's egg.

(f) **The Adjutant** or *Leptoptilus argala*,

of which several species are found inhabiting India, some of which attain to a great size and stand about five feet high. They are extremely useful as scavengers in removing noxious animals and feeding on all sorts of carrion, on which account they are protected in Calcutta where they may be met with walking the streets, or resting on one leg on the house-tops on the look out for garbage, &c. Their fine feathers are much appreciated, and they furnish plumes to adorn Ladies' Bonnets, and these are known as *Marabou*

Feathers in the market. This bird is frequently let out to wander about the lakes in the Park.

(g) **The Grey Pelican**

or *Pelicanus phillippensis*

is the most abundant species found in India. It is met with in most districts where rivers and tanks abound, breeding in the country, building large rude nests on rather low trees, sometimes in the vicinity or midst of villages. A Pelicany or breeding place exists some thirty miles from Cuddapah in that district. The Pelicans congregate in large flocks and are gigantic birds, and notwithstanding their size and weight are remarkably buoyant in their flight with necks drawn back, but on land they have an awkward waddling gait. They are readily recognized by their large straight bill, the lower mandible supporting a huge extensive pouch. Their food consists chiefly of fishes which they catch by thrusting down their heads into the water whilst swimming, but they never dive. There is also a white or crested Pelican, the *Pelicanus mitratus*, in the Park. These Pelicans have their liberty given them generally to enable them to waddle down to some of the lakes in the Park to fish for themselves.

The other small or eastern compartment of this Aviary contains

(h) **The Indian Koel** or *Eudynamys orientalis*.

This bird is found throughout India frequenting gardens, avenues and even open jungles, more especially in localities in which the varieties of the *ficus* or fig trees abound, as it feeds almost exclusively on fruits. It is partial to the peepul and banian, and at the fruit season, several may be seen on a tree together. During the pairing season it grows very noisy, and its plaintive cry may be heard at early morn and towards the dusk of the evening. It breeds freely about Madras gene-

rally from May to August; the female deposits her eggs frequently in the nest of the crow, and is reported to destroy the eggs already in the nest whilst she deposits her own; the eggs are of a pale olive green and spotted red from three to four in number. The male is of a glossy greenish black with crimson eyes, whilst the female is of a glossy dusky green, spotted with white above, with the wings and tail banded with white.

(i) **The Crow Pheasant** or *Centropus refipenis*

is a common bird and usually met with in most parts of India, among woods, gardens and cultivated grounds. It is partial to hedges, and is often called the hedge-crow by Europeans. It feeds on insects, centipedes, scorpions, lizards and small snakes; it walks and runs with facility and glides through the densest hedge readily. In Tamil it is called the *kullika*, or milk-hedge crow. It has a loud hoarse cry repeated several times in succession in dense bushes; it builds its nest of twigs. I have taken the young from a jack tree in the old Fort at Chingleput. The female lays from three to five eggs of a chalky appearance, white and oval. It breeds from June to August. The natives are very partial to its flesh, which is supposed to possess certain virtues when eaten, owing to the birds feeding on lizards, snakes, &c.

(j) **The Turtle Dove** or *Turtur risoria*

is commonly known as the ring dove, and is generally diffused throughout India. When kept in confinement, it frequently breeds the albino variety of the turtle or cage dove, and this white colour becomes permanent as long as it is bred in captivity. It is occasionally to be seen of the natural wild grey colour with a black half collar at the back of the neck. This collar is faintly seen in the white variety also; there is a brown or brick-dust coloured variety also met with in domes-

tication. The male coos almost every hour in the day and sometimes in the night. They breed freely bringing forth from six to eight broods a year; they lay but two white eggs at a time. The Mahomedans are very partial to them, and they make good pets, though old women say that it is unlucky to keep them.

(k) **The Bronze-winged Jacana**
or *Metopidius indicus*

is found throughout India in large lotus-covered tanks, swamps and pools running about over the floating weeds in search of insects, seeds and roots of water-plants; it breeds from May to June, making a nest of leaves in which it deposits six or seven eggs of a dark brown colour, sometimes streaked with black. The head and neck are of a rich dark green colour; breast, purple and back bronzed or purplish black.

Beyond this semi-circular Aviary is a small circular enclosure containing a Wild Hog (Sow.) This animal came from the Ganjam hills from whence I brought it in 1872 and presented it to the People's Park.

10. THE INDIAN WILD BOAR or *Sus indicus*

is found throughout India amongst hills, swamps and long grass. It abounds in some districts, and does much injury to the crops of the ryots. It is a gregarious animal forming numerous herds, and in sporting language is called "Sounder." Occasionally a Boar or Sow, more frequently the former, may be seen singly. They generally keep under shelter during the day, and turn out at night to feed; they travel to great distances in search of food. They feed on various roots and herbs, as well as wild fruits, insects, and sometimes on carrion. They are particularly fond of the roots of the nut grass for which they search indefatigably in rice fields, tanks, bunds and swamps.

Hog-hunting or spearing from on horseback is a favorite sport among gentlemen where the country is open and permits of their being ridden down. This exercise requires, if it may be so termed, not only much tact, but skill in horsemanship, otherwise the huntsman is likely to come to grief from the sudden rush of a Boar, and with his long tusks may rip open the sides not only of the horse, but the rider also should he come to grief. The Sow carries her young for four months, and brings forth from six to eight young Pigs at one litter.

We now retrace our way back from this Aviary to the main road leading to the North; a little way down and adjoining the road is the

11. PIGEON HOUSE.

The Pigeons or *Columba intermedia* belongs to the family Columbidae, and the Blue Pigeon is the most common in India, and is believed to be the origin of all our domestic pigeons. Pigeons are monogamous by keeping to one mate only and breeding in pairs; both male and female assist in making the nest and in hatching the eggs and feeding the young. They breed mostly in holes and crevices of rocks, buildings and temples, &c., and lay only two eggs of a pure white colour. The young are born naked and blind and fed by their parents long after they are fledged, by disgorging the food from their own craws into the mouth of the young. They feed chiefly on grain, and are the only birds that drink water by a continuous draught. The males coo and strut about to attract the females. They are well fitted as food for man, and the young especially are much appreciated. There are in the Park many varieties of what are termed Fancy Pigeons in this and other cages.

Passing from the Pigeon-House as we proceed a little way down, we come on another footpath leading to the Elephant House towards the East.

12. THE INDIAN ELEPHANT or *Elephas indicus* is a young animal. There are only two species of Elephants in the world, the African Elephant and the Indian Elephant. The Elephant is common to many parts of India. It has been recently captured in Mysore and Coimbatore by the Government; it is also found on the Annamullays and Travancore. They are generally met with in herds of ten, twenty, or more, and are taken in large enclosures or in pit-falls, and are easily tamed after a little time. Solitary males or tuskers as they are called, are sometimes met with; these are generally savage, killing any human beings they see and doing an incredible amount of damage to villages and fields and often attack travellers on the high road. The Elephant does not breed in confinement; the young is called a *calf*. They are very valuable when tame from their docility and intelligence, and are used as beasts of burden to carry large loads. They are also used on State occasions to carry Rajahs and other native Noblemen, and are much appreciated for shooting, more especially the tiger, for which purpose they are specially trained, and some of them are very brave, and will stand patiently the charge of a tiger. They are very long lived, exceeding 100 years, and realize from 1 to 5,000 Rupees each when well trained.

13. THE INDIAN BEAR or *Ursus labiatus*

is a huge animal, and attains to several hundred pounds in weight when full grown, and is termed *Plantigrade* as it walks on the soles of its feet. It is found over most parts of India and is abundant in the Northern Districts where jungles and hills abound; it frequents both hills and plains in search of food. It feeds chiefly on insects, white-ants, honey and various kinds of fruit. Bears are dangerous when met with in the jungles; in an attack they generally manage to tear the scalp away and will attack a human being without any provoca-

tion. I have met several wounded individuals in the wilds of Orissa.

The Bears carry their young seven months, and produce two at a birth generally in December or January. Our party (The Ganjam Survey) captured four young Bears on New Year's day, 1856. Young Bears are very quarrelsome over their food and will fight each other to death. They grow very tame and can be taught to perform various antics, and are led about for the purpose by natives. At the back of the Bear's cage is the large raised island planted with trees; a small wooden bridge leads to it as we continue our route along; then turning to the South we see

14. THE GREAT CARNIVORA HOUSE

enclosed with a walling of corrugated zinc, with an entrance facing the South, the building being located to the left of the road. A fee of half an Anna has to be paid for entering this enclosure which contains hyænas, leopards, tigers, lions, and porcupines, and a few other animals.

(a) The Hyæna or *Hyæna striata*

is common to most parts of India, taking up its residence among the low hills, or in their immediate vicinity in holes, caverns or thickets, concealing itself all day and sallying forth at night fall in search of prey or the carcasses of any animal it falls in with. It traces out burial grounds and digs up the recently interred bodies on which it gloats. Although a strictly carnivorous animal, it is partial to fruits, more especially the melon and water-melon which it devours, and gardeners about Vellore used to have some trouble in keeping them out of their melon gardens. It is destructive to dogs, sheep, goats and poultry alike, and will sometimes leap over a five feet wall, and carry off a sheep or goat. It causes damage in sugar-

cane fields also. It has a hoarse croaky bark which often entices dogs which are readily captured and carried off. It grows tame and docile when young to a certain extent and becomes attached to its master, and will follow him about, but still it cannot be trusted. It has a very strong scent and can discover a carcase, or even water at great distances. It breeds in caverns; the bitch has from two to four pups at each litter which she carries for about four months.

(b) **The Pard, Leopard, or *Felis pardus*** is believed to comprise two varieties, one large and the other small; size seems to constitute the chief difference between the two, the large one being called a Panther, and the small Leopard. They are very vicious when brought to bay, and have the habit of concealing themselves readily anywhere that it is difficult to make them out. I have seen one in a small rice-field knock down and severely wound several men one after another successively, and then conceal itself so perfectly that it could not be seen till actually come upon. It eventually escaped owing to the closing shades of the night, killing six out of the number wounded who died of their wounds. It wanders about hills and jungles in search of prey taking most animals it meets with. At Ercaud, a Panther entered a cow-shed by a small crevice in the wall under the eaves of the building, and killed seven calves that were shut in it and sucked their blood; it ate the smallest of the seven and vanished. The next night it killed a cow in the immediate vicinity. It is reported that in a Planter's cow-shed in Travancore a Panther entered and killed thirty head of cattle in one night. It is a sly sneaking animal. It frequently steals away dogs at night, and I have had dogs carried away from Camp whilst the followers and people were still on the move. The female carries her young for six months, and has from two to four cubs at each

litter. They breed freely in confinement with their own kind as well as with the black variety. They have bred several times in the Park. They rarely attack man, except in self-defence. A well marked variety is the Black Panther of which there is a specimen in the Park. It is of a uniform dull colour, the spots showing faintly in particular lights.

(c) **The Tiger or the *Felis tigris***

is a noble animal of the feline species, from which it is popularly termed the Royal Tiger, and is found in most parts of India, both on the plains and hills, ascending to an elevation of over 7,000 feet as in the Neilgherries, but it is generally met with in jungles, frequently confining itself to the long grass or thickets along the banks of streams, rivers or nullahs during the day and prowling at night in search of prey. It is very plentiful in Central India and in the Coimbatore District of this Presidency. They do much damage and carry off people frequently; when they once get a taste of human blood, they seem to prefer it to all kinds of food ever after; they then become what is termed "Man-Eaters." The female has two cubs which she carries about six to seven months and breeds during November, December and January. In November 1874, the tigress belonging to the Rajah of Poonganor brought forth two cubs whilst I was there. They breed freely in confinement, but have not done so in the Park as yet. Their chief prey is cattle, deer and wild hog. They can be frightened off at times, as it is a somewhat cowardly animal, but when wounded it grows ferocious and charges its assailant; many are the lives lost of sportsmen who have been out Tiger-hunting; it is always dangerous to do so on foot. Trained Elephants are the best animals for the purpose, as the Tiger can be shot from off their backs. I have heard of more than one instance in the jungles of Orissa of the semi-wild buffaloes saving the life of the herdsman by

charging the Tiger in a body. The natives are generally superstitious about the Tiger; its whiskers and claws are converted into charms. It is said that some of the hill tribes eat the flesh. In the Coimbatore District, Tigers have been very destructive to human life; strychnine has been used for poisoning them and has proved very successful. An Officer's party was subsequently organized for the destruction of Tigers, and a large number have been accounted for.

(d) **The Lion** or *Felis leo*.

The Asiatic Lion is met with in some parts of India, more especially in parts of Northern India; it is liable to great variations in size, colour and expression, varying from a deep red chesnut brown to a grey or silvery colour. The male has a shaggy mane. They grow tame and breed in confinement. The female, termed the Lioness, has from two to four cubs at each birth which she carries about ten months. The Lions have bred in the Park, and were considered great curiosities when first introduced in Southern India. In its wild state it feeds on cattle, deer, donkey, &c. A full grown male Lion is certainly a noble beast to look at.

(e) **The Indian Porcupine** or *Histrix leucera*

of which there are two specimens in the Park. It slightly differs, I believe, from the African Porcupine in the colour of its quills. It is to be met with in most parts of India, living in extensive burrows in ravines, tank bunds, and sometimes at the foot of hills. It is very destructive in many localities to various crops, potatoes, carrots, &c., as at Ootacamund. They do not quit their burrows till after the shades of evening have closed in, and return to their lair at the dawn of morning. When brought to bay, they charge backwards and inflict serious injury with their spines upon their assailants. The Porcupine is very good eating and makes capital steaks.

(f) **The Great Indian Rhinoceros**
or *Rhinoceros indicus*

is a huge animal and is found in the Terai at the foot of the Himalayas from Bhotan to Nepaul. It lives in dense jungles and swamps, and is hunted for on Elephants, and when wounded it will charge its assailant. The Rhinoceros in the Park broke loose on one occasion and gave much trouble ere it was re-captured, were not its doings chronicled in the Madras newspapers? Its hide is believed to be very thick and tough, and is in great request for making the native shield.

From the Great Carnivora House, we cross an ornamental wooden bridge facing the East on to a large island planted with a number of trees. In the centre of the island is a cage containing in separate compartments four Jackals and two young Hyenas.

15. **THE JACKAL** or *Canis aureus*

varies much in the colour of its fur according to the season and locality. A black variety is also met with occasionally and was recently alluded to in the newspapers. The Jackal is common to most parts of India, and is useful in acting the scavenger in removing garbage and carrion, but it is a great thief in the bargain, and will, if the opportunity be given, steal poultry and carry off birds and lambs, and sometimes will even attack sheep. It feeds freely on fruit, and of an evening may be seen by the dozen feeding on the banian fruit in the avenues of the roads at Chingleput; it is also destructive to sugar-canes, and feeds freely on the coffee berries passing out the seed entire. The "Jackal Coffee" as the Planters call it is supposed to be the best as the Jackal only feeds on the ripest berries. The female breeds twice a year, having from three to six puppies at each litter which she pro-

duces in some drain or hole. She carries her young for sixty days. The young grow tame, and sometimes become attached to its owner, but it always has a hankering after poultry; it breeds by being crossed with the domestic dog. The cry of the Jackal is too well known, and in some stations becomes a nuisance at nightfall. The Jackal horn is sometimes sold as a charm which is nothing but a process of the occipital bone, which is believed to possess great virtue and to bring good luck to the possessor. These so-called horns being prized by the natives, the low class of natives termed *Jogees* often deceive people by fixing the canine or dog tooth of the Jackal in a piece of skin and sell it as the Jackal horn. The sight of a Jackal, the first thing in the morning, is supposed to prove lucky to the individual for the day—and when a native comes in for any good thing, he is said to have seen the face of the Jackal to have such luck. It is a common saying among the natives. At one end of the island is a small house for Water-fowls, and on the island struts

16. A BLACK VULTURE or the *Otogyps calous* commonly seen about India as solitary individuals or in pairs; occasionally a solitary one may be seen presiding over the carcass of a dead bullock surrounded by a host of common Vultures at a respectful distance. It builds its nest on lofty trees, and lays but one white egg. I have taken both the egg and the young in Orissa and Mysore.

We now retrace our way back from the island by the same bridge to the Great Carnivora House, and on getting out of the enclosure, we enter the main road and pass by the inner enclosure by a footpath that leads on after crossing a carriage road to the semi-circular Aviary; if we take this footpath we come on a cage containing Partridges and Quails.

17. THE GREY PARTRIDGE (d)

or *Ortitorius ponticeriana*

is met with throughout India in gardens, cultivated lands, and low hilly jungles. The male has spurs, one on each leg. The females differ simply from the males in the absence of spurs. It is a gregarious bird and met with in coveys of a dozen or more. The hen lays from nine to twelve eggs of a cream-colour in hedges and thick bushes. I have taken the eggs and hatched them under a hen; the young grow very tame, going away to feed during the day and returning to the house to roost at night. They are frequently caged and made great pets of, especially the males for fighting purposes, as they are very pugnacious birds, and when petted will answer to the owner's call and follow him to any distance. They are allowed to fight wild birds, and in the midst of a fight, the wild ones are captured by the owner of the pet, or else small lances are tied on their legs, and in the fight cut down or wound their antagonists so severely that they are readily taken. Sometimes they are used as decoys in a cage with a net in which they are taken. It is commonly kept for such purposes by Mahomedans and Tellugús. The Partridge feeds on grain, white-ants, grasshoppers and other insects. It breeds from March to June, sometimes rearing two broods in the year. It is rather dry eating. Here is also to be seen

(a) The Rock Bush Quail

or *Perdicula Asiatica*.

The *Lowa*, as it is commonly called by the natives, is a pretty little bird of a brownish colour; it is also a pugnacious bird, and is caged and petted for the purpose of fighting. The males have short spurs. It is common to Southern India, frequenting cultivated fields and low jungles in hilly districts. It nests in bushes and lays from four to six buff-coloured eggs.

(b) The Black Breasted Quailor *Coturnix coromandelica*

is also common to Southern India and is known by the name of *Batteyr* among the natives. The males are sought for and petted for fighting during the season only, so the petting is short lived. It may be met with singly, in pairs or in coveys of half a dozen or more. It nests in grass, stumps, bushes, sometimes under protection of stones, laying from four to six eggs of a creamy colour, some of which are mottled with brownish spots. The adult birds grow tame readily, but are deceitful, and will escape if opportunity be given them.

(c) The Jungle Bush Quailor *Perdicula cambayensis*

commonly termed the *Girza* among natives, is also common to Southern India; the male has short spurs. It grows tame readily and will answer the call of its owner, and is much prized as a fighting bird. It frequents jungles in the plains or in hilly districts and cultivated fields in search of food in beys of ten or twelve.

I have seen them breed in domestication, and the male, like the Partridge, will adopt the young of another when introduced into its cage and tend it carefully. It also nests in bushes, depositing from four to six eggs. Quails and Partridges are netted in large numbers and brought to the Madras market for sale.

If we now retrace our way to the carriage road that passes next the Great Carnivora House, proceeding towards the south, we find that it branches off beyond the Emu enclosure; winding round to the East to join the main road from the Bandstand, while we proceed by the other branch towards the South, we pass on the right the Municipal Nurseries of Avenue trees, and

on the left the Superintendent's House is seen amongst a small grove of shrubs and trees. On the South, and not far from this House, is to be seen the Norfolk Pine, planted by His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh. A little further down the road on the West is to be seen the Park Constable's House, and the road here again branches off, one to the East and the other turns round to the West leading to the Western Gate Entrance to the Park, whilst the Eastern road after winding a little way at about the centre of the Park proceeds towards the South where it diverges into two, the one winding towards the General Hospital Entrance Gate by which we entered the Park, and the other to the Pareah Mootoo Gate next the Napier Water Pandal passing out of the Park.

On the Central Lake, not far from the Superintendent's House, some three or four Swans are to be seen.

18. THE TAME SWANor *Cygnus mansuetas* or *olor*

appears to be the Swan of the ancients as may be seen from antique cameos and pictures. They made it the model of whiteness and grace, and esteemed it the bird of love, and in their representations it was always attached to the car of Venus, nor did they refuse to eat it. It was generally served up with great ostentation at their public feasts. A cygnet even at the present day is not despised tasting something between a goose and hare. In England this species forms a great ornament to gentlemen's private grounds where there is much water, and in former days it was considered a Royal bird. In 1841 there were 437 Swans on the Thames. The male is called a *Cob*, the female a *Pen*. They are said to be very long lived; individuals are known to have lived fifty and even seventy years. They feed on roots, leaves, seeds, frogs,

leeches, and all sorts of aquatic insects, and even small fish. Their nests are large and composed of herbs, &c., placed near the edge of the water. They lay from five to eight eggs which they sit on for six weeks. They take great pride in keeping their plumage clean, and their movements in the water are extremely graceful.

19. THE AUSTRALIAN EMU, CASSOWARY,

or *Dromiceius australis*

is common to Australia, and is a large powerful bird, which like the Ostrich is hunted by dogs, and offers great resistance to its capture. When taken young it can be easily tamed, and becomes attached to its owner. The flesh is greatly esteemed and is reported to be well flavoured. The Emu breeds in England, and it may be got to do so in this country. It builds a large nest on the ground with such rubbish as it can get together, and lays from ten to fifteen large eggs, the weight of each averaging about two pounds. The young are hatched in about six weeks, both the male and female birds share in the incubation of the eggs, and attention to the young.

A LIST OF THE TREES GROWING IN THE PEOPLE'S PARK.

Scientific Names.	English Names.	Tamil Names.	Remarks.
Acacia Arabica.....	Babool tree	Karoo-valum.	
Acacia Speciosa.....	Sirissa tree	Katuvage.	
Adnanthera Pavonia..	Red wood tree	Aunaycoondoomany.	
Araucaria Excelsa.....	Norfolk Island Pine..	...	
Azadirachta Indica...	Neem, or Margosa tree.	Vaypam marum.	
Bassia Longifolia.....	Wild Sapota tree.....	Illoopei.	
Bauhinia Variegata.....	Variegated Mountain Ebony.	Mundareh.	
Bignonia Chelonoides.	Sweet scented spathodea.	Padrie marum.	
Bignonia Suberosa...	Indian Cork tree	Corku marum.	

Scientific Names.	English Names.	Tamil Names.	Remarks.
<i>Borassus flabelliformis.</i>	Palmyra Palm	Pannei.	
<i>Cæsalpinia Coraria</i> ...	American Sumach ...	Libi-libi marum.	
<i>Casuarina Equisetifolia.</i>	Horse tail casuarina...	Chavookoo marum.	
<i>Casuarina Muricata</i> ...	Casuarina tree, or Tinian pine.	Chavookoo marum.	
<i>Cathartocarpus Fistula</i>	Purging cassia	Sara-konnei marum.	
<i>Cathartocarpus Roxburghi.</i>	Roxburgh's cassia	Konnei marum.	
<i>Cerbera Odallum</i>	Odallum tree	Cataralie.	
<i>Cocos Nucifera</i>	Cocconut Palm.....	Taynga marum.	
<i>Cratogeomys Roxburghii</i> ...	Three-leaved caper tree.	Mavoolinga marum.	
<i>Dalbergia Sissoo</i>	Sissoo tree.....	Biti marum.	

<i>Eriodendron Anfruosum.</i>	Silk cotton tree.....	Elavum marum.
<i>Erythrina Indica</i>	Indian coral tree.....	Muruku marum.
<i>Ficus Bengalensis</i>	Banyan tree	Ala-marum.
<i>Ficus Religiosa</i>	Poplar-leaved Fig tree	Arasum-marum.
<i>Grevillea Robusta</i>	Dr. Greville's tree ...	Sheermi Teaku marum
<i>Guatteria Longifolia</i> ...	Mast tree	Ashoga marum.
<i>Inga dulcis</i>	Sweet fruited Inga...	Coorkapooli.
<i>Lagerstramia Indica</i> ...	Indian Lagerstramia.	Adumboo marum.
<i>Mangifera Indica</i>	Mango tree	Manga marum.
<i>Parkia Biglandulosa</i> ...	Biglandular Parkia ...	Sheermi valen marum.
<i>Parkinsonia Aculeata</i> ...	Jerusalem thorn	Valum marum.
<i>Phoenix Sylvestris</i>	Wild date Palm	Eetchimpaunnay.
<i>Poinciana Regina</i>	Royal Poinciana	Rayer myel kondei marum.

Scientific Names.	English Names.	Tamil Names.	Remarks.
Pongamia Glabra.....	Smooth-leaved Pongamia.	Poonga marum.	
Sapindus Emarginatas	Soapnut tree.....	Poongaun kottei marum.	
Spathodea Campanulata.	Large flowered Spathodea.	...	
Sterculia Fetida.....	Fetid Sterculia	Peenary marum.	
Tamarindus Indica...	Tamarind tree	Poolia marum.	
Terminalia Catappa...	Country almond tree.	Nattoo vadium kottay marum.	
Thespesia Populnea...	Portia tree	Pooverisha marum.	

A LIST OF FISH FOUND IN THE LAKES OF THE PARK WITH
SCIENTIFIC, ENGLISH AND TAMIL NAMES.

Scientific Names.	English Names.	Tamil Names.	Remarks.
Anguilla bengalensis ...	Eel	Valang.	
Bagrus labialis	Cat fish	Kelti.	
Barbus chrysopoma ...	Carp	Kendai.	
Cheela argenta	Silver fish	Velluchi.	
Mastacembulus armatus.	Sand eels.....	Aral.	
Notopterus buchani.	Thorney vallei	Shotei vallei.	
Ophiocephalus punctatus.	Black caboose.....	Corovei.	
" striatus...	Murrel	Veral.	
Platycephalus neglectus.	White caboose.....	Oloovei.	
Rhynobdella aculeata.	Thousands	Asarei.	
Saccobranchus singis...	Scorpion fish	Thalce.	
Silurus Boalis.....	Vallei	Vallei.	

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