

College of Arts and Science
IRAQ NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

Publication No. 3.

THE AVIFAUNA OF IRAQ

By

BASHIR E. ALLOUSE,
M.S., M.B.O.U.

Asst. Professor of Zoology, and Director,
Iraq Natural History Museum,
College of Arts and Science, Baghdad.



Authorized for publication by the Council of Higher Education.

Printed at Al-Tafayyudh Press, Baghdad,

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P R E F A C E

Since the publication of our "Handlist" in 1950, important notes and suggestions were received, and more collecting made, which added much to our knowledge of the Avifauna of this country. The Handlist was simply an attempt to survey, in a systematic way, the birds of Iraq with the object of laying some foundation for a further comprehensive study of the birds of this area based on literature, collections, and direct observation.

This task would naturally involve an intensive search into the mass of literature scattered in various papers and journals. Our Museum and its library, with a little more than 6 years of background, are inadequate for a study of this nature, with the exception of the important bird collection which throws much light on the status and range of many birds in Iraq. It was left to the present writer to seek the facilities of a good library in a foreign Natural History Museum.

The opportunity came when, in late 1951, the author accepted with deep gratitude a UNESCO Fellowship of 6 months to visit American Museums of Natural History for the study of museological technique in the United States, according to an itinerary set down by UNESCO and I.I.E. specialized divisions. This program of visits and training was concluded in three-months time, after which the author took the advantage of a Grant-in-Aid offered to him by the University of Michigan, and there he found the most generous help and superb facilities for his projected study.

The main part of this work was completed in the University of Michigan Museum of Zoology, under the intelligent and scholarly supervision of the distinguished ornithologist, Dr. Josselyn Van Tyne, Curator of Birds, and Associate Professor of Zoology.

This paper abstracts the observations made and reported by earlier collectors since 1884, and embodies the most recent records communicated to the author by interested observers, or derived from specimens recently collected by, or presented to, the Iraq Natural History Museum during the past few years of its existence. Half-a-dozen species were added to the list, which were not recorded from Iraq before, and these are: a Black Tern, a Parakeet, a Bar-tailed Lark, a Dipper, a Hawfinch, and probably a Fieldfare.

As a result of recent records, the status of many birds were revised or their

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range extended. In many cases breeding notes are added, and some birds not hitherto known to breed in our area are now reported as nesting. However, there are still much fragmental information or insufficient evidence of the occurrence of some species of birds which have to be cleared up by further observations and collecting. The Iraq Natural History Museum is coping with this task, and will publish from time to time such new records as will prove of value in clarifying the ambiguities of the present study.

Our system of classification is based on Wetmore's "Classification for the Birds of the World" (1951). The naming of genera, species, and subspecies follow Peters' "Check-List" for the non-Passerine birds. In the case of the Passerine birds, however, various recent sources were consulted.

I feel greatly obliged to UNESCO and the University of Michigan for their Fellowship Grants which enabled me to carry out this study in Michigan during the Spring Semester and Summer Session of 1952.

I am especially indebted to Dr. Josselyn Van Tyne for his sympathetic and critical reading of the original manuscript, for the valuable suggestions he made, and for allowing me free access to the rich library of the Bird Division. It would be hard to evaluate what I personally gained from his long experience and scientific outlook, through many liberal discussions with him. In acknowledging my indebtedness to Dr. Van Tyne, I should like to make it very clear that I am in no way shifting to him any part of the responsibility for such errors in style or fact which may have survived in this paper.

I am very grateful for the generous help and encouragement rendered to me by Dr. Dugald E. S. Brown, Chairman of the Zoology Department, and by several Staff Members of the University's Museum of Zoology.

Finally I wish to thank the following gentlemen for supplying valuable information or specimens: Mr. E.S. Steward of Windermere, England, for his letter of December 12, 1951, embodying notes on some birds he observed in Iraq during the latter half of April and all of May, 1947 & 1949; Mr. W.H. Jeffery of the Iraq Petroleum Company for the nice gift of birds which he collected at various Oil Stations in the deserts of western Iraq; Mr. Robert Angorly of the Port Directorate, Basra, for the information and a few specimens he supplied; and the Staff members of our Museum who contributed much to our collection of birds.

Baghdad, Iraq.
April 15, 1953.

BASHIR E. ALLOUSE

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Errata

Page	Line	
1	3	Read: STRUTHIO.
74	22	Add: Family STRIGIDAE above Subfamily BUBONINAE.
108	24	Read: <i>Oenanthe lugens lugens</i> (Lichtenstein).
111	25	Read: <i>Phoenicurus ochruros phoenicuroides</i> (Moore).
117	13	Read: <i>Cettia (Potamodus) orientalis</i> Tris., etc.
125	23	Read: TIMALIIDAE.
125	24	Read: Genus TURDOIDES Cretzchmar.
128	2	Read: PRUNELLA.
137	10	Cancel and add: <i>Petronia petronia</i> , Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 12, 1888. p.289.
143	5	Read: <i>coccothraustes</i> .

Order STRUTHIONIFORMES

Family STRUTHIONIDAE.

Genus STRUTHIO Linné

ARABIAN OSTRICH.

نعامة عربية •

Struthio camelus syriacus Rothschild, Bull. Brit. Orn. Cl., 39, 1919, p.38.

A very rare bird in our area, and might be found in the Syrian and Arabian deserts on the western and southwestern borders of Iraq. Reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926) from the Syrian desert west of the Euphrates, between parallels 30 and 34, at the heads of the Wadis (valleys) running to, and 100 miles or so distant from that river. Two specimens and three eggs were collected.

Mr. Robert Angorly of Basra recently reported that the last two ostriches in Iraq were killed in 1927, many miles south of Al-Busaiya in the desert south of Iraq, and that another one was killed some 30 miles from Bajisiyah Wood in Basra district.

Order COLYMBIFORMES

Family COLYMBIDAE

Genus POLIOCEPHALUS Selby.

1. LITTLE GREBE.

١ - غطاس صغير • غواص •

a. *Poliocephalus ruficollis ruficollis* (Pallas).*Colymbus ruficollis* Pallas, Vroeg's Cat. Coll., 1764, Adumbr., p.6.*Podiceps fluvialis*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 26, 1898, p.507.b. *Poliocephalus r. iraquensis* (Ticehurst).*Podiceps r. iraquensis* Ticehurst, Bull. Brit. Orn. Cl., 1923, p.28.

The first race is probably a winter visitor, and is reported by Cumming (Sharpe, 1886) in the Fao area as arriving in September and leaving in February.

The second race, which is described as smaller than *ruficollis*, is a local resident which commonly breeds in the marshes in June. Reported as resident in Basra, where, according to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), several nests were found containing 3 to 6 eggs each. In winter it spreads out to the rivers and swamps where it is not usually found during the breeding season.

Genus COLYMBUS Linné

2. BLACK-NECKED GREBE.

٢ - غطاس اسود الرقبة •

Colymbus nigricollis nigricollis (C.L. Brehm).*Podiceps nigricollis* Brehm, Handb. Naturg. Vog. Deutschl., 1831, p.963*Podiceps nigricollis*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 26, 1898, p.532.

Resident in small numbers, breeding in the marshes. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), this bird was found breeding in the marshes of Musayeb during May and June, and even was present in July. Nesting was reported from Lake Akkarkuf in August. In winter it spreads out to the rivers.

3. GREAT CRESTED GREBE.

٣ - غطاس •

Colymbus cristatus cristatus L.*Colymbus cristatus* L., Syst. Nat., ed X, 1, 1758, p.135.*Podiceps cristatus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 26, 1898, p.544.

A winter visitor, and partly breeding, in suitable localities. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926), eggs were found in Iskandariyah marshes on July 14, and breeding birds were reported from Lake Akkarkuf in August. All other reports refer to the winter months, where it was seen on the rivers and flooded areas, from Mosul in the north to Basra and Fao in the south.

2. WHITE PELICAN

Pelecanus onocrotalus L.
Pelecanus onocrotalus L. *Ibid.* *Nat. Hist.* vol. 1, 1759, p. 122.
Pelecanus onocrotalus Cat. B. Brit. Mus. vol. 1, 1825, p. 140.
This species occurs in marshes, rivers, and flooded areas. It breeds in certain small ponds at the head of the Persian Gulf, in April and May. Young are reared one and four eggs on mud-banks. In 1890, Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926) reported that adults and young were reported plentiful on marshes in August. Reported in winter (November to April) from Basra, Fao, and Baghdad. Fully grown young were seen near Fao (on the banks of the Shatt al-Arab) toward the end of June. In the breeding season, pelicans are rarely found outside their nesting districts.

3. ROBY PELICAN

Pelecanus robus Gmelin.
Pelecanus robus Gmelin. *Nat. Hist.* vol. 1, 1759, p. 122.
Pelecanus robus Cat. B. Brit. Mus. vol. 1, 1825, p. 140.
The status of this bird in our area is not clear. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926), there are three undated immature specimens and one adult dated October 11, 1889 in the British Museum from our locality. But so far we have no specimens.

4. DALMATIAN PELICAN

Pelecanus crispus Bruch.
Pelecanus crispus Bruch. *Ibid.* 1877, col. 1100.
Pelecanus crispus Cat. B. Brit. Mus. vol. 1, 1825, p. 140.
An uncommon winter visitor, reported from the marshes near Fao by Cummins.

Order PELECANIFORMES

Suborder PELECANI

Family PELECANIDAE.

Genus PELECANUS Linné

1. WHITE PELICAN.

• جمع أبيض - ١

Pelecanus onocrotalus L.*Pelecanus onocrotalus* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p. 132.*Pelecanus onocrotalus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 26, 1898, p.467.

Fairly common in marshes, rivers, and flooded areas. Reported as breeding in certain small islands at the head of the Persian Gulf, in April and May, where Cumming got a young one and four eggs on mid-October (Sharpe, 1891). According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926), LaPersonne saw colonies of this bird nesting in these islands in April. Adults and young were reported plentiful on Suweikiyah marshes in August. Recorded in winter (November to April) from Amara, Kut, and Baghdad. Fully grown young were seen near Abadan (on the Iranian side of Shatt-el-Arab) toward the end of June. In the breeding season, pelicans are rarely found outside their nesting quarters.

2. ROSY PELICAN.

• جمع وردى - ٢

Pelecanus roseus Gmelin.*Pelecanus roseus* Gmelin, Syst. Nat., 1, pt.2, 1789, p.570.*Pelecanus roseus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 26, 1898, p.466.

The status of this bird in our area is not clear. According to Ticehurst *et al.* (1922), there are three undated immature specimens and one adult dated October 24, 1886, in the British Museum from our locality. But so far, we have no specimen.

3. DALMATIAN PELICAN.

• جمع أجمعد الرأس - ٣

Pelecanus crispus Bruch.*Pelecanus crispus* Bruch, Isis, 1833, col. 1109.*Pelecanus crispus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 26, 1898, p.468.

An uncommon winter visitor, reported from the marshes near Fao by Cumming

(Sharpe, 1886). There are winter records from Amara, Hammar Lake, Suweikiyah marshes, and Tekrit.

Family PHALACROCORACIDAE

Genus PHALACROCORAX Brisson.

4. CORMORANT.

٤ - غاق

Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis (Shaw).

Pelecanus sinensis Shaw, Nat. Misc., 13, 1801, pl.529, text.

Phalacrocorax carbo, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 26, 1898, p.340.

A common winter visitor, widely distributed in suitable localities throughout the country. Recorded from October to May; and on May 18, a few were seen on the Hammar Lake, but no evidence of its breeding there (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922).

5. SHAG/GREEN CORMORANT.

٥ - غاق أخضر

Phalacrocorax aristotelis desmarestii (Payrandeau).

Carbo desmarestii Payrandeau, Ann. Sci. Nat., 8, 1826, p.464.

Phalacrocorax desmarestii, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 26, 1898, p.368.

Recorded in winter by Meinertzhagen (1914) at Tekrit; and by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922) near Amara in November and December, and on the Tigris near Baiji in winter.

Genus HALIETOR Heine.

6. PYGMY CORMORANT.

٦ - غاق افزم

Haliector pygmeus (Pallas).

Pelecanus pygmeus Pallas, Reise versch. Prov. Russ. Reich, 2, 1773, p.712.

Phalacrocorax pygmeus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 26, 1898, p.405.

A common resident, breeding in the marshes north of Kurna where Tomlinson (1916) obtained a number of eggs on May 15; and near Beni Mansur marshes, on the Euphrates, where it was found breeding in large numbers in July (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1926). It may nest in other marshes, too, where suitable dense cover of

reed beds are available. Nesting starts from April, and usually in colonies. The nest contains 3 to 5 eggs, and is placed about 4 feet above the water. Such colonies were also reported by Ticehurst, *et al.*, from Rotha marshes on the Tigris, 16 miles north of Kurna, in late July, and from the Lesser Zab river, in Kirkuk area, in winter. These Cormorants nest in company with Night-Herons, Darters, and Ibises.

Family ANHINGIDAE

Genus ANHINGA Brisson.

7. DARTER.

۷ - زقة • وردة •

Anhinga rufa chantrei (Oustalet).

Plotus chantrei Oustalet, Ann. Sci. Nat., Zool., 6, 13, 1882, art. 7, p.7.

Plotus rufus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 26, 1898, p.412.

A common resident, breeding in the vast marshes near Kurna and Amara, where Tomlinson (1916) obtained a number of eggs on mid-May from Ezra Tomb district. Reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926) as nesting amongst the colonies of Night-Herons and Pygmy Cormorants at Beni Mansur marshes on July 12. The nests, they reported, are placed on broken down reeds in reed beds, 14 feet high and 4 to 6 feet above the water. Full clutches of 3 eggs are usual. Also found plentiful in the Rotha marshes. An adult from Babylon, collected by Commander Jones, is in the British Museum.

Order CICONIIFORMES

Suborder ARDEAE

Family ARDEIDAE,

Subfamily ARDEINAE.

Genus ARDEA Linné.

1. GOLIATH HERON.

١ - مالك الحزين الجبار .

Ardea goliath Cretzschmar.*Ardea goliath* Cretzschmar, in Ruppell's Atlas, Vogel, 1826, p.39, pl.26.*Ardea goliath*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 26, 1898, p.66.

Common in marshy regions where it breeds, as Cox obtained young ones from Kurna (Ticehurst, *et al.* 1922). Reported from Basra, Amara, Kut, and Hindiya Barrage where marshes are abundant; and also from Feluja and Samarra.

2. HERON.

٢ - مالك الحزين السنجابي .

Ardea cinerea cinerea L.*Ardea cinerea* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.143.*Ardea cinerea*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 26, 1898, p.74.

Very common in winter and widely distributed. Some may be seen during the summer in suitable localities, such as the marshes of Musayeb and Akkarkuf, and according to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), this species was seen in the vicinity of Tekrit from April to June, but there is no definite proof of its breeding there. Cumming reported it as resident and breeding near Abdullah Bank, Fao (Sharpe, 1886). Herons also breed in the small islands at the head of the Persian Gulf. Nests and eggs were reported from that area in May (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1926). According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), flocks may be seen on passage during September flying in a southwesterly direction.

3. PURPLE HERON.

٣ - مالك الحزين الارجواني .

Ardea purpurea purpurea L.*Ardea purpurea* L., Syst. Nat., ed. XII, 1, 1766, p.236.*Phayx purpurea*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 26, 1898, p.60.

Common and resident in suitable localities, where the swamps have plenty of reed beds. Cumming reported it as resident and breeding in March and April in Abdullah Bank near Fao, and obtained eggs in 1886 from the same locality (Sharpe, 1886, 1891). It becomes very common during the breeding season in the marshes of Amara, Kurna, and Musayeb (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922).

Genus ARDEOLA Boie,

4. SQUACCO HERON. • واق ابيض صغير • ٤

Ardeola ralloides ralloides (Scopoli).

Ardea ralloides Scopoli, Annus I, Hist. Nat., 1769, p.88.

Ardeola ralloides, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 26, 1898, p.202.

A summer visitor and partly resident, breeding in suitable localities under the cover of reed beds in the marshes. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), this species is common after March and especially from June to September, but quite uncommon from October to March. Nests, containing 4 or 5 eggs, were reported in July, being found among the colonies of Night-Herons and Darters (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1926). Winter records are also available from Baghdad, Deltawah, and Fao.

Genus BUBULCUS Bonaparte.

5. BUFF-BACKED HERON. • ابو قردان • ٥

Bubulcus ibis ibis (L.).

Ardea ibis L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.144.

Bubulcus lucidus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 26, 1898, p.213.

Fairly common in suitable localities, and probably a summer visitor as most records refer to March-October (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). Cumming reported it as resident in Fao and supposed it breeding with Reef Herons at the head of the Persian Gulf, and obtained eggs in September (Sharpe, 1886). We have an additional record from T. 3 oil pumping station in Syria on May 10, 1950.

Genus CASMERODIUS Gloger.

6. GREAT WHITE HERON. • مالك الحزين الابيض الكبير • ٦

Casmerodius albus albus (L.).

Ardea alba L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.144.

Herodias alba, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 26, 1898, p.90.

A winter visitor in small numbers, arriving in November and leaving early in March. The latest record is from Nasiriyah on March 3, 1950. A pair was reported seen at Samarra on May 12 (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922).

Genus EGRETTA T. Forster.

7. LITTLE EGRET. ٧ - مالك الحزين الابيض الصغير

Egretta garzetta garzetta (L.).

Ardea garzetta L., Syst. Nat., ed. XII, 1, 1766, p.237.

Garzetta garzetta, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 26, 1898, p.118.

Common in small numbers during the summer, in suitable places. Cumming supposed it breeding near Abdullah Bank, in the Fao area (Sharpe, 1886). According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), small flocks were seen on passage at Feluja on April 26-27, and others at the lower Tigris during the same month. So it may be considered a passage migrant too. We have one specimen from Kizil Robot, but with no date.

Genus DEMIEGRETTA Blyth.

8. REEF HERON. ٨ - مالك الحزين البحرى

Demiegretta asha (Sykes).

Ardea asha Sykes, Proc. Comm. Zool. Soc. London, 1832, p.157.

Leptorodius asha, Cat. B. Brit., Mus., 26, 1898, p.116.

Resident and breeding in the Fao region. Its breeding quarters were located, according to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926), in certain islands at the head of the Persian Gulf, and in the marshes near Fao. Breeding starts from April and proceeds through May. Clutches of 4 eggs are usual. Not reported from elsewhere in Iraq.

Genus NYCTICORAX T. Forster.

9. NIGHT-HERON. ٩ - غراب الليل • ابو واق

Nycticorax nycticorax nycticorax (L.).

Ardea nycticorax L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.142.

Nycticorax nycticorax, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 26, 1898, p.146.

Common and widely distributed. According to Cumming, it arrives at Fao in October and leaves in May (Sharpe, 1886). Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926), however,

reported it as breeding in vast numbers near Basra marshes, and that nests were found in July, most of which contained 4 eggs. It probably breeds in other places such as Samarra and Musayeb, and certainly in Baghdad, as one nest with young ones were collected from a Eucalyptus forest, east of Baghdad on August 1950. It is also common at Mosul.

Subfamily BOTAURINAE,

Genus IXOBRYCHUS Billberg.

10. LITTLE BITTERN. ۱۰ - واق صغير

Ixobrychus minutus minutus (L.).

Ardea minuta L., Syst. Nat. ed., XII, 1, 1766, p.240.

Ardetta minuta, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 26, 1898, p.222.

The majority are common in the summer, and some are resident all the year, as there are few winter records (Ticehurst, *et al.* 1922). It breeds in suitable localities, where nests containing 5 or 6 eggs, were reported from the marshes among dense reed beds, from early May to the end of June. Also reported by Sassi (1912) at Mosul on May 3 and October 15. We have one specimen from H. 1 oil pumping station in Iraq dated May 5, 1951.

Genus BOTAURUS Stephens.

11. BITTERN. ۱۱ - واق

Botaurus stellaris stellaris (L.).

Ardea stellaris L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.144.

Botaurus stellaris, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 26, 1898, p.253.

A winter visitor in small numbers, to be found in the marshes with suitable thick cover of reed beds. Tomlinson (1916) recorded it as common at Basra in winter, and Neumann (1913) obtained a female from Ras-el-Ain, north of Iraq, on February 21. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), Common Bitterns begin to arrive in September and leave in April, but were heard booming in the Hindiya marshes on May 29 and 30, probably breeding there, but further evidence is required.

Suborder CICONIAE

Family CICONIIDAE

Genus CICONIA Brisson.

12. WHITE STORK.

• لقلق - ١٢

Ciconia ciconia ciconia (L.).*Ardea ciconia* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.142.*Ciconia ciconia*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 26, 1898, p.299.

One of the familiar birds that can be seen in some parts of the country all the year. The range of its breeding in Iraq is peculiar, as it has not been found nesting to the south of the line connecting the ruins of Babylon, Baghdad, and Mendeli; but from this line and up to the north, nearly every town on both the Tigris and Euphrates has its colony (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). Nests are placed on tall trees, minarets, domes, tops of buildings, and even on telegraph wires; and the same nest is used year after year, with some repairing on February. Hatching is observed in June. After the breeding season, they either migrate in flocks or scatter further afield in the country. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), White Storks are winter visitors and passage migrants in southern Iraq. Flocks of autumn migrants from the north become abundant from mid-September till the end of October, and spring migrations extend from mid-February to early April.

13. BLACK STORK.

• لقلق أسود - ١٣

Ciconia nigra (L.).*Ardea nigra* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.142.*Ciconia nigra*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 26, 1898, p.303.

Probably a rare winter visitor. Cumming obtained an immature male on September 5 at Fao (Sharpe, 1891), and Tristram (1881) saw one single bird on the Euphrates. Reported by Ticehurst *et al.* (1922) from Amara on May 20.

Family THRESKIORNITHIDAE,

Subfamily THRESKIORNITHINAE

Genus THRESKIORNIS G.R. Gray.

14. SACRED IBIS.

• أبو منجل المحرم - ١٤

Threskiornis aethiopica aethiopica (Latham).*Tontalus aethiopica* Latham, Ind. Orn., 2, 1790, p.706.*Ibis aethiopica*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 26, 1898, p.4.

Fairly common in the southern part of Iraq from Amara to Fao, especially in

the winter. Recorded by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926) as occurring at Baiji (nearly half way between Baghdad and Mosul) in April, and as breeding in the marshes near Kurna, where young on the wing were seen on July 23, and nests containing 3 or 4 eggs each were found among colonies of Cormorants and Darters. It may breed in the Amara marshes, too

Genus GERONTICUS Wagler.

15. HERMIT IBIS.

• أبو منجل الناسك - ١٥

Geronticus eremita (L.).

Upupa eremita L., Syst. Nat., ed X, 1, 1758, p.118.

Comatibis comata, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 26, 1898, p.16.

The status of this bird is not clear. Tristram (1881) saw a large colony of this bird near Beredjik (now inside Turkish territory), and found many young ones still in their nests on June 8. The people, he said, told him that these birds only come for the breeding season, but are never seen during the rest of the year. Weigold (1912) saw a similar colony at the same place, from which they probably wander to the stretches of water nearby. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), Logan Home saw a few near Tekrit in February, and one bird was shot by Aldworth in the same region.

Genus PLEGADIS Kaup.

16. GLOSSY IBIS.

• أبو منجل الاسود - ١٦

Plegadis falcinellus falcinellus (L.).

Tontalus facinellus L., Syst. Nat., ed. XII, 1, 1766, p.241.

Plegadis falcinellus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 26, 1898, p.29.

Probably breeding in the marshes. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), this bird is common in the marshes near Baghdad, Amara, Kurna, and in the Suweikiyah marsh, breeding in suitable localities. The latest record is from Jelowla camp district on April 27, 1952.

Subfamily PLATALEINAE

Genus PLATALEA Linné

17. SPOONBILL.

• أبو ملعقة - ١٧

Platalea leucorodia major Temminck & Schlegel.

Platalea major Temminck & Schlegel, in Siebold, Faun. Jap., Aves, 1849, p.119, pl.75.

Platalea leucorodia, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 26, 1898, p.44.

A summer visitor, and probably a resident. Recorded by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922) as common in the marshes of the great rivers, and breeding near Basra, Kurnā, and at the head of the Persian Gulf, where nests were noted in May, and eggs obtained in the latter part of May and in June. Meinertzhagen saw in January, 1923, a large flock of Spoonbills feeding on some mud flats near Samarra. We have one specimen from Jebel Hemrin dated October 1, 1927. It is probable that these birds wander into our area at the close of the breeding season in search of food.

Suborder PHOENICOPTERI

Family PHOENICOPTERIDAE

Genus PHOENICOPTERUS Linné.

18. FLAMINGO.

١٨ - نعام • غرنوق •

Phoenicopterus antiquorum Temminck.

Phoenicopterus antiquorum Temm., in Man. d'Orn., 2, 1820, p.587.

Phoenicopterus roseus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 27, 1895, p.12.

Fairly common and resident in suitable localities on the marshes. Breeds in the marshes of southern Iraq and the head of the Persian Gulf. In the latter region, Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926) found large colonies of Flamingoes in April 7, and obtained eggs in May from nests containing one or, rarely, two eggs. In the breeding season, Flamingoes are not commonly seen outside their nesting quarters; but many non-breeding and immature birds remain behind (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922).

Order ANSERIFORMES

Suborder ANSERES

Family ANATIDAE

Subfamily CYGNINAE.

Genus CYGNUS Bechstein.

1. MUTE SWAN.

١ - تم • أوز عراقي •

Cygnus olor (Gmelin).*Anas Olor* Gmelin, Syst. Nat., 1, pt.2, 1789, p.502.*Cygnus olor*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 27, 1895, p.35.

A winter visitor in small numbers, to be found on the marshes or rivers from Baghdad south of Fao.

Subfamily ANSERINAE.

Genus ANSER Brisson.

2. GRAY LAG-GOOSE.

٢ - أوز اربد •

Anser anser (L.).*Anas anser* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.123.*Anser ferus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 27, 1895, p.89.

A very common winter visitor to the marshes of southern Iraq, and partly resident. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), flocks of this species begin to arrive in late October and increase in number daily at their winter quarters; then start to leave early in March and most of the winter visitors have gone by the end of March. Quite a number of them remain to breed in the marshes among extensive reed beds. The nest is described by Hale (1932) as built up on a mass of broken-down reeds inside the reed-beds, about one foot above the water. Such nests were found in the marshes between Basra and Nasiriyah in March. Three young were obtained from Hammar Lake on May 21, and small numbers were seen in suitable marshes in July and August (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). According to Meinertzhagen (1924), Gray Lag-Geese are commoner south of Baghdad, and White-fronted Geese are commoner north of it.

3. WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE.

٣ - أوز أفر •

Anser albifrons albifrons (Scopoli).*Branta albifrons* Scopoli, Annus I, Hist. Nat., 1769, p.69.*Anser albifrons*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 27, 1895, p.92.

A common winter visitor, especially in suitable places north of Baghdad. The dates of its arrival and departure coincide approximately with those reported for the Lag-Goose (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). It is less common in southern Iraq.

4. LESSER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE. ٤ - أوز أغر صغير

Anser erythropus (L).

Anas erythropus L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.123.

Anser erythropus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 27, 1895, p.97.

An uncommon winter visitor frequenting the marshes of Basra, Amara, and Kut from November to March (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922).

Genus BRANTA Scopoli.

5. RED-BREASTED GOOSE. ٥ - أوز احمر الصدر

Branta ruficollis (Pallas).

Anser ruficollis Pallas, Spic Zool., fasc. 6, 1769, p.21, pl.4.

Branta ruficollis, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 27, 1895, p.124.

An uncommon winter visitor recorded from various marshes in Basra, Kurna, Amara, and Kut. This species is probably more common in Baghdad area than the Lesser White-fronted Goose

Subfamily ANATINAE.

Genus CASARCA Bonaparte.

6. RUDDY SHELD-DUCK. ٦ - أبو فروة

Casarca ferruginea (Pallas).

Anas ferruginea Pallas, in Vroeg's Cat., 1764, Adumbr., p.5.

Casarca rutila, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 27, 1895, p.177.

Fairly common in winter in suitable localities. Recorded as breeding in such places as the cliffs of the Adhaim River, and the Samarra-Tekrit area on the Tigris, mainly in May and June (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). We have a specimen from Baghdad dated May 29, 1951. The nests of these birds are deep holes some 14 to 20 feet long and 4 to 7 feet below ground level (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). Ducklings were reported in early June. From their breeding quarters, these ducks spread out in winter to other localities on the Tigris and Euphrates.

Mr. E.S. Steward reported seeing nest holes in the rocky banks of the Tigris river at Istabalat in late April and May 1947, as well as two broods of tiny young at the same place. He also collected 10 eggs on late April, 1949, from a nest on the bank of the river just south of Mosul.

Genus TADORNA Fleming.

7. SHELD-DUCK.

• شهرمان - ٧

Tadorna tadorna (L.).*Anas tadorna* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.122.*Tadorna cornuta*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 27, 1895, p.171.

A fairly common winter visitor in southern Iraq. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), this species probably breeds near Baghdad and elsewhere, as an adult with young were seen on July 22, at Lake Akarkuf, and several pairs or singles were observed in other places in May, June, and July.

Genus ANAS Linné.

8. MALLARD.

• خضيرى • بركة • ٨

Anas platyrhynchos platyrhynchos L.*Anas platyrhynchos* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.125.*Anas boscas*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 27, 1895, p.189.

A very common winter visitor in suitable localities, but unevenly distributed. Mallards are plentiful near Basra; fairly common in Baghdad, Musayeb, and Amara; and much less common in Nasiriyah, on the Euphrates. Thornhill (1916) reported seeing them in every month and supposed them breeding in the marshes, but further evidence is required. Not reported from the northern part of the country. It is well known that some Mallards do not leave until the end of May, and others may return much earlier than the majority of their kind, even as early as July or mid-August.

9. GARGANEY.

• حذف صيفى • ٩

Anas querquedula L.*Anas querquedula* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.126.*Querquedula circia*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 27, 1895, p.293.

An uncommon winter visitor and well distributed. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), this species is more common as a bird of passage, to be met with in spring (April) and autumn (August and September) migrations. It is possible that some individuals remain to nest in our area (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922).

10. TEAL.

• حذف شتوی - ۱۰

Anas crecca crecca L.*Anas crecca* L., Syst. Nat., ed X, 1, 1758, p.126.*Nettion crecca*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 27, 1895, p.243.

A very common winter visitor to be met with on rivers, marshes, and irrigation canals from September to the middle of March. Some, however, arrive as early as the middle of August and leave within the first half of April (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922).

11. FALCATED TEAL.

• حذف منجلی - ۱۱

Anas falcata Georgi.*Anas falcata* Georgi, Bemerk. Reise. Russ. Reich, 1, 1775, p.167.*Eunetta falcata*; Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 27, 1895, p.218.

This is a rare straggler coming so far west from its original haunts in eastern Asia. Thornhill (1916) shot one male out of a small flock of Gadwalls at Hanna (near Basra) on March 19.

12. PINTAIL.

• بلبول - ۱۲

Anas acuta acuta L.*Anas acuta* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X 1, 1758, p.126.*Dafila acuta*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 27, 1895, p.270.

A fairly common winter visitor frequenting rivers, marshes, and flooded places from mid-September to mid-April. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), Pintails arrive and leave with the main flock, there being no particularly early and late records.

13. MARBLED DUCK.

• حذف معرق - ۱۳

Anas angustirostris Ménétrières.*Anas angustirostris* Ménétrières, Cat. Rais. Obj. Zool. Caucase, 1832, p.58.*Marmaronetta angustirostris*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 27, 1895, p. 321.

Fairly common and resident. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), this species breeds on grass and scrub, near the river banks, as far north as Baghdad and Feluja on the Tigris and Euphrates respectively. Nests and eggs were found in May and June, the usual clutch being reported as 5 or 6, although as many

as 10 eggs were seen in one nest (Ticehurst, et al., 1922). There are but few winter records, one from Diala river and another from Mosul (Ticehurst, et al., 1926).

Genus MARECA Stephens.

14. WIGEON.

• ۱۴ - صوای ، زای

Mareca penelope (L.).

Anas penelope L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.126.

Mareca penelope, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 27, 1895, p.227.

Very plentiful in winter in suitable localities such as rivers, marshes, and flooded areas; arriving in September and leaving early in March (Ticehurst, et al., 1922). Some may come as early as August and leave as late as the first week of April. Not reported from the northern part of the country.

Genus CHAULELASMUS Bonaparte.

15. GADWALL.

• ۱۵ - بظ سماری

Chaulelasmus streperus (L.).

Anas strepera L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.125.

Chaulelasmus streperus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 27, 1895, p.221.

Very common and widely distributed in suitable localities. It arrives in September and leaves in March, although some were reported as early as August 1, and as late as May 21 (Ticehurst, et al., 1922).

Genus SPATULA Boie.

16. SHOVELER.

• ۱۶ - أبو مجرف (أبو عروج)

Spatula clypeata (L.).

Anas clypeata L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.124.

Spatula clypeata, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 27, 1895, p.306.

A very common winter visitor and well distributed, arriving in late August or September and leaving in March, but some may remain till May. They frequent canals, small pools and puddles, as well as great marshes, lakes, and rivers.

Subfamily NYROCINAE.

Genus NETTA Kaup.

17. RED-CRESTED POCHARD.

* ١٧ - حمران ، و نس

Netta rufina (Pallas).*Anas rufina* Pallas, Reise Russ. Reichs, 2, 1773, p. 713.*Netta rufina*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 27, 1895, p.328.

This diving duck is fairly common in winter and well distributed in suitable stretches of water, such as rivers and deeper marshes. Main flocks arrive in October and leave in March, but some may leave as late as the end of April.

Genus AYTHYA Boie.

18. COMMON POCHARD.

* ١٨ - حمراى

Aythya ferina (L.).*Anas ferina* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.126.*Nyroca ferina*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 27, 1895, p.335.

A common winter visitor, frequenting rivers and deep marshes. Reported as arriving in October and leaving in March, or as late as the middle of April.

19. TUFTED DUCK.

* ١٩ - بط أبو خصلة

Aythya fuligula (L.).*Anas fuligula* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.128.*Fuligula fuligula*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 27, 1895, p.363.

A common winter visitor and widely distributed in suitable localities. Reported as less common in Amara than the Common Pochard, but in other places it is equally common (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). This species arrives and leaves nearly at the same time as other diving ducks.

20. FERRUGINOUS DUCK.

* ٢٠ - زرقاى أحمر

Aythya nyroca (Guldenstadt).*Anas nyroca* Guldenstadt, Nov. Comm. Sci. Petropol., 14, 1769, p.403.*Nyroca africana*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 27, 1895, p.345.

A fairly common winter visitor, of which we have few records so far. Thornhill (1916) reported it as common, and Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922) as fairly common, on flooded areas caused by the Euphrates.

21. SCAUP-DUCK.

• زرقای اسود الرأس - ٢١

Aythya marila marila (L.).

Anas marila L., Fn. Svec., ed. II, 1761, p.39.

Fuligula marila, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 27, 1895, p.355.

A rare winter visitor in the Karun district on the southeastern border of Iraq. We have no other record about this diving duck which usually prefers salt water in winter, and is likely to occur in the Fao area, but not in inland lakes and marshes.

Genus BUCEPHALA Baird.

22. GOLDENEYE.

• بط ذهبي العين - ٢٢

Bucephala clangula clangula (L.).

Anas clangula L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.125.

Clangula glaucion, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 27, 1895, p.376.

A fairly common winter visitor, and widely distributed, preferring rivers to lakes. Recorded from various places on the Tigris, Euphrates, and Shat-el-Arab rivers between September and March, either singly or in small groups (Thornhill, 1916; Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922).

Subfamily OXYURINAE.

Genus OXYURA Bonaparte.

23. STIFF-TAILED/WHITE-FACED DUCK.

• بط أبيض الوجه - ٢٣

Oxyura leucocephala (Scopoli).

Anas leucocephala Scopoli, Annus I, Hist. Nat., 1769, p.65.

Erismatura leucocephala, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 27, 1895, p.442.

A rather scarce winter visitor, and widely distributed. Few were reported in February, March, and April from such widely separated localities as Fellahiyah (Thornhill, 1916), Kurmat Ali, and Abu Jisra — some 70 miles north of Baghdad (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922).

Subfamily MERGINAE.

Genus MERGELLUS Selby.

24. SMEW.

• بلقشة بيضاء - ٢٤

Mergellus albellus (L.).*Mergus albellus* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.129.*Mergus albellus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 27, 1895, p.464.

An uncommon winter visitor and widely distributed, preferring rivers to lakes. Few were recorded from the Tigris, Diala, and Shatt-el-Arab rivers from September to March, either singly or in small groups (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). It probably occurs on the Euphrates river.

Genus MERGUS Linné

25. GOOSANDER.

• بلقشة سوداء - ٢٥

Mergus merganser merganser L.,*Mergus merganser* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.129.*Merganser castor*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 27, 1895, p.472.

A rather scarce winter visitor. Meinertzhagen (1914) recorded it as fairly common in January, but he gave no specific places. One specimen was obtained from Suleimaniyah area on February 24, 1950.

26. RED-BREASTED MERGANSER.

• بلقشة حمراء الصدر - ٢٦

Mergus serrator L.*Mergus serrator* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.129.*Merganser serrator*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 27, 1895, p.479.

Its occurrence is restricted to the Fao area, as reported by Cumming (Sharpe, 1891), and by Cox on May 22 (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1926). We have no other records.

Order FALCONIFORMES

Suborder FALCONES

Family ACCIPITRIDAE.

Subfamily PERNINAE.

Genus PERNIS Cuvier.

1. HONEY-BUZZARD.

• صقر النحل - ١

Pernis apivorus apivorus (L.).*Falco apivorus* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.91.*Pernis apivorus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 1, 1874, p.344.*Pernis a. apivorus*, Mon. B. Prey, 2, 1945, p.308.

The status of this bird in our area is not clear, and we have a few records only. Cumming (Sharpe: 1886, 1891) considered it a winter visitor in the Fao area, and obtained specimens in September. Another specimen obtained from the head of the Persian Gulf on June 10 (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1926) is considered a straggler. It is probably a passage migrant since it breeds in western Siberia and winters in Africa, and it is not unlikely that it passes through our area in its migration.

Subfamily MILVINAE.

Genus MILVUS Lacépède.

2. RED KITE.

• حداة حمراء - ٢

Milvus milvus milvus (L.).*Falco milvus* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.89.*Milvus iclinus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 1, 1874, p.319.*Milvus m. milvus*, Mon. B. Prey, 2, 1945, p.228.

Although this bird has not been recorded from Iraq proper, its occurrence in our area is likely, and Sarudny (1911) reported it on migration in the Karun district. It does occur in Asia Minor and Palestine.

3. BLACK KITE.

• حداة سوداء • ٣

Milvus migrans migrans (Boddaert).*Falco migrans* Boddaert, Table Pl. enlum., 1783, p.28.*Milvus korschun*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 1, 1874, p.322.*Milvus m. migrans*, Mon. B. Prey, 2, 1945, p.232.

A very common winter visitor, arriving in August and September and leaving in April, but some may stay as late as early June (Ticehurst, *et al.* 1922). Cumming reported seeing large flocks of this race migrating from south to north, between March and April (Sharpe, 1886). Flocks were also seen on May 21 roosting in date plams (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922), but there is no evidence of their breeding in our area.

4. BLACK-EARED KITE.

• حداة سوداء الاذن • ٤

Milvus lineatus lineatus (J.E. Gray).*Haliaeetus lineatus* J.E. Gray, in Hardwicke, Ill. Ind. Zool., 1, pt.8, 1831, p.1, pl.18.*Milvus l. lineatus*, Mon. B. Prey, 2, 1945, p.242.

Few records are available, and specimens were obtained near Baghdad on December and January (Ticehurst, *et al.*: 1922, 1926). Sarudny (1911) reported it as a winter visitor in the Karun district, and it may have the same status in the southern part of our area.

Subfamily ACCIPITRINAE.

Genus ACCIPITER Brisson.

5. LEVANT SPARROW-HAWK.

• بيدق • (باشق صغير) • ٥

Accipiter brevipes (Severtzov).*Astur brevipes* Severtzov, Bull. Soc. Imp. Nat. Moscou, 23, no. 3, 1850, p.234, pl.1-3.*Astur brevipes*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 1, 1874, p.III.*Astur brevipes*, Mon. B. Prey, 1, 1930, p.221.

The occurrence of this species in our area is likely. Sarudny (1911) reported it as a winter visitor and passage migrant in the Karun district, and Weigold (1913) saw it almost daily at Urfa (north of Iraq). It winters in Syria and southwestern Iran.

6. SPARROW-HAWK.

• باشق - ٦

a. *Accipiter nisus nisus* (L.).*Falco Nisus* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.92.*Accipiter nisus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 1, 1874, p.132.*Accipiter n. nisus*, Mon. B. Prey, 1, 1930, p.273.b. *Accipiter nisus nisosimilis* (Tickell).*Falco Nisosimilis* Tickell, Journ. As. Soc. Bengal, 2, 1833, p.571.*Accipiter nisus nisosimilis*, Mon. B. Prey, 1, 1930, p.282.

The first (or European) race is fairly common in winter, arriving in late October and leaving in early April, and occasionally late in the month, as Sassi (1912) reported it at Mosul on April 27. According to Ticehurst *et al.* (1922), this race was observed among date groves near Musayeb (on the Euphrates) in June and July, but there is no other positive evidence of its breeding in our area. The wintering grounds of this race are in North Africa, but those breeding in Russia may winter south to our area or beyond.

The second race winters in our area in small marshes (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922).

Subfamily BUTEONINAE.

Genus BUTEO Lacépède.

7. LONG-LEGGED BUZZARD.

• حميق ، صقر جراح - ٧

Buteo rufinus rufinus (Cretzschmar).*Falco rufinus* Cretzschmar, in Ruppell, Atlas, Vogel, 1829, p.40, pl.27.*Buteo ferox*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 1, 1874, p.176.*Buteo r. rufinus*, Mon. B. Prey, 1, 1930, p.378.

A very common winter visitor throughout the country, arriving in late October and leaving by the end of March; but some may stay to breed. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), nests were reported from the cliffs in the Tekrit area, in late March, and eggs were found. Reported by Sassi (1912) from Mosul on June 2, and possibly breeds there, too.

8 STEPPE-BUZZARD

• صقر السهول الجارح - ٨

Buteo vulpinus vulpinus (Gloger).*Falco vulpinus* "Licht," Gloger, Das Abändern der Vogel, 1833, p.141.*Buteo desertorum*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 1, 1874, p.179.*Buteo vulpinus*, Mon. B. Prey, 1, 1930, p.372.

The status of this bird in our area requires further investigation, as only few records are available. Some specimens were obtained by Cumming at Fao on September (Sharpe: 1886, 1891), and Neumann (1915) got a female from Ras-el-Ain) in the northern Mesopotamian valley) on July. Cumming saw them migrating in great numbers (at Fao) from the direction of Arabia, passing along the river in a northwesterly direction. Reported from the western desert in April and July (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). It is probably a passage migrant in our area.

Genus HIERAAETUS Kaup.

9. BONELLI'S EAGLE.

• عقاب بونلي ٩

Hieraaetus fasciatus fasciatus (Vieillot).

Aquila fasciata Vieillot, Mém. Soc. Lin. Paris, 2, pt.2, 1822, p.152.

Nisaetus fasciatus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 1, 1874, p.250.

Hieraaetus f. fasciatus, Mon. B. Prey, 2, 1945, p.70.

Fairly common and locally resident in the Tekrit area. Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922) reported it breeding on the cliffs in the Tekrit area, where eggs were seen in February and March. Meinertzhagen (1914) reported it from Mosul in January. From their breeding quarters, these eagles spread over the plains in winter.

10. BOOTED EAGLE.

• عقاب مسيرة ١٠

Hieraaetus pennatus (Gmelin).

Falco pennatus Gmelin, Syst. Nat., 1, pt.1, 1788, p.272.

Nisaetus pennatus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 1, 1874, p.253.

Hieraaetus p. pennatus, Mon. B. Prey, 2, 1945, p.77.

Probably a winter visitor in our area. Recorded by Cumming at Fao in September (Sharpe, 1886), and by Donald (1919) at Basra in winter. Weigold (1913) reported it as common at Urfa.

Genus AQUILA Brisson.

11. GOLDEN EAGLE.

• عقاب ذهبية (لاعة) ١١

Aquila chrysaetos chrysaetos (L.).

Falco chrysaetos L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.88.

Aquila chrysaetos, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 1, 1874, p.235.

Aquila ch. barthelemyi, Mon. B. Prey, 2, 1945, p.23.

The occurrence of this bird in our area is likely, since it has been reported by Sarudny (1911) as nesting in small numbers in the Zagros mountains, and as a winter visitor in the Karun district (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). It certainly occurs in Asia Minor, where it breeds.

12. IMPERIAL EAGLE.

١٢ - ملك العقبان .

Aquila heliaca heliaca (Savigny).

Aquila heliaca Savigny, Descr. Egypte, Ois., 1809, p.82, pl.12.

Aquila heliaca, Cat. B. Brit Mus., 1, 1874, p.238.

Aquila h. heliaca, Mon. B. Prey, 2, 1945, p.37.

A fairly common winter visitor and widely distributed throughout our area. The majority arrive in September and leave by the end of March. It also winters in the Karun district (Sarudny, 1911).

13. TAWNY EAGLE.

١٣ - عقاب لوع (سريع الاختطاف) .

Aquila rapax raptor A.E. Brehm.

Aquila raptor A.E. Brehm, Naumannia, 1855, p.13.

Aquila rapax, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 1, 1874, p.242.

Aquila rapax raptor, Mon. B. Prey, 2, 1945, p.53.

An uncommon winter visitor and rather scarce. Reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922, 1926) from Basra, Kut, and Ramadi only.

14. STEPPE-EAGLE.

١٤ - عقاب البادية .

Aquila nipalensis orientalis Cabanis.

Aquila orientalis Cabanis, Journ. f. Orn., 2, 1854, p.369, note.

Aquila mogilnik, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 1, 1874, p.240.

Aquila n. orientalis, Mon. B. Prey, 2, 1945, p.47.

A fairly common winter visitor, frequenting the marshes near Amara and Kurna. Reported by Meinertzhagen (1924) as common in winter near Baghdad. The Last one seen was on April 7 (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922).

15. SPOTTED EAGLE.

١٥ - صقر الارنب •

Aquila clanga Pallas.*Aquila clanga* Pallas, Zoogr. Rosso-Asiat., 1, 1811, p.351.*Aquila c. clanga*, Mon. B. Prey, 2, 1945, p.60.

A rather uncommon winter visitor, on which few records are available from our area. Seen at Amara on November 2, and one obtained at Baghdad on December 28 (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922).

16. LESSER SPOTTED EAGLE.

١٦ - عقاب سقعاء صغرى •

Aquila pomarina pomarina C.L. Brehm.*Aquila pomarina* C.L. Brehm, Handb. Naturg. Vog. Deutschl., 1831, p.27.*Aquila maculata*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 1, 1874, p.246.*Aquila pomarina*, Mon. B. Prey, 2, 1945, p.65.

A winter visitor recorded by Donald (1919) from Basra, and by Meinertzhagen (1914) from the vicinity of Tekrit and the marshes of Kurna, in winter.

Genus HALIAEETUS Savigny.

17. WHITE-CROWNED EAGLE.

١٧ - عقاب السمك •

Haliaeetus leucoryphus (Pallas).*Aquila leucorypha* Pallas, Reise Versch. Prov. Russ. Reichs, 1, 1771, p.454.*Haliaeetus leucoryphus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 1, 1874, p.308.*Cuncuma leucorypha*, Mon. B. Prey, 2, 1945, p.187.

A winter visitor in small numbers frequenting rivers, marshes, and flooded areas, preying on fish. This bird is also known as the Pallas' Sea Eagle.

18. WHITE-TAILED SEA EAGLE.

١٨ - عقاب البحر •

Haliaeetus albicilla (L.).*Falco albicilla* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.89.*Haliaeetus albicillus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 1, 1874, p.302.*Haliaeetus a. albicilla*, Mon. B. Prey, 2, 1945, p.173.

Resident and fairly common in the Tekrit area where, according to Ticehurst,

et al. (1922), it breeds. To be met with in winter over rivers and marshes looking for fish. Usually nests on cliffs, and eggs were found in early February (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922).

Subfamily AEGYPIINAE.

Genus AEGYPIUS Savigny.

19. BLACK VULTURE.

١٩ - نسر أسود •

Aegyptius monachus (L.).

Vulture monachus L., Syst. Nat., ed. XII, 1, 1766, p.122.

Vultur monachus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 1, 1874, p.3.

Aegyptius monachus, Mon. B. Prey, 1, 1930, p.22.

Probably an occasional winter visitor and a passage migrant, reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922) from the Tigris between Samarra and Baghdad. Meinertzhagen (1924) saw a few on October 29 over Amman-Ramadi route in the desert.

Genus GYPS Savigny.

20. GRIFFON-VULTURE.

٢٠ - نسر •

Gyps fulvus fulvus (Hablizl).

Vultur fulvus Hablizl, Neue Nord. Beytr., 4, 1783, p.58.

Gyps fulvus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 1, 1874, p.5.

Gyps f. fulvus, Mon. B. Prey, 1, 1930, p.25.

Fairly common, and widely distributed near the foothills and probably resident. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), this bird may breed in the hills of Kurdistan and Jebel Hemrin. Sarudny (1911) reported it as resident in the Zagros mountains and breeding in the Karun district. Meinertzhagen (1924) reported seeing a party of about 15 at Ramadi on Nov. 1, as well as others near Zakho and Dohuk, in northern Iraq, in December. Further observations are required to locate its breeding haunts, if any, in our area.

Genus NEOPHRON Savigny.

21. EGYPTIAN VULTURE.

٢١ - رخمة •

Neophron percnopterus percnopterus (L.).

Vultur percnoterus L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.87.

Neophron percnopterus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 1, 1874, p.17.

Neophron p. percnopterus, Mon. B. Prey, 1, 1930, p.55.

Fairly common and widely distributed. Breeds in the Jebel Hemrin ranges and spreads to the plains in the non-breeding season (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). According to Ticehurst, *et al.*, (1926), it breeds in May, and nests were found in that area. Two specimens were obtained in Baghdad area on August 9, 1952.

Genus GYPAETUS Storr

22. BEARDED VULTURE /LAMMERGEIER. ٢٢ - نسر أبو لحية •

Gypaetus barbatus aureus (Hablizl).

Vultur aureus Hablizl, Neue Nord. Beytr., 4, 1783, p.64.

Gypaetus barbatus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 1, 1874, p.228.

Gypaetus b. grandis, Mon. B. Prey, 2, 1945, p.2.

A fairly common winter visitor and widely distributed. Reported by Meinertzhagen (1924) from Zakho and Dohuk in December. Some may be seen as late as the middle of May. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), it probably breeds in the Jebel Hemrin ranges or in the Pusht-i-kuh mountains.

Subfamily CIRCINAE.

Genus CIRCUS Lacépède.

23. HEN-HARRIER. ٢٣ - مرزة الدجاج •

Circus cyaneus cyaneus (L.).

Falco cyaneus L., Syst. Nat., ed. XII, 1, 1766, p.126.

Circus cyaneus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 1, 1874, p.52.

Circus cy. cyaneus, Mon. B. Prey, 1, 1930, p.104.

A winter visitor, recorded by Meinertzhagen (1914) from the marshes of Iraq. Reported by E.S. Steward on the second half of May, 1949, between Mosul and Zakho, and between Baghdad and Hindiyah Barrage, but no nests seen.

24. PALLID HARRIER. ٢٤ - مرزة باهتة •

Circus macrourus (S.G. Gmelin).

Accipiter macrourus S.G. Gmelin, Nov. Comm. Acad. Petrop. 15, 1770 (1771), p.439, pl.8,9.

Circus macrurus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 1, 1874, p.67.

Circus macrourus, Mon. B. Prey, 1, 1930, p.109.

A common winter visitor in suitable localities where scrub, grass, and crops are

abundant. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), it arrives in September, and the majority leave in March, although some remain till late April as Sassi (1912) reported it from Mosul as late as April 25. Neumann (1915) recorded it from Ras-el-Ain on August 6. Also seen by Steward in late May, 1949.

25. MONTAGU'S HARRIER. • مرزة موناكو ، أبو شردة • ٢٥

Circus pygargus (L.).

Falco pygargus L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.89.

Circus pygargus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 1, 1874, p.64.

Circus pygargus, Mon. B. Prey, 1, 1930, p.III.

In its status and distribution, this species is similar to the Pallid Harrier.

26. MARSH-HARRIER. • مرزة البطائح ، دريعة • ٢٦

Circus aeruginosus aeruginosus (L.).

Falco aeruginosus L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.91.

Circus aeruginosus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 1, 1874, p.69.

Circus ae. aeruginosus, Mon. B. Prey, 1, 1930, p.I34.

Very common and resident in localities where there are marshes or flooded areas. According to Tomlinson (1916) and Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), it breeds in the marshes near Basra and Hindiyah, and probably elsewhere. Eggs were found in Hindiyah marshes on May 29 and June 2, and nests with eggs in Babylon on May 1 (Ticehurst, *et al.*: 1922, 1926). As many as 4 eggs were seen in the nest.

Family PANDIONIDAE.

Genus PANDION Savigny.

27. OSPREY. • عقاب نساري • ٢٧

Pandion haliaetus haliaetus (L.).

Falco haliaetus L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.91.

Pandion haliaetus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 1, 1930, p.449.

Pandion h. haliaetus, Mon. B. Prey, 2, 1945, p.478.

An uncommon winter visitor to the larger rivers and marshes. - According

to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), few non-breeding birds may stay as late as July, and may even spend the summer, but there is no evidence of their breeding in our area.

Family FALCONIDAE.

Subfamily FALCONINAE.

Genus FALCO Linné

28. LANNER FALCON.

• ۲۸ - حر

Falco biarmicus tanypterus Schlegel.

Falco tanypterus Schlegel, Krit. Übers., 2, 1844, p.11.

Falco feldeggi, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 1, 1874, p.389.

Falco b. tanypterus, Mon. B. Prey, 2, 1945, p.401.

Cumming obtained an immature female at Fao on August 30 (Sharpe, 1891), but we have no other record. The race is also recorded from Palestine and Arabia.

29. SAKER-FALCON.

• ۲۹ - صقر، شرق

Falco cherrug cherrug J. E. Gray.

Falco cherrug J.E. Gray, in Hardwicke's Ill. Ind. Zool., 2, 1834, pl.25.

Hierofalco saker, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 1, 1874, p.417.

Falco c. cherrug, Mon. B. Prey, 2, 1945, p.408.

This is the popular falcon that is much used by Arab Falconers in Iraq. Sakers are known by the Arabs to breed in the Jebel Hemrin ranges in DIALA LIWA. Fairly common in winter on the open plains. Specimens were obtained by Meintzhagen (1924) at Mosul and Erbil in December and January, and others were observed by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922) at Samarra, Amara, and Baghdad in November.

Another race, *Falco c. milvipes* Jerdon, was recorded from Ahwaz in Iran but not far from the southeastern corner of Iraq.

30. LESSER PEREGRINE FALCON.

• ۳۰ - شاهین

a. *Falco peregrinus brookei* Sharpe.

Falco brookei Sharpe, Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. (4), 11, 1873, p.21.

Falco communis, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 1, 1874, p.376.

Falco p. brookei, Mon. B. Prey, 2, 1945, p.384.

b. *Falco peregrinus babylonicus* P.L. Sclater.*Falco babylonicus* Sclater, Ibis, 1861, p.218, pl.7.*Falco babylonicus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 1, 1874, p.387.*F. pelegrinoides babylonicus*, Mon. B. Prey, 2, 1945, p.398.

Both races are fairly distributed in winter, frequenting flooded places and marshes where wild fowl abound (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). They are also used by Arab falconers in chasing bustards. Recorded from the last week of September to the first week of April, but Sassi (1912) recorded a juvenile *babylonicus* from Mosul on June 10, and Peters included Mesopotamia in the breeding range of *F. p. babylonicus*.

31. HOBBY.

• ۳۱ - کونج

Falco subbuteo subbuteo L.*Falco subbuteo* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, 89.*Falco subbuteo*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 1, 1874, p.395.*Falco s. subbuteo*, Mon. B. Prey, 2, 1945, p.339.

A fairly common passage migrant which can be seen on autumn migration in October, and on spring migration in late April and May. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), it was seen at Musayeb in June and July but there is no evidence of its breeding in our area.

32. COMMON MERLIN.

• ۳۲ - یؤیؤ اوروبی

a. *Falco columbarius aesalon* Tunstall.*Falco aesalon* Tunstall, Orn. Brit., 1771, p.1.*Falco regulus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 1, 1874, p.406.*Falco c. aesalon*, Mon. B. Prey, 2, 1945, p.369.

ASIATIC MERLIN.

• یؤیؤ آسیوی

b. *Falco columbarius insignis* (Clark).*Aesalon regulus insignis* Clark, Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus., 32, 1907, p.470.*Falco c. insignis*, Mon. B. Prey, 2, 1945, p.371.

PALLID MERLIN.

• یؤیؤ باهت

c. *Falco columbarius christiani-ludovici* Kleinschmidt.*Falco christiani-ludovici* Kleinschmidt, Falco, 13, 1917, p.10.*Falco columbarius christiani-ludovici*, Mon. B. Prey, 2, 1945, p.372.

Merlins are common winter visitors in small numbers arriving late in September and leaving early in May. Meinertzhagen (1924) reported them from Mosul and Babylon (near Hilla) in November and December, and obtained all three forms. Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926) reported *insignis* from Baghdad and Dohuk. These birds frequent open fields, preying on Crested Larks and other small birds.

33. LESSER KESTREL.

• عويسق - ٣٣

Falco naumanni naumanni Fleischer.

Falco naumanni Fleischer, in Laurop & Fischer's 'Sylvan' for 1817-1818 (1818), p.174.

Cerchneis naumanni, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 1, 1874, p.435.

Cerchneis n. naumanni, Mon. B. Prey, 2, 1945, p.455.

A fairly common passage migrant of which there are some spring records and one autumn record only. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), this species was noted at Amara during the last three weeks of April, and at Feluja from April 8, where Pitman saw flocks of some 20-30 birds passing over at intervals. He also saw other numbers on May 5 and thought them breeding in an elevated ruin, 10 miles south of Feluja. Reported by Sassi (1912) at Mosul on April 14 and May 2. Very common at Urfa, and breeds there (Weigold, 1913). Recorded by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922) at Baghdad in the first ten days of October. The only autumn record.

There are no summer records, although the bird is reported as a summer visitor as well by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922).

34. KESTREL.

• عويسق ، صقر الجراد - ٣٤

Falco tinnunculus tinnunculus L.

Falco tinnunculus L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.90.

Cerchneis tinnunclus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 1, 1874, p.425.

Falco t. tinnunculus, Mon. B. Prey, 2, 1945, p.433.

Probably a common winter visitor to the plains of central and southern Iraq (south of Baghdad and Hilla) where according to Buxton (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922), it arrives at Amara in late September and leaves by the first week of April. To

the north of that line, Common Kestrels are resident and breeding, intermingling with the winter visitor from elsewhere, and, according to Ticehurst also, nests were found on the cliffs of the upper reaches of the Tigris from Fatah Gorge to Samarra, and on the Euphrates near Feluja. As many as 7 eggs were seen in some of the nests. Breeding season starts from late February, and young were found in the nest at Feluja on May 25 (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922) Sassi (1912) reported an adult male from Mosul on May 28, a juvenile on June 2, and from Baghdad (Qasr Nagib) on April 27. We have several specimens from Baghdad area collected in September, October, December, and January.

CICCI GALLIFORMES

Suborder GALLI

Family PHASIANIDAE.

Subfamily PHASIANINAE.

Genus AMMOPERDIX Gould.

1. SEESEE PARTRIDGE. ۱ - حجل

Ammoperdix griseogularis (J. F. Brandt).

Perdix griseogularis Brandt, Bull. Acad. Imp. Sci. St.-Pétersb.,
Physico-Math. Cl., 1, 1843, col. 365.

Ammoperdix bonhami, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 22, 1893, p.123.

Common and resident in hilly, stony country. Reported from such places as the Jebel Hemrin ranges up to Mosul, the Kurdish Mountains in northern Iraq, and suitable cliffs and ravines near the rivers, but never from the plains. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), breeding starts from May, but full clutches of eggs may be found about the end of May. Up to 13 eggs were found by Tomlinson (1916) in one nest in the Karun district, on May 28. Pitman noted it hiding in day time, and coming out to feed and drink in the morning and evening (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922).

Genus ALECTORIS Kaup.

2. CHUKAR PARTRIDGE. ۲ - حجل رومی

a. *Alectoris graeca kurdestanica* Meinertzhagen.

A. g. kurdestanicus Meinertzhagen, Bull. Brit. Orn. Cl., 43, 1923, p.158.

b. *Alectoris g. werae* (Sarudny & Loudon).

Caccabis chucar werae Sarudny & Loudon, Orn. Monatsb., 15, 1904,
p.225.

Common and resident bird of the mountains. The first race is common round Dohuk, Amadia, and Zakho in northern Iraq, and also in the hills round Mosul and southern Kurdistan.

The second race occurs in the Jebel Hemrin range, in Khanakin and Kizil-Robat, and probably elsewhere. One pair was seen in April near Hit on the Euphrates, and Cheesman saw it fairly common along the foothills east of Ali Gharbi (Ticehurst, *et al.*: 1922, 1926). This race breeds in the Pusht-i-Kuh mountains, on the eastern border of Iraq.

Chukars are kept as cage birds in Iraq for their pleasant morning songs, but they rarely breed in captivity.

Genus FRANCOLINUS Stephens.

3. BLACK PARTRIDGE. ۳ - دراج

a. *Francolinus francolinus francolinus* (L.).

Tetrao francolinus L., Syst. Nat., ed. XII, 1, 1766, p.275.

Francolinus francolinus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 22, 1893, p.132.

b. *Francolinus f. arabistanicus* Sarudny & Harms.

F. orientalis arabistanicus Sarudny & Harms, Orn. Monatsb., 21, 1913, p.54.

The first race is common and resident round Mosul and in southern Kurdistan. The second race, which is slightly smaller and paler than the first, is common and resident round Baghdad and south to Basra.

Black Partridges are commonly found among thick scrub, especially tamarisk and liquorice, or dense grass near water. They are the favourite game birds for the hunters, and it is feared that they are decreasing in number in certain places. Breeding starts in April, and eggs are usually found in April and May, and as much as 12 eggs were reported from nests (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1926). Late nesters may be found in June due to accidents to the first nests. The male starts calling early in March and continue well through July, and sometimes later than July, but not in winter.

Genus COTURNIX Bonaparte.

4. QUAIL. ۴ - سلوی

Coturnix coturnix coturnix (L.).

Tetrao coturnix L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.161.

Coturnix coturnix, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 22, 1893, p.231.

This bird is chiefly a passage migrant and, less commonly, a winter visitor. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), Quails are first seen in March and continue to arrive up to early May, when they are usually found in the fields and grasslands. The return passage takes place in September. Reported as uncommon winter visitors in Basra area (Tomlinson, 1916), as occurring in small numbers throughout the country in winter (Meinertzhagen, 1924), and in Mosul (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1926). Some birds stay to breed in our area, as Livesay obtained eggs, and Pitman saw young ones at Kut in mid-June and July (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922).

1. COMMON CRANE

Grus grus (L.)

Grus grus L., *Syst. Nat.*, ed. X, t. 1, p. 173, p. 174.
Grus grus Gmel., *Cat. B. B. Mus.*, 33, 1804, p. 200.

A fairly common winter visitor, and generally distributed in the marshy plains. According to Meinertzhagen (1924), Cranes start to arrive in November, and on December 8 and 9, he noted hundreds of them passing over Kabilah and Tikhlah (in the extreme north of Iraq) from the northeast following a southerly direction, apparently to some winter quarters south in the country or beyond.

Genus ANTHROPOIDES Vahl.

2. DEMISELLE CRANE

Anthropoides rupe (L.)

Anthropoides rupe L., *Syst. Nat.*, ed. X, t. 1, p. 173, p. 174.
Anthropoides rupe Gmel., *Cat. B. B. Mus.*, 33, 1804, p. 200.

The status of this bird is probably much like that of the preceding one, but it seems to be not as common. Tombill (1928) saw numbers of both species of cranes in Swadhiyah marsh (Diyarbakir). Meinertzhagen's note on the Common Crane applies to this species, too.

Crane applies to this species, too.

Family RALLIDAE

Genus RALLUS Linn.

3. WATER-RAIL

Rallus aquaticus Scop.

Rallus aquaticus Scop., *Orn. Monst.*, 13, 1763, p. 200.
Rallus aquaticus Gmel., *Cat. B. B. Mus.*, 33, 1804, p. 200.

Order GRUIFORMES

Suborder GRUES

Family GRUIDAE.

Subfamily GRUINAE.

Genus GRUS Pallas.

1. COMMON CRANE.

• کرکی - ۱

Grus grus grus (L.).*Ardea grus* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.141.*Grus grus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 23, 1894, p.250.

A fairly common winter visitor, and generally distributed in the marshy plains. According to Meinertzhagen (1924), Cranes start to arrive in November; and on December 8 and 9, he noted hundreds of them passing over Zakho and Feshkhabur (in the extreme north of Iraq) from the northeast following a southwesterly direction, apparently to some winter quarters south in the country, or beyond.

Genus ANTHROPOIDES Vieillot.

2. DEMOISELLE CRANE.

• رهو • کرکی صغیر • ۲

Anthropoides virgo (L.).*Ardea virgo* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.141.*Anthropoides virgo*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 23, 1894, p.269.

The status of this bird is probably much like that of the preceding one, but it seems to be not as common. Thornhill (1918) saw numbers of both species of cranes in Suweikiyah marsh (Diwaniyah). Meinertzhagen's note on the Common Crane applies to this species, too.
Crane applies to this species, too.

Family RALLIDAE.

Genus RALLUS Linné.

3. WATER-RAIL.

• تفلق ، مرعة الماء • ۳

Rallus aquaticus korejewi Sarudny.*Rallus aquaticus korejewi* Sarudny, Orn. Monatsb., 13, 1905, p.209.*Rallus aquaticus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 23, 1894, p.20.

A fairly common winter visitor and generally distributed in suitable localities, though not so easy to come under observation. Reported from the marshes near Basra, Samarra, Shaikh Saad, and Hilla from September to February.

Genus CREX Bechstein.

4. CORN-CRAKE/LAND-RAIL. ٤ - صغرد ، مرعة البر •

Crex crex (L).

Rallus crex L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.153.

Crex crex, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 23, 1894, p.82.

A common passage migrant in autumn and spring. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), this bird was seen passing southward from September, or earlier, till the end of October, or later. We have a specimen from Baghdad dated August 12, 1921. The spring passage was noted from the middle of April to the end of May, the birds were seen passing northward. Cumming noted some birds in the Fao area during June and July (Sharpe, 1886), but there is no evidence of their breeding there.

Genus PORZANA Vieillot.

5. LITTLE CRAKE. ٥ - مرعة صغيرة •

Porzana parva parva ((Scopoli).

Rallus parvus Scopoli, Annus I, Hist.-Nat., 1769, p.108.

Zapornia parva, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 23, 1894, p.89.

A fairly common winter visitor in suitable localities. Reported from Basra between August and the middle of May, and also from the following localities: Shaikh Saad (September); Baghdad (February); Kurna (March); Shahraban (March).

6. BAILLON'S CRAKE. ٦ - مرعة بايون الصغيرة •

Porzana pusilla intermedia (Hermann).

Rallus intermedius Hermann, Obs. Zool., 1804, p.198.

Porzana intermedia, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 23, 1894, p.103.

Probably a winter visitor. Cumming reported it at Fao from autumn to spring

(Sharpe, 1886). According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), several were seen in Kurna marshes in January.

7. SPOTTED CRAKE.

٧ - مرعة رقطاع.

Porzana porzana (L.).

Rallus porzana L., Syst. Nat., ed. XII, 1, 1766, p.262.

Porzana porzana, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 23, 1894, p.93.

Fairly common as a passage migrant in autumn and spring. Autumn migration takes place between August and October, and spring migration between the middle of March and the end of May. Specimens were obtained from Baghdad on April 19. Another was collected by W.H. Jeffery from H.2 Oil Station on September 15.

Genus GALLINULA Brisson.

8. MOORHEN/WATER-HEN.

٨ - دجاجة الماء.

Gallinula chloropus chloropus (L.).

Fulica chloropus L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.152.

Gallinula chloropus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 23, 1894, p.169.

A common winter visitor in the marshes from October to March, as well as breeding in suitable localities. According to Ticehurst *et al.* (1922), this species breeds at Basra in May and eggs were obtained in June. We have specimens from H1 oil pumping Station in the desert (May 10); Baghdad (April 10, and one juvenile dated June 6); and from H2 oil pumping station (August 28).

Genus PORPHYRIO Brisson.

9. PURPLE GALLINULE.

٩ - بوهان ، فرفر .

Porphyrio poliocephalus seistanicus Sarudny & Harms.

Porphyrio poliocephalus seistanicus Sarudny & Harms, Journ. f. Orn., 59, 1911, p.240.

Porphyrio poliocephalus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 23, 1894, p.197.

Common and resident in all large marshes with suitable growth of reed beds for cover. Reported as breeding in the Hammar Lake on May, where nests con-

taining 3 or 4 eggs each were found; as well as in the marshes near Musayeb and Kurna (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). Nests were described as made of dead reeds with a few stalks bent over to make a slight screen.

Subfamily FULICINAE.

Genus FULICA Linné

10. COOT.

Fulica atra atra L.

Fulica atra L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.152.

Fulica atra, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 23, 1894, p.210.

A very common winter visitor and partly breeding in suitable localities. Generally distributed in all marshes and rivers. Seen very often from early October to March. Breeding was reported in June, and many adults and young could be seen from July to September. Our specimens are dated October and November.

Suborder OTIDES

Family OTIDAE.

Genus TETRAX T. Forster.

11. LITTLE BUSTARD.

Tetrax tetrax orientalis (Hartert).

Otis tertrax orientalis Hartert, Novit. Zool., 23, 1916, p.339.

Tetrax tetrax, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 23, 1894, p.287.

Probably a winter visitor. A female was obtained at Mosul on January (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1926), and Thornhill (1918) saw four birds in the desert west of Ramadi during the third week of March. Vaguely reported from other places in the country.

Genus OTIS Linné

12. GREAT BUSTARD.

• ١٢ - حبارى كبيرة

Otis tarda tarda L.*Otis tarda* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.154.*Otis tarda*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 23, 1894, p.284.

Probably a winter visitor, but almost confined to the plains of northern Iraq as far south as Baghdad; but there are vague reports from Kut, Feluja, and Amara (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). Reported by Meinertzhagen (1924) as common at Mosul and Kirkuk areas in January.

Genus CHLAMYDOTIS Lesson.

13. HOUBARA /MACQUEEN'S BUSTARD.

• ١٣ - حبارى

Chlamydotis undulata macqueenii (J.E. Gray).*Otis macqueenii* J.E. Gray, in Hardwicke's Ill. Ind. Zool., 2, pt.12, 1832, pl.47.*Houbara macqueenii*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 23, 1894, p.318.

Fairly common in grassy plains and scrubby deserts, throughout the country, as resident and local migrant. Reported by Meinertzhagen (1924) as common in the deserts west of Ramadi, southwest of Baghdad, and near Hatra in November. He also observed them leaving the Iraq plains after the first heavy rains in November, probably moving to other places with little rainfall. Cumming (1914) reported them as common near Faq in winter. Also reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922) as common in the Samarra-Tekrit area and as far as Kut down the Tigris; as well as in Hit and southward down the Euphrates. According to Ticehurst *et al.* also, this game bird breeds near Samarra where nests and eggs (up to 3 per clutch) were found; also between Baghdad and Musayeb in May and June, and near Kut. But Mr. E.S. Steward, who saw several birds near the ruins of Hatra during the latter half of April and all of May, 1947, failed to find a nest. There are eggs in the British Museum from Zobair dated April 25, and others from a place south of Baghdad dated March.

Many bustards were seen by Mr. I. Ghazala of Mosul on the Khazir river, between Mosul and the Greater Zab river, on February 6, 1953, and shot one of them. Whether these birds belong to this species or the preceding one is not certain.

Order CHARADRIIFORMES

Suborder CHARADRII

Family HAEMATOPODIDAE.

Genus HAEMATOPUS Linné.

1. OYSTER-CATCHER.

١ - آكل المحار .

Haematopus ostralegus ostralegus L.*Haematopus ostralegus* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.152.*Haematopus ostralegus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p.107.

A fairly common winter visitor to be met with on the mud banks of the rivers, marshes, and flooded areas from Baghdad south to Fao. There are some records during the breeding season, but no positive evidence of its breeding in our area, although it certainly breeds in Asia Minor.

Family CHARADRIIDAE.

Subfamily VANELLINAE.

Genus CHETTUSIA Bonaparte.

2. WHITE-TAILED PLOVER.

٢ - زقزاق أبيض الذنب .

Chettusia leucura (Lichtenstein).*Charadrius leucurus* Lichtenstein, in Eversmann's Reise von Orenburg nach Buchara, 1823, p.137.*Eurypterus leucurus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p171.

Very common and resident, breeding in colonies around the marshes and flooded rice-fields, from central to southern Iraq. According to Ticehurst *et al.* (1922, 1926), breeding grounds were located in the marshes round Musayeb, Hindiyah, and Amara, as well as in Lake Akkarkuf and Suweikiyah marsh. Breeding season starts from early May, and full clutches of 4 eggs were seen in early June; the nests being found on the edge of the marsh on semi-submerged islets (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922).

3. SOCIABLE PLOVER.

• قطيقة - ٣

Chettusia gregaria (Pallas).*Charadrius gregarius* Pallas, Reise versch. Prov. Russ. Reichs, 1, 1771, p.456.*Chaetusia gregaria*, Cat. B. Brit Mus., 24, 1896, p.174.

Very common in winter in suitable localities, from October to early April. Large flocks of this species may frequent uplands and cultivated plains.

Genus VANELLUS Brisson.

4. LAPWING.

• قطاط شامي - ٤

Vanellus vanellus (L.).*Tringa vanellus* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.148.*Vanellus vanellus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p.166.

A winter visitor in small numbers and widely distributed, usually arriving in late October or early November, and leaving by early March. Flocks, were reported in winter from such widely separated localities as Dohuk, Amara, and Basra (Ticehurst, *et al.*: 1922, 1926). We have specimens from Baghdad and Shahraban dated January 1 and 25 respectively.

Genus LOBIVANELLUS G.R. Gray.

5. RED-WATTLED LAPWING.

• قطاط مغربي - ٥

Lobivanellus indicus aigneri (Laubmann).*Sarcogrammus indicus aigneri* Laubmann, Falco, 9, 1913, p.30.*Sarcogrammus indicus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p.149.

A common resident and widely distributed. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922, 1926), this bird frequents Basra, Hammar Lake, and up the Tigris and Euphrates to Mosul and Feluja respectively; also found in the hills east of Ali-Gharbi. Reported as breeding singly from mid-April to early June, and complete clutches of 4 eggs were found. The nest is described by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926) as built up of small clods of mud, some distance from water. There are local

migrations in winter. Sassi (1912) recorded it from Mosul in January and Meintzhagen (1924) from Kirkuk and Erbil. We have one specimen from Ba'quba dated November 30, another from Baghdad (Sulaikh) dated February 24, and a third from Akkarkuf dated March 4.

Genus HOLOPTERUS Bonaparte.

6. SPUR-WINGED PLOVER.

• زقراق - ٦

Hoplopterus spinosus (L.).

Charadrius spinosus L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.151.

Hoplopterus spinosus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p.157.

The status of this bird in our area requires further investigation. Sarudny (1911) recorded it as a winter visitor in the Karun district, and Pitman (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922) saw it near Kurna in January. We have a specimen from H. 1 Station shot by W.H. Jeffery on April 20, 1951. Weigold (1913) saw it breeding at Urfa, and the bird certainly breeds in Syria and Palestine.

Subfamily CHARADRIINAE.

Genus SQUATAROLA Cuvier.

7. GREY PLOVER.

• زقراق رمادی - ٧

Squatarola squatarola (L.).

Tringa squatarola L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.149.

Squatarola helvetica, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p.182.

Probably a passage migrant in the Fao district, as Cumming reported it in September and October (Sharpe, 1891). We have no specimen of this species in our present collection.

Genus PLUVIALIS Brisson.

8. GOLDEN PLOVER.

• زقراق ذهبي - ٨

Pluvialis apricaria apricaria (L.).

Charadrius apricarius L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.150.

Charadrius pluvialis, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p.191.

Probably a winter visitor, and Sarudny (1911) reported it as such in the Karun district. We have no other records from our area.

9. ASIATIC GOLDEN PLOVER.

• زقزاق ذهبي شرقي ٩

Pluvialis dominica fulva (Gmelin).

Charadrius fulvus Gmelin, Syst. Nat., 1, pt. 2, 1758, p. 687.

Charadrius dominicus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p. 195.

The only record we have is that of Capt. Hanna who obtained three specimens near Shaikh Saad (Amara) on January 21 (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). It is probably a passage migrant, and was so listed by Sarudny (1911) in the Karun district.

Genus CHARADRIUS Linné.

10. RINGED PLOVER.

• زقزاق مطوق ١٠

Charadrius hiaticula tundrae (Lowe).

Aegialitis hiaticola tundrae Lowe, Bull. Brit. Orn. Cl., 36, 1915, p. 7.

Aegialitis hiaticola, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p. 256.

Probably a passage migrant, and most observers have confused it with the Little Ringed Plover (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). Reported as common in Lake Akkarkuf on September and October. We have a specimen from Lake Habaniyah dated October 23.

11. LITTLE RINGED PLOVER.

• زقزاق مطوق صغير ١١

Charadrius dubius curonicus Gmelin.

Charadrius curonicus Gmelin, Syst. Nat., 1, pt. 2, 1789, p. 692.

Aegialitis dubia, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p. 263.

Very common as resident and widely distributed, migrating locally when the breeding season is over. Frequently seen in winter along the edges of rivers, canals, and marshes. Reported as breeding on the Euphrates marshes near Musayeb on June 3, and on the Tigris north of Samarra, where several nests with eggs were found from late May to early June (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). It probably

breeds in the Fao district where a few young birds were obtained by Cumming in August and September (Sharpe, 1891). We have specimens from Baghdad collected in early April and late August.

12. KENTISH PLOVER.

١٢ - ابو الرؤوس الاسكندري *

Charadrius alexandrinus alexandrinus L.

Charadrius alexandrinus L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.150.

Aegialitis alexandrina Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p.275.

Fairly common and resident throughout our area. Reported as breeding at Fao (Cumming, 1918); at Basra (Tomlinson, 1916); and at Kurna, Amara and Suweikiyah marshes (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). Breeding season is from early April to late June. This bird was seen by Logan Home nesting in a small sandy islet at Abu Aran (north of Kurna) in company with Little Terns, Pratincoles, and White-tailed Plovers (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922).

13. LARGE SAND-PLOVER.

١٣ - زقزاق الرمل الكبير (زهراوى) *

Charadrius leschenaultii Lesson.

Charadrius leschenaultii Lesson, Dict. Sci. Nat. éd. Levrault, 42, 1826, p.36.

Ochthodromus geoffroyi, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p.217.

Probably a winter visitor in the Fao district, where Cumming obtained specimens in March and August (Sharpe: 1886, 1891), Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922) recorded it in February, March, and August.

Genus EUPODA J.F. Brandt.

14. CASPIAN PLOVER.

١٤ - زقزاق قزوینی *

Eupoda asiatica (Pallas).

Charadrius asiaticus Pallas, Reise versch. Prov. Russ. Reichs, 2, 1773, p.715.

Ochthodromus asiaticus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p.230.

A migrant seen in autumn passage in November, and in spring passage in March. Large flocks in migration were seen on cultivated plains near the rivers (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). Cumming saw an immature bird on August 11 (Sharpe, 1891).

Genus EUDROMIAS C.L. Brehm.

15. DOTTEREL.

١٥ - زقزاق اغبر *

Eudromias morinellus (L.).*Charadrius morinellus* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.150.*Eudromias morinellus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p.234.

A winter visitor frequenting suitable localities in large flocks. Reported as plentiful, on grassland near Samarra and Feluja in winter, but less so elsewhere (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). Last recorded on April 7. Our specimen is collected from Diala river on October 29.

Family SCOLOPACIDAE.

Subfamily TRINGINAE.

Genus NUMENIUS Brisson.

16. WHIMBREL.

١٦ - کروان غیطی صغیر *

Numenius phaeopus phaeopus (L.).*Scolopax phaeopus* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.146.*Numenius phaeopus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p.355.

A passage migrant seen in autumn migration in August and September, and in spring migration in April and May. It is possible that some birds winter in the Fao district, as Cumming recorded this species as a winter visitor to that locality, arriving in July and leaving in March (Sharpe, 1886).

17. SLENDER-BILLED CURLEW.

١٧ - کروان غیطی مستدق المنقار *

Numenius tenuirostris Vieillot.*Numenius tenuirostris* Vieillot, Nouv. Dict. Hist. Nat., 8, 1817, p.302.*Numenius tenuirostris*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p.348

Probably a winter visitor in small numbers, recorded only by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922) as seen on a temporary winter lake, about 10 miles north of Amara, on December 16.

18. COMMON CURLEW.

١٨ - كروان الغيظ •

Numenius arquata arquata (L.).*Scolopax arquata* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.145.*Numenius arquatus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p.341.

A common winter visitor and a passage migrant, frequenting marshes and flooded areas. Reported by Cumming at Fao from July to March (Sharpe, 1886); by Tomlinson (1916) at Basra in winter; and by Meinertzhagen (1914) near Tekrit in January. Migrating flocks were observed near Baghdad, during July and August, passing over in a southeasterly direction; and at Feluja, during April and May, passing over in a northeasterly direction. We have a specimen from an unspecified locality dated July 1, 1927.

Genus LIMOSA Brisson.

19. BLACK-TAILED GODWIT.

١٩ - بقويقة سوداء الذنب •

Limosa limosa limosa (L.).*Scolopax limosa* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.147.*Limosa limosa*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p.381.

A common winter visitor frequenting the muddy margins of marshes and flooded places from central to southern Iraq. Reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922) as arriving in August and leaving in April and May; and that some non-breeding birds spend the summer in suitable localities. We have a specimen from Deltawah (Diala) dated February 27, 1931.

20. BAR-TAILED GODWIT.

٢٠ - بقويقة موشمة الذنب •

Limosa lapponica lapponica (L.).*Scolopax lapponica* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.147.*Limosa lapponica*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p.373.

A winter visitor to the southern part of the country. Reported from the Shatt-el-Arab River area in January, and from the head of the Persian Gulf in late April (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922, 1926).

Genus TRINGA Linné

21. SPOTTED REDSHANK.

• طيطوى ادكن - ٢١

Tringa erythropus (Pallas).*Scolopax erythropus* Pallas, in Vroeg's Cat., 1764, Adumbr., p.6.*Totanus fuscus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p.409.

Probably a passage migrant. Observed at Samarra on May 17 (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922), and at Urfa in early May (Weigold, 1913). Sarudny (1911) considered it a winter visitor in the Karun district. This bird is more likely to be a bird of passage as it breeds in northern Europe and northern Asia, and winters south to Africa and India.

22. COMMON REDSHANK.

• طيطوى أحمر الساق - ٢٢

a. *Tringa totanus totanus* (L.).*Scolopax totanus* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.145.*Totanus calidris*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p.414.b. *Tringa totanus eurhinus* (Oberholser).*Totanus totanus eurhinus* Oberholser, Proc. U.S. Nat., 22, 1900, p.207.

Both races are winter visitors and widely distributed in suitable localities. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), they mostly arrive in mid-August and leave in mid-May, and that some non-breeders may remain in the summer. The second (or Eastern) race is larger and paler than the first. It seems as if both races occur side by side in winter.

23. MARSH-SANDPIPER.

• طيطوى البطائح - ٢٣

Tringa stagnatilis (Bechstein).*Totanus stagnatilis* Bechstein, Orn. Taschenb. Deutschl., 1903, p.292, pl.29.*Totanus stagnatilis*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p.422.

A fairly common winter visitor in suitable localities, and is especially com-

mon around Baghdad, as most January and March records relate to this area (Ticehurst, *et al.*, : 1922, 1926; Meinertzhagen, 1924). It probably occurs in other suitable places.

24. GREENSHANK.

٢٤ - طيطوى أخضر الساق

Tringa nebularia (Gunnerus).

Scolopax nebularia Gunnerus, in Leem, Beskr. Finn. Lapper, 1767, p.251.

Glottis nebularius, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p.481.

A fairly common winter visitor in suitable localities. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), the majority arrive in August and leave by the end of April.

25. GREEN SANDPIPER.

٢٥ - طيطوى أخضر

Tringa ocropus L.

Tringa ocropus L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.149.

Helodromas ocropus, Cat B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p.437.

Fairly common as a winter visitor in suitable localities and, to some extent, a passage migrant. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), it arrives in August and leaves in the middle of May.

26. WOOD-SANDPIPER.

٢٦ - طيطوى الغياض

Tringa glareola L.

Tringa glareola L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.149.

Rhyacophilus glareola, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p.491.

Possibly a passage migrant, although there are few winter records. It becomes fairly common in the autumn (September-October) and again in the spring (April and May). We have a specimen from Baghdad dated August 18, an early record for the autumn migration. Recorded by Pitman in February and December, and noted at Baghdad on December 1 (Ticehurst, *et al.*: 1922, 1926).

Genus XENUS Kaup. ٢٧ - طيطوى مغبر *

27. TEREK SANDPIPER.

Xenus cinereus (Guldenstaedt).

Scolopax cinerea Guldenstaedt, Novi Comm. Sci. Petropol., 19, 1774.

p.473, pl.19.

Terekia cinerea, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p.474.

Probably a passage migrant in the Fao district, where Cumming obtained specimens in August and September (Sharpe: 1886, 1891). Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926) reported a flock on Bubyon Island, at the head of the Persian Gulf, on April 9. Being a maritime bird, it is not likely to be found on inland fresh waters.

Genus ACTITIS Illiger.

28. COMMON SANDPIPER.

٢٨ - طيطوى *

Actitis hypoleucos (L.).

Tringa hypoleucos L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.149.

Tringoides hypoleucos, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p.456.

A winter visitor that becomes more common with the arrival of passage migrants. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), it arrives as early as mid-July and leaves as late as mid-May. Reported as resident in Basra by Tomlinson (1916), but this is no proof of its breeding there, as Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922) remarked that some may spend the summer in their usual winter quarters if they are not going to breed that year.

Subfamily ARENARIINAE.

Genus ARENARIA Brisson.

29. TURNSTONE.

٢٩ - قنبرة الماء *

Arenaria interpres interpres (L.).

Tringa interpres L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.148.

Arenaria interpres, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p.92.

A winter visitor in small numbers, reported from the Shatt-el-Arab district. According to Sharpe (1891), Cumming got a specimen on June 18, which means that some non-breeding birds may remain in the summer.

Subfamily SCOLOPACINAE.

Genus CAPELLA Frenzel.

30. GREAT SNIPE.

• ٣٠ - جهلول كبير

Capella media (Latham).

Scolopax media Latham, Gen. Syn., Suppl., 1787, p.292.

Gallinago major, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p.626.

A passage migrant in small numbers. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), autumn migration was reported in August and September, and spring migration in April and May. A specimen was collected by Mr. Jeffery from H.I Station on May 11, 1951.

31. COMMON SNIPE.

• ٣١ - جهلول (شنقب)

Capella gallinago gallinago (L.).

Scolopax gallinago L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.147.

Gallinago gallinago, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p.633.

A common winter visitor frequenting suitable places from northern to southern Iraq. The majority arrive in the second half of August and leave by early May, but stragglers may be seen as late as the end of May (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). We have a specimen from Dohuk, in northern Iraq, dated October 18, 1922.

Genus SCOLOPAX Linné

32. WOODCOCK.

• ٣٢ - دجاجة الارض

Scolopax rusticola rusticola L.

Scolopax rusticola L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.146.

Scolopax rusticola, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p.671.

A winter visitor that seems to be more common in the northern parts of the

country than elsewhere. Meinertzhagen (1924) reported it as quite common around Mosul, Dohuk, and Zakho in November and December. Recorded between October and April from Basra, Baghdad, Kut, Tekrit, Felahiyah, and Diala (Thornhill, 1918; Ticehurst, *et al.*: 1922, 1926).

Genus LYMNOCRYPTES Kaup.

33. JACK SNIPE.

• جهلول صغير - ٣٣

Lymnocyptes minima (Brunnich).

Scolopax minima Brunnich, Orn. Boreal., 1764, p.49.

Limnocyptes gallinula, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p.665.

A fairly common winter visitor, generally distributed in suitable localities. The majority leave by the middle of April (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922).

Subfamily EROLIINAE.

Genus CROCETHIA Billberg.

34. SANDERLING.

• مدروان - ٣٤

Crocethia alba (Pallas).

Trynga alba Pallas, in Vroeg's Cat., 1764, Adumbr., p.7.

Calidris arenaria, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p.526.

Probably a winter visitor in the southern part of the country, and was given the same status by Saruday (1911) in the Karun district.

Genus EROLIA Vieillot.

35. LITTLE STINT.

• فطيرة - ٣٥

Erolia minuta (Leisler).

Tringa minuta Leisler, Nachtrage zu Bechstein's Naturg. Deutschl., 1812, p.74.

Limnites minuta, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p.538.

A passage migrant, reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922) as common in the

marshes in autumn and spring migrations. We have a specimen from Baghdad dated July 23, which is very early for the incoming autumn migrants. It is probable that some non-breeding birds remain in the summer.

36. TEMMINCK'S STINT.

• فطيرة تمنك - ٣٦

Erolia temminckii (Leisler).

Tringa temminckii Leisler, Nachtrage zu Bechstein's Naturg. Deutschl., 1812, p.64.

Limonites temminckii, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p.555.

Fairly common in winter and widely distributed in the flooded areas and along the rivers in suitable places (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). Some may be seen on passage in autumn and spring. Recently collected by Mr. Jeffery from H.I Station on May, 1951, probably a spring migrant.

37. DUNLIN.

• داريجة - ٣٧

Erolia alpina alpina (L.).

Tringa alpina L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.149.

Pelidna alpina, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p.602.

A common winter visitor, arriving in early August and leaving by the middle of May. Some non-breeding birds may remain in the summer, when they are seen on the edges of marshes, flooded fields, or river banks (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922).

38. CURLEW-SANDPIPER.

• كروان الماء - ٣٨

— *Erolia testacea* (Pallas).

Scolopax testacea Pallas, in Vroeg's Cat., 1764, Adumbr., p.5.

Ancylochilus subarquatus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p.586.

Reported by Meinertzhagen (1914) in winter, and by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922) at Amara in December and April. Specimens were also obtained by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926) at Fao on April 23, and at Boonah Island on June 10, both were in the breeding dress.

Genus LIMICOLA Koch.

39. BROAD-BILLED SANDPIPER.

٣٩ - طيطوى منجلى .

Limicola falcinellus falcinellus (Pontoppidan).*Scolopax falcinellus* Pontoppidan, Danske Atlas, 1, 1763, p.623, pl.25.*Limicola platyrhyncha*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p.612.

The only record we have is that of Cumming who got specimens at Fao in August and September (Sharpe, 1891). These birds could either be early winter visitors or passage migrants, as the species usually winters in the Persian Gulf, western India, and the Red Sea.

Genus PHILOMACHUS Merrem.

40. RUFF.

٤٠ - حجواله .

Philomachus pugnax (L.).*Tringa pugnax* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.148.*Pavoncella pugnax*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p.500.

A fairly common winter visitor and passage migrant, frequenting marshes and rivers. It becomes more abundant by the influx of autumn and spring migrants (Ticehurst, *et al.* 1922). We have a specimen from Baghdad dated August 27, an early autumn record.

Family RECURVIROSTRIDAE.

Subfamily RECURVIROSTRINAE.

Genus HIMANTOPUS Brisson.

41. BLACK-WINGED STILT.

٤١ - أبو مغازل . طول .

Himantopus himantopus himantopus (L.).*Charadrius himantopus* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.151.*Himantopus himantopus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p.310.

Common and resident in the marshes of central and southern Iraq. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922, 1926), breeding quarters were found in the marshes of Amara, Basra, Hindiyah Barrage, Musayeb, and Suweikiyah where nests and eggs

(3 or 4 per nest) were reported in late May and early June. The nest was described as a slight depression on a mud mound, constructed by the parents, well above the general level of the marsh. In winter it spreads out to shallow waters and river banks.

Genus RECURVIROSTRA Linné

42. AVOCET.

٤٢ - نکات

Recurvirostra avosetta L.

Recurvirostra avosetta, L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.151.

Recurvirostra avocetta, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p.326.

Fairly common and resident. Reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922) as breeding near Musayeb, where a nest with 4 eggs was found on June 3, and probably in Lake Akkarkuf also. The nest is a simple depression in the ground on the edge of a marsh, lined with little grass. In winter it spreads out to the rivers and marshes.

Family PHALAROPODIDAE.

Genus LOBIPES Cuvier

43. RED-NECKED PHALAROPE.

٤٣ - طيطوى مفصص القدم

Lobipes lobatus (L.).

Tringa lobata L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.148.

Phalaropus hyperboreus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p.698.

A passage migrant in our area, and a winter visitor in the Gulf, off Fa'o (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1926). A large party was seen on a pool in Wadi Tharthar, on May 1947 (E.S. Steward).

Family DROMADIDAE.

Genus DROMAS Paykull.

44. CRAB-PLOVER.

٤٤ - حنكور

Dromas ardeola Paykull.

Dromas ardeola Paykull, Kongl. Vet.-Acad. Nya Handl., 26, 1805, p.182, 188, pl.8.

Dromas ardeola, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p.28.

This maritime bird is common and breeds in colonies in the Shatt-el-Arab estuary and the small islands at the head of the Persian Gulf. Reported from that locality by Cumming (Sharpe, 1891) and Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922, 1926), where nests and eggs were found in May. The nest was described by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926) as a hole excavated obliquely into the sand, to a depth of 1.5 feet and length of 3 to 4 feet, at the end of which one egg is laid. They also obtained young in down on June 7. Hundreds of eggs, said to be very large for the size of the bird, are collected by the native Arabs in that locality (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922).

Family BURHINIDAE.

Genus BURHINUS Illiger.

45. STONE-CURLEW.

٤٥ - کروان جبلی ، فرفر صافر .

a. *Burhinus oedicnemus saharae* (Reichenow).

Oedicnemus oedicnemus saharae Reichenow, Journ. f. Orn., 42, 1894,
p.102.

Oedicnemus oedicnemus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p.4.

b. *Burhinus oedicnemus astatus* Hartert.

Burhinus oedicnemus astatus Hartert, Novit. Zool., 23, 1916, p.93.

Fairly common in suitable localities, and both races breed in the country. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), Stone Curlews were found breeding on shingle islands along the Tigris from Samarra north to Tekrit, and on Hai river, near Kut, between May and June. Nests and eggs were seen in both places. Reported from various other places of plain and desert nature, in nearly every month of the year beyond the breeding season.

Mr. E.S. Steward reported seeing or hearing scattered pairs at Hatra, Oustubulat, Mosul, and Greater Zab river in late April and May, probably breeding, but no nests were seen.

The first race was identified from specimens collected near Baghdad, Lake Akkarkuf, and Samarra. The second race was identified from Khanakin.

Family GLAREOLIDAE.

Subfamily CURSORIINAE.

Genus CURSORIUS Latham.

46. CREAM-COLOURED COURSER.

٤٦ - جليل ، كروان عسلي *

Cursorius cursor cursor (Latham).*Charadrius cursor* Latham, Gen. Syn., Suppl. 1, 1787, p.293.*Cursorius gallicus*, Cat. B. Brit Mus., 24, 1896, p.34.

A fairly common and local bird which, according to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), breeds in the sandier and more pebbly parts of the edge of the desert, west of the Euphrates river. They reported seeing a family party of old and young birds at Shaiba on May 25, and others near Hindiya Barrage and Kut in the breeding season and after. Later, in 1926, they reported finding a pair at Feluja starting to breed on April 25, and others breeding at Tekrit, and still others seen at Mosul on June 2. Several birds were seen by E.S. Steward at Hatra in late April and May 1947 as well as four nests. He saw one odd bird at Samarra. We have specimens from Iskandariyah (September), Baghdad (November), and Basra (January).

Subfamily GLAREOLINAE.

Genus GLAREOLA Brisson.

47. PRATINCOLE.

٤٧ - ابو اليسر *

Glareola pratincola pratincola (L.).*Hirundo pratincola* L., Syst. Nat., ed. XII, 1, 1766, p.345.*Glareola pratincola*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p.53.

This bird is a summer visitor and commonly breeds in colonies on the drying edges of marshes and flooded places everywhere, where the depressions in the dry, hard mud provide suitable nests (Ticehurst, *et al.*: 1922, 1926). Such breeding

colonies were reported from Feluja, Musayeb, Hindiyah Barrage, Suweikiyeh marsh, L. Akkarkuf, Fao, Iskandariyah Canal, and near Baghdad. Breeding season lasts from early May to late June. Nests were also found on shingle on the edge of the river at Samarra (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). Reports show that this bird arrives in late March and leaves in early September, and there are no records in winter. All of our specimens are dated May and July.

48. BLACK-WINGED PRATINCOLE.

٤٨ - ابو اليسر أسود الجناح .

Glareola nordmanni Fischer.

Glareola nordmanni Fischer, Bull. Soc. Imp. Nat. Moscou, 15, 1842,
p.314, pl.2.

Glareola melanoptera, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 24, 1896, p.57.

A summer visitor and probably breeding in our area. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), the bird was reported as evidently breeding in May at Feluja, and between this town and Baghdad, and also at Hindiyah Barrage. Reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922) in July and August on Lake Akkarkuf, probably breeding in the same colonies as the Pratincoles.

Suborder LARI

Family STERCORARIIDAE.

Genus STERCORARIUS Brisson,

49. ARCTIC SKUA.

٤٩ - كركر .

Stercorarius parasiticus (L.).

Larus parasiticus L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.136.

Stercorarius parasiticus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 25, 1896, p.334.

The only record we have is that of Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926) who said that Cumming reported seeing one bird of this species near Khor Musa, at the head of the Persian Gulf, early in spring, probably on passage.

Family LARIDAE.

Subfamily LARINAE.

Genus LARUS Linné.

50. COMMON GULL.

٥٠ - نورس ، زمج الماء .

Larus canus canus L.*Larus canus* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.136.*Larus canus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 25, 1896, p.277.

A fairly common winter visitor to the great rivers and marshes, and widely distributed. Not reported before December, but they leave by the end of March.

51. HERRING-GULL.

٥١ - نورس فضى .

a. *Larus argentatus heuglini* Bree.*Larus heuglini* Bree, Bds. Eur., ed. 2, 5, 1876, p.58, & pl.b. *Larus argentatus cachinnans* Pallas.*Larus cachinnans* Pallas, Zoogr. Rosso-Asiat., 2, 1811, p.318.*Larus cachinnans*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 25, 1896, p.266.

Both races are common winter visitors, frequenting the rivers and marshes, particularly at the sites of the larger towns. According to Ticehurst *et al.* (1922), they were recorded in every month of the year, and therefore some non-breeders may spend the summer. It seems that the two races come and leave together, but we have no information about their distribution in our area.

52. LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL.

٥٢ - نورس اسود الظهر .

Larus fuscus fuscus L.*Larus fuscus* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.136.*Larus fuscus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 25, 1896, p.250.

A fairly common winter visitor, frequenting Shatt-el-Arab area and, rarely, up the Tigris as far as Baghdad (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922; Meinertzhagen, 1914).

53. GREAT BLACK-HEADED GULL. * نورس السمك الكبير ٥٣

Larus ichthyaetus Pallas.

Larus ichthyaetus Pallas, Reise versch. Prov. Russ. Reichs, 2, 1773, p.713.

Larus ichthyaetus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 25, 1896, p.176.

The only record known is that by Magrath who saw the bird on Suweikiyah marsh in August (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). Its status in our area remains uncertain, although it is known that the Persian Gulf is one of the wintering places of this bird.

54. BLACK-HEADED GULL. * نورس اسود الرأس ٥٤

Larus ridibundus L.

Larus ridibundus L., Syst. Nat., ed. XII, 1, 1766, p.225.

Larus ridibundus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 25, 1896, p.207.

A common winter visitor, frequenting Shatt-el-Arab and the two great rivers as far north as Tekrit and Hit. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), some may arrive by mid-July, or stay to the end of May. Few non-breeding birds may spend the summer in our area.

55. SLENDER-BILLED GULL. * نورس مستدق المنقار ٥٥

Larus genei Brehm.

Larus genei Brehm, Rev. Zool., 1839, p.321.

Larus gelastes, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 25, 1896, p.230.

Common and resident, with wider distribution in winter, frequenting rivers and flooded places from Fao and north to Feluja and Samarra, on the Euphrates and Tigris respectively. These gulls breed in colonies from late April to June, and colonies were reported from Hindiyah Barrage, Musayeb, Amara, Basra, Fao, and Iskandariyah marshes (Ticehurst, *et al.*: 1922, 1926). Nests are grass-built and contain up to 3 eggs. From their breeding quarters, these gulls spread out in flocks to other localities.

56. LITTLE GULL. * نورس صغير ٥٦

Larus minutus Pallas.

Larus minutus Pallas, Reise versch. Prov. Russ. Reichs, 3, 1776, p.702.

Larus minutus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 25, 1896, p.173.

The only specimen we have was obtained from Baghdad on April 10, 1950. Sarudny (1911) recorded it as a passage migrant in the Karun district, and it is likely that small numbers of this species pass through our area in migration.

Subfamily STERNINAE.

Genus CHLIDONIAS Rafinesque.

57. WHISKERED TERN. • خطاف بحرى ذو الشارب ٥٧

Chlidonias hybrida hybrida (Pallas).

Sterna hybrida Pallas, Zoogr. Rosso-Asiat., 2, 1811, p.338.

Hydrochelidon hybrida, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 25, 1896, p.10.

Common and resident, frequenting rivers, marshes, and flooded areas. Reported as breeding in Babylon, Kerbela, Musayeb, Iskandariyah marshes (Ticehurst, *et al.*: 1922, 1926), and in Fao (Sharpe: 1886, 1891). Breeding season is in June and July. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), the nests of this bird are large and made of grass and aquatic plants in a semi-submerged strip of land in the marsh.

58. WHITE-WINGED BLACK TERN. • خطاف بحرى اسود مبيض الجناح ٥٨

Chlidonias leucoptera (Temminck).

Sterna leucoptera Temminck, Man. d'Orn., 1815, p.483.

Hydrochelidon leucoptera, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 25, 1896, p.6.

A common summer visitor, frequenting the marshes and rivers from Basra and north to Tekrit, and breeds in restricted localities in our area. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), it starts to arrive in the middle of April, and by May or June, the majority are nesting in colonies, as reported from Hammar Lake and the marshes of Basra, Hindiyah Barrage, and Suweikiyah. Young on the wing were seen in Hindiyah Barrage on July 2 (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1926). The nest is constructed of weeds and mud, and is about 6 inches across. After the breeding season, these terns move to other stretches of water where they feed on insects at dawn and in the evening (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). There are no records after September 24.

59. BLACK TERN. • خطاف بحرى اسود ٥٩

Chlidonias nigra nigra (L.).

Sterna nigra L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.137.

One juvenile specimen was shot in Baghdad on September 25, 1950, probably on migration. This is the first record from Iraq, as far as we know.

Genus GELOCHELIDON C.L. Brehm.

60. GULL-BILLED TERN. * خطاف بحري نورسي المنقار ، أوبق . ٦٠

Gelochelidon nilotica nilotica (Gmelin).

Sterna nilotica Gmelin, Syst. Nat., 1, pt. 2, 1789, p.606.

Gelochelidon anglica, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 25, 1896, p.25.

Fairly common as a summer visitor, arriving by the middle of March and leaving in late November. Reported by Cumming as breeding in colonies in the Fao area where he collected eggs in late August (Sharpe: 1886, 1891); and also by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922, 1926) as breeding in the islands at the head of the Persian Gulf on May 21, and probably on dry islands in the flooded areas of the Euphrates marshes near Musayeb and on Iskandariyah irrigation canal. The nest is a simple structure of twigs.

Genus HYDROPROGNE Kaup.

61. CASPIAN TERN. * خطاف بحري قزويني . ٦١

Hydroprogne tschegrava tschegrava (Lepechin).

Sterna tschegrava Lepechin, Novi Comm. Acad. Sci. Petropol., 14, pt. 1, 1770, p.500, pl.13.

Hydroprogne caspia, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 25, 1896, p.32.

Fairly common as resident, especially in southern Iraq, and breeds in the small swampy islands at the head of the Persian Gulf. Eggs were obtained as early as April 3, but they are usually found in May (Ticehurst, *et al.*: 1922, 1926). After the breeding season, these terns become common on the rivers as far north as Amara (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). Meinertzhagen (1924) reported them as common on Hammar Lake in January, the only winter record known so far.

Genus STERNA Linné.

62. COMMON TERN. * خطاف البحر ، خرشنة . ٦٢

Sterna hirundo hirundo L.

Sterna hirundo L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.137.

Sterna fluviatilis, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 25, 1896, p.54.

The majority of Common Terns are summer visitors, but according to Sarudny (1911), some may winter in the Karun district. Breeding places were reported from the vicinity of Basra in early June (Tomlinson, 1916); as well as from Hammar Lake, Amara, and Hindiyah marshes in May and June (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). Our specimens were collected from the vicinity of Baghdad in May and June. The nest is a simple depression in the land.

63. WHITE-CHEEKED TERN. خطاف بحري مبيض الحد، أبو بطن ٦٣

Sterna repressa Hartert.

Sterna repressa Hartert, Novit. Zool., 23, 1916, p.298.

Reported Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926) as breeding in the islands at the head of the Persian Gulf off Fao. The nests are simple mounds of sand, 4 inches high, lined with a few twigs. Breeding is reported in May, and one egg is usually laid (sometimes two).

64. BRIDLED / LESSER SOOTY TERN. خطاف بحري أسخم ٦٤

Sterna anaethetus fuligula Lichtenstein.

Sterna fuligula Lichtenstein, in Forster, Descr. Anim., ed. Lichtenstein, 1844, p.276, note.

Sterna anaetheta, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 25, 1896, p.101.

Reported by Sarudny (1911) in the Karun district, and later by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926) as breeding in the small islands at the head of the Persian Gulf, near Fao. The nest is described as a mere depression in the sand covered by salt bush.

65. LITTLE TERN. خطاف البحر الصغير ٦٥

Sterna albifrons innominata Sarudny & Loudon.

Sterna minuta innominata Sarudny & Loudon, Orn. Monatsb., 10, 1902, p.150.

Sterna saundersi, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 25, 1896, p.120.

Probably a summer visitor or resident, reported by Cumming as breeding in Fao (Sharpe, 1891), and by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922) in many other places from Tekrit to Fao, choosing bare dry ground at the edge of flooded areas, or islands in

the marshes. The majority arrive in late April and leave by the end of September, although some may stay for the whole winter (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). *S. a. Saundersi* was reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926) as breeding in Abadan (Iran) and the small islands at the head of Persian Gulf, where eggs were found in May and June.

Genus THALASSEUS Boie.

66. SWIFT TERN.

خطاف البحر السريع • ٦٦

Thalasseus bergii velox (Cretzschmar).

Sterna velox Cretzschmar, in Ruppell's Atlas z. Reis. N. Afr. Vogel, 1827, p.21, pl.13.

Sterna bergii, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 25, 1896, p.89.

Reported as breeding in the small islands at the head of the Persian Gulf among a colony of Crested Terns, and fresh eggs were seen on June 10 (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1926). It probably occurs at the entrance of Shatt-el-Arab river.

67. CRESTED TERN.

خطاف البحر المتوج • أبو قشش • ٦٧

Thalasseus bengalensis bengalensis (Lesson).

Sterna bengalensis Lesson, Traité d'Orn., liv. 8, 1831, p.621.

Sterna media, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 25, 1896, p.86.

Reported as breeding in colonies on the small islands at the head of the Persian Gulf in May (Ticehurst, *et al.* 1926). No nest is made, and the eggs are simply laid on shingle and sand.

Order COLUMBIFORMES

Suborder PTEROCLETES

Family PTEROCLIDAE.

Genus PTEROCLES Temminck.

1. LARGE PIN-TAILED SANDGROUSE. • قطا كدرى (عراقى) ١

Pterocles alchata caudacutus (S.G. Gmelin).*Tetrao caudacutus* Gmelin, Reise Russl., 3, 1774, p.93, pl.18.*Pterocolurus alchata*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 22, 1893, p.7.

A very common resident and widely distributed throughout the country, subject to the availability of food supply. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), enormous flocks are seen in March, and again from August to the end of November, in several parts of the country. Spring movements, they added, are due to their mass withdrawal from winter quarters to their favourite nesting grounds; and with the exhaustion of food supply from one place they move to another. They also noted that autumn movements are due to their pushing further out in the desert, at the start of the rainy season in November. These birds do not tolerate moisture, and always choose dry open lands with little growth of grass for their nesting. They breed in many suitable places in our area from Mosul in the north to Fao in the south. Breeding starts from April, but nesting is at its height by the middle of May. Many nests and eggs were found by E.S. Steward on the desert near Hatra in late April and May, 1949. Nests are very simple, being composed of few bits of dead grass put on the ground, and slightly concealed by grass. The usual clutch is 3 eggs. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922, 1926), many nests and eggs were found in June and July, as well as young in July and early August. It is quite possible that late nesting is due to the destruction of the original nests and eggs, as many eggs are collected during the season by the villagers and are even sold in the market. These birds have been subjected to wholesale shooting because of their habits of gathering in huge flocks as they fly to their drinking places early in the morning and before sunset.

2. SPOTTED SANDGROUSE.

• قطا مرقت ٢

Pterocles senegallus senegallus (L.).*Tetrao senegallus* L., Mantissa, 1771, p.526.*Pterocolurus senegallus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 22, 1893, p.14.

A common resident and widely distributed, but rather more locally than the Pin-tailed. Local migrations are related to food supply, water, and breeding grounds. In many places they are found among flocks of *alchata*, but according to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), this species is much more common than the former in Nasiriyah and the Baghdad-Feluja-Musayeb triangle areas, for reasons which are not clear. This is well exemplified by the range of our specimens. Nesting grounds were reported from the edge of the Arabio-Syrian desert, Basra, Baghdad, Feluja, and Samarra-Tekrit area. Meinertzhagen (1924), who found the Pin-tailed very common in the northern parts of the country, failed to find the Spotted in such places as Mosul, Erbil, or elsewhere north of Baghdad, in November and December. Further observations are required in these areas to supplement Meinertzhagen's notes. Nests and eggs were reported between June and August. This species is a late breeder, and seems to lay its eggs after the Pin-tailed had broods out (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). Our specimens were collected in February, June, September, and October.

3. BLACK-BELLIED / IMPERIAL SANDGROUSE. ، غضف - ٣

قطا أسود البطن .

Pterocles orientalis orientalis (L.).

Tetrao orientalis L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.161.

Pterocles arenarius, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 22, 1893, p.18.

A winter visitor from its breeding quarters in the Iranian Plateau. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), this species may be found in flocks of *alchata* and *senegallus*, between the middle of November and the end of April. It differs from the former two species in its larger size, lack of pin-tail, and black belly.

4. CORONETTED SANDGROUSE. ، قطا مكلل - ٤

Pterocles coronatus atratus Hartert.

Pterocles c. atratus Hartert, Bull. Brit. Orn. Cl., 12, 1902, p.48.

Pterocles coronatus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 22, 1893, p.23.

Evidently a scarce bird in our area, as we have very few records. It was reported to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922) as seen, but no specimens were collected.

5. CLOSE-BARRED SANDGROUSE. ، قطا موشم - ٥

Pterocles lichtensteinii arabicus Neumann.

Pterocles l. arabicus Neumann, Orn. Monatsb., 17, 1909, p.152.

Pterocles lichtensteinii, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 22, 1893, p.29.

Probably a winter visitor in small numbers to the southern parts of the country. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), this bird was obtained at Shaiba and seen at Sunniyat, and probably occurs in the southwestern deserts of the country and in Jebel Hemrin foothills. Sarudny (1911) recorded it as a winter visitor in the Karun area, identifying it as *arabicus*, a race considered by Ticehurst and Grant as indistinguishable from *P. l. lichtensteinii* (see: Peters' Check-list of the Birds of the World, Vol. III, 1937, p.9, footnote).

Suborder COLUMBAE

Family COLUMBIDAE.

Subfamily COLUMBINAE.

Genus COLUMBA Linné.

6. ROCK-DOVE.

• حمام طورانی ۶

Columba livia gaddi Sarudny & Loudon.

Columba livia gaddi Sarudny & Loudon, Orn. Monatsb., 14, 1906, p.133.

Columba livia, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 21, 1893, p.252.

Very common and resident everywhere. These pigeons are regularly seen in large numbers in most of the tops of mosques all over the country, where they are fed and are not molested. They breed wherever they occur in houses, shrines, ruins, and cliffs; and more than one brood are usually reared. Nesting begins late in April, and eggs or young are seen in May and June. Clutches of two eggs are usual.

7. STOCK-DOVE.

• یمام ، حمام بری ۷

Columba oenas oenas L.

Columba oenas L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.162.

Columba oenas, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 21, 1893, p.261.

Probably a winter visitor in small numbers. Reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922) from Shaikh Saad in January and from Kut in November; and was also identified by its call in Nasiriyah and Ramadi.

8. WOOD-PIGEON.

• طبان ، دلم ، ورشان ۸

Columba p. palumbus L.

Columba palumbus L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.163.

Columba palumbus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 21, 1893, p.299.

Fairly common and resident in suitable places, such as palm groves and gardens. This pigeon breeds in Basra, Fao, Baghdad, Kazimain, and probably elsewhere. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926), it builds the nest high up on trees, and two young ones were obtained on August 2. Breeding season is generally between March and August. The Iraq bird is slightly smaller than the typical race, but cannot be separated from it otherwise.

Genus STREPTOPELIA Bonaparte.

9. TURTLE-DOVE. صلصل ، شفنين ، ترغل ، ٩

a. *Streptopelia turtur turtur* (L.).

Columba turtur L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.164.

Turtur turtur, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 21, 1893, p.396.

b. *Streptopelia turtur arenicola* (Hartert).

Turtur arenicola Hartert, Novit. Zool., 1, 1894, p.42.

The typical race is a passage migrant at Urfa from the middle of April and onwards (Weigold 1913); and Sassi (1912) reported it from Mosul on May 2. It seems to be rather scarce in our area. The second race is exceedingly common as a summer visitor and a passage migrant. Cumming reported it as arriving at Fao in March and leaving in September (Sharpe, 1886). Also reported by Tomlinson (1916) as migratory at Basra and as breeding there from May to June. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), this species becomes very numerous in April; but many leave in September, and quite a few are seen up to October 25. Breeds in various places from Tekrit and Erbil to Fao between April and June. Flocks may be seen on passage in April (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922).

10. RING-DOVE. فاختة ، حمامة مطوقة ، ١٠

Streptopelia decaocto decaocto (Frivaldszky).

Columba risoria L. var. *decaocto* Frivald., K. magyar Tudos Tarsasag Evkonyvi, 3, 1834-36 (1838) pt.3, p.183, pl.8.

Turtur douraca, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 21, 1893, p.430.

Very common from Baghdad south to Basra especially among date groves and gardens, and breeds wherever it occurs. According to Meinertzhagen (1924), this bird is uncommon at Mosul in November and December, but fairly common at

Khanakin in December, and at Ramadi in November. The nesting season is long, beginning from May and ending in September; and more than one brood are often reared. Two eggs are usually found in the nest.

11. LITTLE BROWN DOVE.

• دبسية - ١١

Streptopelia senegalensis cambayensis (Gmelin).

Columba cambayensis Gmelin, Syst. Nat., 1, pt. 2, 1789, p.779.

Turtur cambayensis, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 21, 1893, p.451.

A rare winter visitor, of which we have very few records. Cumming (1918) met with one bird at Fao in January, and Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922) received a female from Amara shot by Buxton on February 1, Weigold (1913) reported it from Aleppo and Biredjik as common and resident. Another bird was reported seen by Cheesman at Beled (near Baghdad) in winter (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1926).

Order PSITTACIFORMES

Family PSITTACIDAE.

Subfamily PSITTACINAE.

Genus PSITTACULA Cuvier

ROSE-RINGED PARAKEET.

بغداد مطوقة .

Psittacula krameri (race ?).*Psittacula krameri* Scopoli, Annus I, Hist.-Nat., 1769, p.31.

The inclusion of this exotic bird in our list is justified by the fact that a fair numbers of parakeets of this species have been seen in the last few years in the gardens of Baghdad and vicinity, probably breeding. We have specimens from Baghdad in our collection. This bird, probably introduced from India, must have escaped from captivity and started to breed in the new locality.

Order CUCULIFORMES

Suborder CUCULI

Family CUCULIDAE.

Subfamily CUCULINAE.

Genus CLAMATOR Kaup.

1. GREAT SPOTTED CUCKOO. • وقواق مرقط ، قيقب مرقط - ١

Clamator glandarius (L.).*Cuculus glandarius* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.111.*Coccytes glandarius*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 19, 1891, p.212.

There is one record from Baghdad by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926) on July 7; and we have one specimen shot by Mr. Jeffery at H.1 Oil Station in the desert, west of the Euphrates, on May 10, 1951. It occurs at Urfa where, according to Weigold (1913), it breeds in that region. Sarudny (1911) listed it as a passage migrant in the Karun district, and probably has the same status in our area.

We have just received a specimen from Basra area shot on March 3, 1953, by Mr. R. Angorly.

Genus CUCULUS Linné.

2. CUCKOO • وقواق ، قيقب - ٢

a. *Cuculus canorus canorus* L.*Cuculus canorus* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.110.*Cuculus canorus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 19, 1891, p.245.b. *Cuculus canorus subtelephonus* Sarudny.*Cuculus canorus subtelephonus* Sarudny, Orn. Mitt., 5, 1914, p.108, 115.

Both races occur in our area as passage migrants, but they are rather uncommon. Cumming shot a juvenile bird on October 10 (Sharpe, 1886), and other specimens were reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926) from Dohuk, late in October, which they identified as *subtelephonus*. One specimen was also collected by Mr. Jeffery from H.2 Station on August 28, 1950. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), spring migrants appear during the last three weeks of April, and autumn migrants from August to October.

Order STRIGIFORMES

Family TYTONIDAE.

Subfamily TYTONINAE.

Genus TYTO Billberg.

1. BARN-OWL.

بومة بيضاء ، بومة صائجة . - ١

Tyto alba erlangeri W.L. Scater.*Tyto alba erlangeri* Scater, Bull. Brit. Orn. Cl., 42, 1921, p.24.*Strix flammea*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 2, 1875, p.291.

Fairly common and resident in the ruins and old buildings. Reported as breeding in various places from Mosul in the north to Fao in the south. A nest with 10 eggs were obtained from a place between Musayeb and Baghdad in April, and another with grown young was observed on a roof of a house on June 28 (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922).

Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926) identified the specimens which he collected between Feluja and Baghdad as *T. a. alba* (Scopoli), but this race is found in western Europe and the countries adjoining the Mediterranean basin as far east as Palestine and Sinai. All of his birds were white, three spotted and three unspotted. In his famous book "Birds of Egypt" (Vol. II, 1930, p.364), Col. Meinertzhagen remarks that *erlangeri* is very pale, and that it probably extends from Arabia to Iraq and perhaps other desert localities. Ticehurst's birds may properly be referred to this race.

Subfamily BUBONINAE.

Genus OTUS Pennant.

2. STRIATED SCOPS-OWL.

بومة مخططة . - ٢

Otus brucei (Hume).*Ephialtes brucei* Hume, Stray Feathers, 1, 1873, p.8.*Scops brucei*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 2, 1875, p.62.

Fairly common, and probably resident wherever it occurs. Reported as

breeding in Baghdad, Hilla, Musayeb, and Basra. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922, 1926), one pair was seen breeding in a garden at Kazimain (north of Baghdad) from March 29 to May 12, and 5 eggs were found at Hilla on April 27, as well as young ones on the wing at Baghdad on July 6. Some pairs, they said, were nesting in holes in palm trees.

3. SCOPS-OWL.

٣ - ثبيج *

Otus scops pulchellus (Pallas).

Stryx pulchella Pallas, Reise versch. Prov. Russ. Reichs., 1, 1801, p.456.

Scops gin, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 2, 1875, p.47.

Reported by Cumming as occurring in very small numbers at Fao in October and April (Sharpe: 1886, 1891); and also by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922) at Amara and Basra in April, and at Nasiriyah where Aldworth obtained a clutch of 3 eggs on May 3.

Genus BUBO Duméril.

4. EAGLE-OWL.

٤ - بومة كبيرة (مستنصرة) ، بوهة *

Bubo bubo nikolskii Sarudny.

Bubo bubo nikolskii Sarudny, Orn. Jahrb., 16, 1905, p.142.

Bubo ignavus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 2, 1875, p.14.

Fairly common, and breeds wherever it occurs. Specimens were obtained by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926) from Tekrit, Kirkuk, Abu-Ghuraib, and Akkarkuf; one from Kirkuk on February 16 was almost in breeding condition. Observed by Meinertzhagen in the ruins of Babylon in 1914. Sassi (1912) recorded it from Mosul in January and February. One of our specimens from Baghdad was obtained on October 13, 1951. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), this bird breeds in the Tekrit cliffs, where an egg was found in January.

Genus KETUPA Lesson.

5. ORIENTAL FISH-OWL.

٥ - بومة السمك الشرقية *

Ketupa zeylonensis semenowi Sarudny.

Ketupa semenowi Sarudny, Orn. Jahrb., 16, 1905, p.141.

Ketupa ceylonensis, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 2, 1875, p.4.

A rather scarce bird in our area; the only record being that of Cheesman who obtained a pair from the hills east of Ali Gharbi on October 19 (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1926). It occurs in Palestine, southwestern Asia Minor, and Iran.

Genus *ATHENE* Boie.

6. LITTLE OWL.

• بومة صغيرة ، أم قويق ٦

Athene noctua bactriana Blyth.

Athene bactriana Blyth, in Hutton, Journ. As. Soc. Bengal, 16, pt. 2, 1847, p. 776.

Carine glaux, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 2, 1875, p. 135.

Resident and widely distributed in the country, in suitable localities. It is more common in the Samarra-Tekrit area, where cliffs provide suitable nesting grounds. Reported by Sassi (1912) from Mosul in February and May, and by Meinertzhagen (1924) from Feshkhabur, Dohuk, Hatra, Ninevah, Babylon, and Baghdad. We have a specimen from Rustamiyah (Baghdad) dated December 26. Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926) identified a bird obtained from Abu-Ghuraib as *A. n. glaux* a race which, according to Peters (Check-List, IV, 1940, p. 148), occurs in the North African countries.

Subfamily STRIGINAE.

Genus *STRIX* Linné.

7. TAWNY OWL.

• بومة سمراء ٧

Strix aluco sancti-nicolai (Sarudny).

Syrnium sancti-nicolai Sarudny, Orn. Monatsb., 13, 1905, p. 49.

Syrnium aluco, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 2, 1875, p. 247.

There are a few records from Iraq; one from Mosul (Kinnear, 1926), and another from Dohuk in December (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1926). The bird occurs in western and southwestern Iran.

Genus *ASIO* Brisson.

8. LONG-EARED OWL.

• بومة أذناء ٨

Asio otus otus (L.).

Strix otus L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p. 92.

Asio otus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 2, 1875, p. 227.

An uncommon winter visitor. Reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922, 1926), from Amara (November), Nasiriyah (December and April), and Baghdad (January).

9. SHORT-EARED OWL.

Asio flammeus flammeus (Pontoppidan).

Strix flammea Pontoppidan, Danske Atlas, 1, 1763, p. 617, pl. 25.

Asio occipitarius, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 2, 1875, p. 234.

A common winter visitor, and widely distributed. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), it arrives in the middle of September and leaves by the end of March, but some may stay well through April, as Sassi (1912) reported it from Mosul on April 9. This bird frequents crops, desert scrub, and grassland.

Order CAPRIMULGIFORMES

Suborder CAPRIMULGI

Family CAPRIMULGIDAE.

Genus CAPRIMULGUS Linné.

1. NIGHTJAR.

١ - ماص المعز ، سيد .

- a.
- Caprimulgus europaeus meridionalis*
- Hartert.

Caprimulgus europaeus meridionalis Hartert, Ibis, 1896, p.370.

- b.
- Caprimulgus europaeus sarudnyi*
- Hartert.

Caprimulgus europaeus sarudnyi Hartert, Vog. Pal. Fauna, 2, 1912, p.849.

- c.
- Caprimulgus europaeus unwini*
- Hume.

Caprimulgus unwini Hume, Ibis, 1871, p.406.*Caprimulgus unwini*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 16, 1892, p.528.

All three races are passage migrants. The first was obtained by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926) near Baghdad on May 16. The second and third races are more common. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), spring migrants appear in late April and well through May, and autumn migrants in September or early October. Cumming saw Nightjars at Fao from autumn to spring and noted odd ones here and there in June (Sharpe, 1886). Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922) say that *unwini* probably breeds in Jebel Hamrin ranges, and that Cheesman obtained one at Khanakin on May 21 with sex organs well developed.

2. EGYPTIAN NIGHTJAR.

٢ - ماص المعز المصرى .

Caprimulgus aegyptius aegyptius Lichtenstein.*Caprimulgus aegyptius* Licht., Verg. Doubl. Zool. Mus. Berlin, 1823, p.59.*Caprimulgus aegyptius*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 16, 1892, p.562.

Common as a summer visitor and passage migrant. It appears after the middle of March; becomes plentiful in April, and settles down to breed in many places throughout the country, and particularly in Feluja-Baghdad-Musayeb area (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). Nesting starts from mid-April, and eggs were found from early June, and as late as July 16 (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1926). Tomlinson (1916) noted it breeding near Basra late in May and early in June. Full clutches contain two eggs. Nests may be placed on shingle, coarse grazing land, bare desert, or under bushes. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), it becomes plentiful in August and September because of the incoming autumn migrants, and the majority leave in September.

Order APODIFORMES

Suborder APODI

Family APODIDAE.

Genus APUS Linné.

1. SWIFT.

۱ - خطاف اسود ، سمامة .

Apus apus pekinensis (Swinhoe).*Cypselus pekinensis* Swinhoe, Proc. Zool. Soc. London, 1870, p.435*Micropus pekinensis*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 16, 1892, p.444.

Probably a passage migrant, and was reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922) from Baghdad on May 20. Sarudny (1911) listed it as a passage migrant in the Karun district.

2. PALLID SWIFT.

۲ - خطاف باهت .

Apus pallidus pallidus (Shelley).*Cypselus pallidus* Shelley, Ibis, 1870, p.445.*Micropus murinus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 16, 1892, p.446.

A summer visitor and passage migrant. Cumming got eggs at Fao in 1886, and found a nest in 1918. Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922, 1926) reported it as breeding at Baghdad in May, and as seen in the breeding season (June and July) at Daur on the Tigris and on the cliffs at Kerbela. Also reported from various places on the Tigris from March to October. Pallid Swifts may be found on migration, flying northward late in April till the middle of May. There is one winter record from Zobair (south of Basra) on February 28 (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1926).

3. COMMON INDIAN SWIFT.

۳ - خطاف هندی .

Apus affinis galilejensis (Antinori).*Cypselus galilejensis* Antinori, Naumannia, 1855, p.307.*Micropus affinis*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 16, 1892, p.453.

The occurrence of this bird in our area is likely, and Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922) reported it from Shush (Iran) on May 3, probably on migration.

Order CORACIIFORMES

Suborder ALCEDINES

Family ALCEDINIDAE.

Subfamily CERYLINAE

Genus CERYLE Boie.

1. PIED KINGFISHER.

١ - سماك ابقع .

Ceryle rudis rudis (L.).*Alcedo rudis* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.116.*Ceryle rudis*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 17, 1892, p.109.

Resident and generally distributed in suitable localities not far away from rivers, canals, or marshes. Breeds in colonies on the Tigris and Euphrates banks. Tomlinson (1916) observed a large colony south of Kurna, and saw a few pairs breeding at Basra. Eggs were found early in June, and full clutches usually contain 5 eggs (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922).

Subfamily ALCEDININAE.

Genus ALCEDO Linné.

2. KINGFISHER.

٢ - سماك اخضر ، جنكالة .

a. *Alcedo atthis atthis* (L.).*Gracula atthis* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.109.b. *Alcedo atthis pallasii* Reichenbach.*Alcedo pallasii* Reichenbach, Handb. Spec. Orn., 1851, p.3, pl.392, figs. 3043-46.*Alcedo ispida*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 17, 1892, p.141.

The first race may occur in northern Iraq, as Weigold (1913) obtained a specimen at Urfa on April 21, and Neumann (1915) obtained another at Ras-el-Ain on February 7. It certainly occurs in Syria and Palestine.

The second race is fairly common and partly resident. Tomlinson (1916) reported it as resident at Basra and breeding in May, and Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922) con-

firmed its breeding at Baghdad. It becomes more common in winter with the arrival of winter visitors between August and April, whereas few remain in the summer.

Subfamily DACELONINAE.

Genus HALCYON Swainson.

3. WHITE-BREASTED KINGFISHER. • سماك ابيض الصدر ، مهلهل ۳ -

Halycon smyrnensis smyrnensis (L.).

Alcedo smyrnensis L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.116.

Halcyon smyrnensis, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 17, 1892, p.222.

Very common, especially in central and southern Iraq, and breeds mostly in date palm gardens. Not reported from Tekrit-Samarra area, where there are no gardens, but it occurs at Hilla, Nasiriyah, Khanakin, Ba'quba, Amara, Basra, and Baghdad. The breeding season, according to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), begins in April, and eggs were found in nest holes along the banks of the rivers in May. Full clutches usually consist of 5 eggs.

Suborder MEROPES

Family MEROPIDAE.

Genus MEROPS Linné.

4. BEE-EATER.

• وروار اوروبى ۴ -

Merops apiaster L.

Merops apiaster L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.117.

Merops apiaster, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 17, 1892, p.63.

A common passage migrant, widely distributed, and partly breeding. Spring migration lasts from the end of March to the middle of May, and autumn migration from the beginning of September to early October (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). Tomlinson (1916) found it breeding in the Karun area, and saw a young one just hatched at the end of May. It probably breeds at Mosul as one specimen was obtained by Sassi (1912) in June, and another recently obtained from that area on June 10, 1952. Also seen by Cheesman at Khanakin on May 21 (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922).

5. PERSIAN BEE-EATER. ۵ - وروار ایرانی *

Merops superciliosus persicus Pallas.

Merops persica Pallas, Reise versch. Prov. Russ. Reichs, 2, 1773, p.708.

Merops persicus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 17, 1892, p.66.

A very common summer visitor and passage migrant. It breeds in colonies near rivers and irrigation canals. Cumming saw large flocks of this species coming from the southwest, and after breeding in that area, they left in July and August (Sharpe, 1886). According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), flocks of this bird arrive from the middle of March, and become plentiful late in the month. They saw large colonies between Baghdad and Samarra, and near Basra, where the excavation of nesting holes started about the middle of April. Some holes may be excavated in flat bare ground, and eggs were reported in the first half of May. Clutches of 6 eggs are usual. Well-fledged young birds were noted in about mid-June. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), nest-holes may be 5 to 7 feet deep, and at angle of 10-15 degrees in flat ground; but some holes may be very shallow. After breeding, they start to migrate away in a southerly direction in October, at the end of which they become rather scarce. They reappear in March, or as early as the end of February.

6. INDIAN BEE-EATER. ۶ - وروار هندی صغیر *

Merops orientalis beludschicus Neumann.

Merops viridis beludschicus Neumann, Orn. Monatsb., 18, 1910, p.80.

Merops viridis, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 17, 1892, p.78.

Reported by Cumming (1918) at Fao after a severe storm. It nests in small numbers in the Karun district (Sarudny, 1911), and probably occurs, in our area, occasionally.

Suborder CORACII

Family CORACIIDAE.

Genus CORACIAS Linné.

7. ROLLER. ۷ - شدرق ، شدرق ، قلاب *a. *Coracias garrulus garrulus* L.

Coracias garrulus L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.107.

Coracias garrulus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 17, 1892, p.15.

b. *Coracias garrulus semenowi* Loudon & Tschusi.

Coracias garrulus semenowi Loudon & Tschusi, Orn. Jahrb., 13, 1902, p.148.

The first race is a passage migrant coming in large flocks from the southeast, in April and May, and flying away westward or northwestward (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). They come again from the north in September and October passing to the south. Obtained by Sassi (1912) from Mosul on May 24 & June 4.

The second race is a common summer visitor, whose numbers are increased by the arrival of passage migrants in the spring and autumn. Flocks of Common Rollers start to arrive early in April till the end of May. They commonly breed in suitable places all over the country, nesting in colonies on river banks, and occasionally in holes in date palm trees. They begin to excavate holes in late April, and fresh eggs were found by the middle of May (between 3 and 7 eggs in the nest). Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922) say that by the end of August and the first week of September their number becomes very small, and no more can be seen late in September; but we have got 3 specimens from Abu-Ghuraib on September 22, 1952.

8. INDIAN ROLLER.

• شقراق هندی - ٨

Coracias benghalensis benghalensis (L.).

Corvus benghalensis L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.106.

Coracias indicus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 17, 1892, p.10.

Fairly common in the southern part of the country along both banks of Shatt-el-Arab river, where there are plenty of palm groves, and breeds there. Meinerzhagen (1924) reported it in Nasiriyah. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), it breeds in late April in holes in palm trees, or builds in walls. Tomlinson (1916) saw young ones at Basra just out of the nest in late May, and late July, and expressed the view that this bird breeds twice during the year. Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926) reported a nest with two eggs at Fao as late as June 11.

Family UPUPIDAE.

Genus UPUPA Linné.

9. HOOPOE.

• هدهد - ٩

Upupa epops epops L.

Upupa epops L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.117.

Upupa epops, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 16, 1892, p.4.

Some Hoopoes breed in Mosul area, and Weigold (1913) reported them breeding in Mulberry trees at Urfa, and leaving in October. The majority of them are passage migrants, and quite a few pass the winter in suitable localities, as few records relate to December, January, and February. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), spring migration starts from the second week of March, and the birds are common in late March and well through April, at the end of which they all leave. We have a specimen from Amadia (in northern Iraq) collected on June 12, 1952, probably breeding there. Autumn migrants may arrive as early as July, and become common again from the middle of October. It is a winter visitor in the Karun district.

Order PICIFORMES

Suborder PICI.

Family PICIDAE.

Subfamily JYNGINAE.

Genus JYNX Linné.

1. WRYNECK.

١ - لواء •

Jynx torquilla torquilla L.*Jynx torquilla* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.112.*Jynx torquilla*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 18, 1890, p.560.

A passage migrant in small numbers. Recorded in its spring migration by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922) at Samarra, Basra, and Ahwaz in the last week of April through May; and we have a specimen from Baghdad dated April 3. Autumn migration is reported at Baghdad and Basra in September. Few must remain in winter, as Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926) obtained two specimens from Mosul on January 9.

Subfamily PICINAE.

Genus DENDROCOPOS Koch.

2. SYRIAN WOODPECKER.

٢ - نقار الخشب السوري •

Dendrocopus syriacus syriacus (Ehrenberg).*Picus syriacus* Ehrenberg, in Hemprich & Ehrenberg, Symb. Phys., Aves, fol. 1 (1833), note 5.*Dendrocopus syriacus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 18, 1890, p.225.

Probably a winter visitor, reported by Meinertzhagen (1924) as common at Mosul, Dohuk, and Zakho in November and December. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926), Cheesman saw a few pairs in an oak forest in the hills east of Ali Gharbi. Recorded by Weigold (1913) at Urfa in April and supposed it breeding there. It certainly occurs in western Iran.

3 MIDDLE-SPOTTED WOODPECKER

٣ - نقار الخشب المرقط

Dendrocopos medius sancti-johannis (Blanford).*Picus sancti-johannis* Blanford, Ibis, 1873, p.226.*Dendrocoptes sancti-johannis*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 18, 1890, p.288.

The only record we have is that of Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926) from Dohuk, but they gave no date. It certainly occurs in Asia Minor, the Caucasus, and Iran.

Order PASSERIFORMES

Suborder PASSERES

Family ALAUDIDAE.

Genus EREMOPTERIX Kaup.

1. FINCH LARK.

١ - قنبرة سوداء الرأس *

Eremopterix albifrons sincipitalis (?)*Coraphites albifrons* Sundevall, Oefv. K. Vet.-Akad. Forh. Stockholm, VII, pl. 5, 1850, p. 127.*Pyrrhulauda melanauchen*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 13, 1890, p. 655.

Resident in the southern desert near Shaiba oasis, west of Basra, where it was observed in June and August (Ticehurst, *et al.*: 1921, 1926). Meinertzhagen in his "Birds of Egypt" (Vol. I, 1930, p. 140), referred Shaiba birds to this south Arabian race, although, according to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926), they differ from this race by their longer wings and bills. Nomenclaturally, we followed Dr. Friedman's report on the "Birds Collected by the Childs Frick Expedition to Ethiopia and Kenya Colony", part 2, pp. 34-35 (Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., 1937).

Genus AMMOMANES Cabanis.

2. DESERT-LARK.

٢ - قنبرة البادية ، حمرة البادية *

a. *Ammomanes deserti deserti* (Lichtenstein).*Alanda deserti* Lichtenstein, Verz. Doubl., Zool. Mus. Berlin, 1823, p. 28.*Ammomanes deserti*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 13, 1890, p. 647.a. *Ammomanes deserti cheesmani* Meinertzhagen.*Ammomanes deserti cheesmani* Meinertzhagen, Bull. Brit. Orn. Cl., 43, 1923, p. 157.c. *Ammomanes deserti coxi* Meinertzhagen.*Ammomanes deserti coxi* Meinertzhagen, Bull. Brit. Orn. Cl., 44, 1923, p. 15.

Desert-Larks occur in various places in Iraq, frequenting bare plains or rocky ground, and breeding wherever they occur.

The first race is the commoner, being reported from suitable places in the plains and deserts from Shaiba in the south to Shergat (south of Mosul) in the north. One nest with eggs was seen by E.S. Steward at Hatra in May, 1949. Sarudny (1911) reported it as resident in the Karun foot-hills.

The second race, which is confined to the eastern part of Jebel Hemrin ranges from Naft-Khanah to Adhaim river, was reported by Meinertzhagen (1923) in October.

The third race occurs in the Syrian desert, and was reported by Meinertzhagen (1924) near Rutbah, far to the west of Ramadi.

3. BAR-TAILED DESERT-LARK. • قنبرة البادية موشمة الذنب • ٣

Ammomanes phoenicura arenicolor (Sundevall).

Alauda arenicolor Sundevall, Oefv. K. Vet.-Akad. Forh, Stockholm, 1850, p.128.

Reported by Mr. E.S. Steward at Hatra in May 1949, where he found one nest with 8 eggs. One bird obtained by him is now in the British Museum. This is the first record in this country, as the species was not reported from Iraq by either Ticehurst, *et al.*, or Meinertzhagen. This bird also occurs in Arabia, Sinai, and Iran.

Genus CETHILAUDA Swainson.

4. BIFASCIATED LARK. • مكاء • ٤

Certhilauda alaudipes doriae Salvadori.

Certhilauda doriae Salvadori, Atti. R. Accad. Torino, 3, 1868, p.292.

Alaemon alaudipes, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 13, 1890, p.518.

Alaemon desertorum, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 13, 1890, p.519.

A common summer resident and widely distributed, frequenting the deserts. Reported by various observers in, or after, the breeding season (June) from desert localities between Fao and Baghdad-Ramadi line. We have a specimen from Zubair dated March 1, and another recently collected by Mr. Jeffery at H.I Station on May 2, 1951. The nest is described by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926) as made up of thorny twigs and lined with cottony desert flowers. Up to 3 eggs were found in the nest.

Genus CALANDRELLA Kaup.

5. SHORT-TOED LARK.

٥ - قنبرة قصيرة الاصابع ، عليعة .

a. *Calandrella cinerea brachydactyla* (Leisler).*Alauda brachydactyla* Leisler, Ann. d. Wetter. Ges., 3, 1814, p.357.*Calandrella brachydactyla*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 13, 1890, p.580.b. *Calandrella cinerea longipennis* (Eversmann).*Alauda longipennis* Eversmann, Bull. Soc. Imp. d. Nat. Moscou, 21,

1848, p.219.

This bird was given by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1921) as a passage migrant, being reported from Samarra in October, and by Weigold (1912) from Urfa in the latter half of April. But Mr. E.S. Steward recently reported seeing several nests and eggs at Hatra in May, 1949, the first record of its breeding in our area. The second race, now in the British Museum, was obtained by Cumming from Fao (Sharpe, 1891).

6. LESSER SHORT-TOED LARK.

٦ - قنبرة قصيرة الاصابع صغيرة .

a. *Calandrella rufescens heinei* (E. von Homeyer).*Calandritis heinei* E. von Homeyer, Journ. f. Orn., 1873, p.197.*Alaudula pispoleta*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 13, 1890, p.587.b. *Calandrella rufescens minor* (Cabanis).*Calandritis minor* Cabanis, Mus. Hein., 1, 1851, p.123.*Alaudula minor*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 13, 1890, p.588.c. *Calandrella rufescens persica* (Sharpe).*Alaudula persica* Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 13, 1890, p.590.d. *Calandrella rufescens pseudobaetica* Stegmann.*Calandrella minor pseudobaetica* Stegmann, Orn. Monatsb., 40, 1932,

p.54.

The first race occurs in grassy plains in winter from mid-October to the end of February. Large flocks were reported as arriving plentifully in October, in Samarra district, and leaving in late February, although a few were noted during March both in Baghdad and Feluja (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1921).

The second race breeds in our area, and is found both in the breeding season

and in winter. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926), Cheesman found a few pairs of this race breeding near Baghdad, and came across some nests in June which contained 3 or 4 eggs each. He described the nest as a cup-shaped hollow in the ground covered by branches of *Acacia*, and constructed of fine grasses interwoven with wool and threads. Cumming collected two birds of this race at Fao on August 26 and September 25 (Sharpe, 1886). Sarudny (1911) listed it among winter visitors and passage migrants in the Karun district.

The third race was reported from the Zubair-Fao area only, and probably breeds there, as one juvenile bird was obtained by LaPersonne from Jebel Senam, near Zubair, on June 28 (Tichurst, *et al.*, 1926).

The fourth race was first described by Stegmann (1932) who obtained his type-specimen from Kapa-siva, Kurdistan, and included Mosul, Urmia, and northern Iran in its range.

Genus MELANOCORYPHA Boie.

7. CALANDRA LARK.

• عجل - ٧

a. *Melanocorypha calandra calandra* (L.).

Alauda calandra L., Syst. Nat., ed. XII 1, 1766, p.288.

Melanocorypha calandra, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 13, 1890, p.551.

b. *Melanocorypha calandra psammochroa* Hartert.

Melanocorypha calandra psammochroa Hartert, Vog. Pal. Fauna, 1904, p.210.

Calandra Larks are winter visitors, and locally distributed. The first race is much commoner on the uplands north of Baghdad than on the plains southwards. Reported by Sassi (1912) at Mosul in January and February; by Meinertzhagen (1924) as common at Shegrat, Hatra, Mosul, Erbil, and Kirkuk in November and December; and by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1921) as arriving in large flocks in the Samara-Tekrit area in December and nesting by the end of February. Clutches of 4 or 5 eggs were reported in late March and again in late May, indicating a second brood. The majority seem to leave in April. Weigold (1912) noted large flocks of this species at Urfa on passage in mid-April, and Sarudny (1911) considered it a winter visitor in the Karun district. Also recorded from Kumait (Amara Liwa) in February.

Meinertzhagen recognized his birds from the northern district as *hebraica*, which he recently considered a synonym of *calandra* (P.Z.S., 121, pt. 1, 1951, pp.81-132).

8. BIMACULATED LARK. • قنبرة صحراوية كبيرة ، علعل شرقي ٨

Melanocorypha bimaculata (Ménétriès).

Alauda bimaculata Ménétriès, Cat. Rais. Cauc., 1832, p.37.

Melanocorypha bimaculata, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 13, 1890, p.555.

This is typically a mountain bird in its breeding range (which includes, Iran, Asia Minor, and Syria) but preferring desert conditions to cultivation in winter (Meinertzhagen: Birds of Egypt, 1, 1930, p.134). There is one record only by Cheesman who saw on April 19 several pairs, evidently breeding, in the Samarra-Tekrit area (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1921). Its status in our area requires further investigation. Sarudny (1911) considered it a winter visitor in the Karun district.

Vaurie, in his "Study of the Asiatic Larks" (Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist., 97, 1951, p.483), considers *rufescens* the breeding race of Asia Minor and Syria, being distinctly more rufous throughout than Ménétriès race.

Genus EREMOPHILA Boie.

9. DESERT HORNED LARK. • قنبرة قرناء صحراوية ٩

Eremophila alpestris bilopha (Temminck).

Alauda bilopha Temminck, Pl. Col., 3, 1823, pl.244, fig.1.

Otocorys bilopha, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 13, 1890, p.537.

Recorded by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1921) from Samarra on December 12, from the desert in January, and from Daur on February 9. Also reported by Meinertzhagen (1924) as common in the desert west of Ramadi. According to Meinertzhagen (Ibis, 1928, p.524), this race extends from the western Sahara to Egypt, Sinai, north to about the latitude of Damascus in the north Syrian Desert and east to the western desert of Iraq; southern limits in Arabia unknown. This puts the eastern limits of *bilopha* as far as Samarra in Iraq.

Genus GALERIDA Boië.

10. CRESTED LARK.

١٠ - قنبرة متوجة ، أبو قوبر .

Galerida cristata altirostris Brehm.*Galerida altirostris* Brehm, Vogelfang, 1855, p.124.*Galerita cristata*, Cat, B, Brit, Mus., 13, 1890, p.626.

This is the most common lark in Iraq and more widely distributed, although it is scarcer in the bare desert and thick scrub. Breeding starts late in February, and by the middle of April many have nests and some are incubating; newly hatched young were found on May 29 (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1921). The nest is described by them as untidy and scanty, consisting of dry sticks, straw, etc., and placed in any convenient hollow under the cover of grass, clods of earth, or bushes. Full clutches consist of 4-5 eggs. Cumming observed that Crested Larks, after breeding in the Fao district, migrate away in April, and they are all back again in August (Sharpe, 1886). We have some evidence that these larks are present in Hindiyah Barrage on May 17, in Shaiba on June 18, and in Baghdad on June 24. The rest of our specimens were obtained from October to March.

Genus ALAUDA Linné.

11. SKYLARK

١١ - قنبرة الحقول .

a. *Alauda arvensis cantarella* Bonaparte.*Alauda cantarella* Bonaparte, Iconogr. Faun. Ital. Uccelli, Introd.
1832 - 1841, p.5.*Alauda arvensis*, Cat, B, Brit, Mus., 13, 1890, p.566.b. *Alauda arvensis dulcivox* Brooks.*Alauda dulcivox* Brooks, Stray Feathers, 1, 1873, p.484.

Skylarks are winter visitors, frequenting green or desert plains, from Mosul to Basra. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1921), they arrive in late October and leave in March, but we have a specimen from Jelowla Military Camp (in the Jebel Hamrin ranges) dated April 27. They might be found associated with Callandra Larks.

The first (or eastern) race, is the commonest of the two. The second, which is the southeast European form, is darker than the first. Both races were recorded by Sarudny (1911) as winter visitors in the Karun district.

12. WOODLARK.

١٢ - قنبرة الغياض *

Alauda arborea pallida (Sarudny).*Lullula arborea pallida* Sarudny, Orn. Monatsb., 1902, p.54.*Lullula arborea*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 13, 1890, p.636.

An uncommon winter visitor which must have been overlooked by most observers, or otherwise very local. Ticehurst *et al.* (1921, 1926) reported it as plentiful in small parties on river banks at Amara from November to February 10, and less common at Dohuk on November 14. Sarudny (1911) reported it as breeding in the Zagros mountains of western Iran.

Family HIRUNDINIDAE.

Genus RIPARIA Forster.

13. SAND-MARTIN.

١٣ - خطاف الشواطئ *

Riparia riparia riparia (L.).*Hirundo riparia* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.192.*Cotile riparia*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 10, 1885, p.96.

A common summer visitor, breeding on the steeper banks of the Tigris and Euphrates. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1921), it arrives in the last days of March, becoming very plentiful in April, excavates its hole-nests in early June when eggs could be found by the middle of the month, and leaves in July and August. But passage migrants from elsewhere increase their number in spring and autumn. Migrating flocks were noted in April following the line of Jebel Hemrin ranges and directed northwards, and others in September directed southwards; the majority, however, leave by the third week in October (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1921). Cumming noted this bird at Fao in every month except January and February (Sharpe, 1886).

Genus HIRUNDO Linné.

14. PALE CRAG-MARTIN.

١٤ - خطاف الشواحق *

Hirundo obsoleta perpallida Vaurie.*Hirundo obsoleta perpallida* Vaurie. Am. Mus. Nov., No. 1529, 1951,

p.15.

Cotile obsoleta, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 10, 1885, p.III.

According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926), one specimen collected by Cumming at Fao is now in the British Museum. Sarudny (1911) considered it a passage migrant in the Karun district. This race ranges from Fao to the coastal districts of Saudi Arabia on the Persian Gulf. Its status in our area requires further investigation. Nomenclaturally, the bird was first related to the genus *Riparia*, then to a separate genus *Ptyonoprogne*, and later to *Hirundo* because of the similarity of habits in the true Swallows and Crag Martins (Vaurie: Notes on some Asiatic Swallows, Am. Mus. Novit., No. 1529, 1951, p.2).

15. SWALLOW.

١٥ - سنونویتی ، سندوهند .

Hirundo rustica rustica L.*Hirundo rustica* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.191.*Hirundo rustica*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 10, 1885, p.128.

A very common summer visitor, and widely distributed. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1921), Swallows arrive in the second week of February, build in March on various sites (houses, cliffs, huts, etc.), and probably rear two broods as fresh eggs were reported in April 20 and young ones on the wing on April 26. They start to move away at the end of August, and become scarce in early September. Spring and autumn migrations were also observed in March and October respectively (Ticehurst, *et al.*: 1921, 1926). Cumming noted them at Fao in every month except December and January when they were entirely absent (Sharpe, 1886). Ticehurst, *et al.* (1921) remarked that some wanderers from the Palestinian form, *transitiva*, may be met with in our area.

16. RED-RUMPED SWALLOW.

١٦ - سنونو احمر العجز .

Hirundo daurica rufula Temminck.*Hirundo rufula* Temminck, Man. d'Orn., ed. III, 2, 1835, p.298.*Hirundo rufula*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 10, 1885, p.156.

Rather scarce and probably breeds in the eastern part of the country, as well as a passage migrant elsewhere. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1921), it was seen on passage at Feluja on March 26. Tomlinson (1908) observed two pairs near Ahwaz in April and two others near Shustar beginning to build on April 19. Both places are in Iran. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926), Cheesman saw

an old nest containing a single rotten egg in a cave in a cliff east of Ali Gharbi, Sarudny (1911) considered it a winter visitor and passage migrant in the Karun District.

Genus DELICHON Moore.

17. HOUSE-MARTIN.

• خطاف الضواحي - ١٧

Delichon urbica urbica (L.).

Hirundo urbica L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.192.

Chelidon urbica, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 10, 1885, p.87.

Probably a passage migrant in small numbers, but all available records refer to the spring migration. Noted at Akkarkuf on February 23, and at DIALA river flying northwards over the desert on April 28; also reported by Buxton as arriving at Amara on April 5 and leaving by May 5 (Ticehurst, *et al.*: 1921, 1926). This race breeds throughout Europe, Asia Minor, Syria, and Palestine. According to Vaurie (Am. Mus. Novit., No. 1529, 1951, p.43) the separation of *meridionalis* from *urbica* is not justified, as there is a considerable degree of overlapping in their wing measurements.

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Family ORIOLIDAE.

Genus ORIOLUS Linné.

18. GOLDEN ORIOLE.

• صفارية ، صفير - ١٨

Oriolus oriolus oriolus (L.).

Coracias oriolus L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.107.

Oriolus galbula, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 3, 1877, p.191.

A passage migrant in small numbers but rather widely distributed, to be met with in spring and autumn migrations. Reported as occurring in late April or early May, and again in August and September; but there might be some late migrants, as there is one record from Daur on June 2, and another from Jebel Hemrin on October 8 (Ticehurst, *et al.*: 1921, 1926).

Family CORVIDAE.

Genus GARRULUS Brisson.

19. JAY.

١٩ - قيق ، أبو زريق •

Garrulus glandarius krynickii Kaleniczenko.*Garrulus krynicki* Kaleniczenko, Bull. Soc. Imp. Nat. Moscou, 12, 1839, p.319, pl.9.*Garrulus krynickii*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 3, 1877, p.99.

This bird of the mountains was reported by LaPersonne from Dohuk where he saw a flock of Jays near the mountains, and occasionally in the gardens, in October; as well as by Cheesman from the hilly country east of Ali Gharbi, in October also (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1926). We have recently collected 3 specimens from Sersang (between Dohuk and Amadia) in November 17-22, 1952. It probably breeds in the same locality, as it does in Syria, Palestine, and Iran.

Genus PICA Brisson.

20. MAGPIE.

٢٠ - عقق •

Pica pica bactriana Bonaparte.*Pica bactriana* Bonaparte, Consp. Av., 1, 1850, p.383.*Pica pica*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 3, 1877, p.62.

A very common garden bird with wide distribution throughout the country, and breeding wherever it occurs. It breeds in March, and young in the nest were seen in late April in the date gardens of Feluja (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1921).

Genus PYRRHOCORAX Tunstall.

21. RED-BILLED CHOUGH.

٢١ - غراب اعصم احمر المنقار •

Pyrrhonorax pyrrhonorax docilis (Gmelin).*Corvus docilis* S.G. Gmelin, Reise d. Russl., 3, 1774, p.365.*Pyrrhonorax alpinus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 3, 1877, p.148.

Reported as inhabiting the mountainous districts of Zakho and Dohuk in northern Iraq, as well as at Ali Gharbi in the east, wandering down to the foothills in winter (Ticehurst, *et al.*: 1921, 1926).

Genus CORVUS Linné.

22. ROOK.

٢٢ - زاع ، غداف .

Corvus frugilegus frugilegus L.*Corvus frugilegus* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.105.*Trypanocorax frugilegus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 3, 1877, p.9.

A very common winter visitor to the plains, frequenting gardens and cultivated land throughout the country. Reported as arriving in large flocks in the latter half of October and the first half of November, coming from a southerly or southeasterly direction, and as leaving mainly from March to the end of April, taking a northerly direction (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1921). Aldworth, they added, found an isolated colony at Mosul in 1919 and thought it breeding there, but further evidence is required.

23. JACKDAW.

٢٣ - غراب الزرع .

Corvus monedula soemmeringii Fischer.*Corvus soemmeringii* Fischer, Mém. Soc. Imp. Nat. Moscou, 1, 1811, p.3.*Coloews collaris*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 3, 1877, p.27.

Fairly common and resident, sometimes flocking with Rooks in winter. Reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1921, 1926) as breeding on the high cliffs south of Tekrit, Hit, and in Mosul, building in March and nesting early in May. It possibly breeds in Jebel Hemrin, where two specimens were collected from Mansuriyat-el-Jebel on April 17, 1952. Not reported south of Amara.

24. HOODED CROW.

٢٤ - غراب ابقع ، قعق .

a. *Corvus corone capellanus* Sclater.*Corvus capellanus* Sclater, Proc. Zool. Soc., 1876, p.694, tab. 46.*Corone capellana*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 3, 1877, p.32.b. *Corvus corone sharpei* Oates.*Corvus sharpii* Oates, Avif. Brit. India, 1, 1889, p.20.c. *Corvus corone sardonius* Kleinschmidt.*Corvus sardonius* Kleinschmidt, Orn. Monatsb., 1903, p.29.

Hooded Crows are common in Iraq, some being resident and others are winter

visitors. The first race is resident in the plains and breeds especially in the date palm groves, from Fao and up the Tigris and Euphrates where date gardens are found. It is not found in the northern part of Iraq, except perhaps in winter. Reported as breeding from February 15 to March 31, when nests and eggs were found in the tops of trees or more above the ground (Ticehurst, *et al.*: 1921, 1926). Full clutches consist of 4 or 5 eggs.

The second race, which is darker and has a smaller bill than the first, is a winter visitor to the plains, coming from the Persian highlands and intermingling with the resident bird making the study of its distribution rather difficult. Reported from various parts of the country from Basra to Baghdad and Ramadi, and in the Diala district.

The third race was reported as the only Hooded Crow wintering at Mosul, and perhaps in the country as a whole (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1926). It perhaps replaces *sharppei* in this northern part of the country.

25. RAVEN.

٢٥ - غراب اسحج ، غراب نوحى *

Corvus corax laurencei Hume.

Corvus laurencei Hume, Lah. to Yark., 1873, p.235.

Corvus lawrencii, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 3, 1877, p.15.

A fairly common resident bird in the hilly country, migrating locally in winter but not very far from the hills. It was reported as scarce in Kut and absent from Kut to Baghdad, because this part of the river is some 60 miles from the hills (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1921). It breeds in Jebel Hemrin ranges and in the river cliffs of Adhaim and Tigris rivers from Samarra to Baiji. Breeding starts early in March, and nest building was reported as early as the end of January in Tekrit (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1921).

————:o:————

Family PARIDAE.

Subfamily PARINAE.

Genus PARUS Linné.

26. SOMBRE TIT.

٢٦ - قرقف حزين *

a. *Parus lugubris dubius* Hellmayr.

Parus lugubris dubius Hellmayr, Journ. f. Orn., 1901, p.173.

Parus lugubris, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 8, 1883, p.47.

b. *Parus lugubris anatoliae* Hartert.

Parus lugubris anatoliae Hartert, Vog Pal. Fauna, 1, 1910, p.368.

The first race was reported from the foothills east of Ali Gharbi on October 2, and later in the month (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1926). It does breed in Shiraz (Iran) and in Asia Minor. Its status in our area is not clear.

The second race was reported from Dohuk in northern Iraq, where it was seen in the vineyards and hedges, avoiding gardens and denser scrub (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1926).. Its status also is not clear.

27. BLUE TIT.

• قرقف ازرق - ٢٧

a. *Parus caeruleus caeruleus* L.

Parus caeruleus L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.190.

Parus caeruleus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 8, 1883, p.12.

b. *Parus caeruleus satunini* (Sarudny).

Cyanistes caeruleus satunini Sarudny, Orn. Monatsber., 1908, p.

The first race was reported by Meinertzhagen (1924) as occurring in Mosul, Zakho, Feshkhabur, and Dohuk in November and December, but the wing measurements which he gave are more related to *satunini* than to the European race. Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926) reported them from the hillsides and valleys of Dohuk on October 29, and from Mosul and Kirkuk in winter, but they ascribed their specimens to an eastern race, *georgicus* of Buturlin, later considered a synonym of *satunini* by Russian authors (Vaurie: Notes on some Asiatic Titmice, Amer. Mus. Novit., No. 1459, 1950, p.6). The occurrence of *caeruleus* in our area is, therefore, doubtful.

28. GREAT TIT.

• قرقف كبير - ٢٨

Parus major blanfordi Prazak.

Parus major blanfordi Prazak, Orn. Jahrb., 5, 1894, p.240.

Parus major, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 8, 1883, p.19.

Reported by Meinertzhagen (1924) from Mosul, Zakho, Dohuk, and Feshkhabur; and by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926) from Mosul and Kirkuk in November, December, and January. We have recently obtained a specimen from Dohuk on June 16, 1952, and probably breeds there, but further evidence is required.

Subfamily REMIZINAE.

Genus REMIZ Jarocki.

29. PENDULINE TIT.

٢٩ - رمين *

Remiz pendulinus persimilis (Hartert).*Anthoscopus pendulinus persimilis* Hartert, Novit. Zool 25, 1918,
p.308.*Aegithalus pendulinus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 8, 1883, p.67.

A rare winter visitor to our area. Small parties were reported by Meinerzhagen (1924) from a place on the Tigris, 45 miles south of Baghdad; and by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1921, 1926) from a garden at Amara on October 25, at Zorr on the Tigris on November 12, and at Basra and Karmat Ali on April 21 and 19, respectively.

Family SITTIDAE.

Subfamily SITTINAE.

Genus SITTA Linné.

30. ROCK-NUTHATCH.

٣٠ - خازن البندق الكبير *

a. *Sitta tephronota dresseri* Sarudny and Buturlin.*Sitta dresseri* Sarudny & Buturlin, Orn. Monatsber., 1906, p.132.*Sitta syriaca*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 8, 1883, p.346b. *Sitta tephronota kurdistanica* Ticehurst.*Sitta neumayer kurdistanica* Ticehurst, Bull. Brit. Orn. Cl., 44, 1923,
p.28.

This is a large form of Rock-Nuthatches that is found in Dohuk and the Kurdish mountains in northeastern Iraq and northwestern Iran. It probably breeds there, as we have recently obtained a specimen from Amadia on June 12, 1952. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926), the second race is darker than *dresseri* and has darker rust-coloured flanks; in size is also the largest of all rock-nuthatches, including *dresseri*, Vaurie (Amer. Mus. Novit., No. 1472, 1950, p.24) considers the dif-

ference very gradual and too slight to warrant separating *kurdistanica* from *dresseri*, as the measurements given by Ticehurst, *et al.* for their five specimens "fall within the range of variation of all the other populations of *dresseri*". *S. t. dresseri* was reported as common on November 22 in the gorge of Diala river where it cuts through the Jebel Hemrin, and certainly breeds in the Persian highlands (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1921). Ticehurst *et al.* (1926) reported it as common in the foothills east of Ali Gharbi in October, and probably breeds there.

31. SMALL ROCK-NUTHATCH.

• خازن البندق الصغير — ٣١

Sitta neumayer tschitscherini Sarudny.

Sitta tschitscherini Sarudny, Orn. Jahrb., 1904, p.218.

Sitta neumayeri, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 8, 1883, p.345.

This species is often associated with the preceding one, but it is less common. Reported by LaPersonne from Dohuk on November 7 (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1926). Sarudny (1911) listed it as resident in small numbers in the Karun district.

Being restricted to the mountainous regions, both of these two species may occur more abundantly than the reports indicate.

—————:o:—————

Family CERTHIIDAE.

Genus TICHODROMA Illiger.

32. WALL-CREEPER.

• داب — ٣٢

Tichodroma muraria muraria (L.).

Certhia muraria L., Syst. Nat., ed. XII, 1 1766, p.184.

Tichodroma muraria, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 8, 1883, p.331.

A winter visitor in small numbers which was reported from the northern part of the country. Recorded by Meinertzhagen (1924) at Dohuk on December 12; and by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926) as seen on the cliffs at Dohuk from October 25 onwards, and on the ruins of Ninevah (near Mosul) on January 30.

Family PYCNONOTIDAE.Genus PYCNONOTUS Boie.

33. WHITE-EARED BULBUL. • بلبيل عراقى - ٣٣

Pycnonotus leucotis mesopotamiae Ticehurst.*Pycnonotus leucotis mesopotamiae* Ticehurst, J. Bombay Nat. Hist. Soc., 26, 1918, p.279.*Pycnonotus leucotis*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 6, 1881, p.136.

A common and familiar resident bird in the date groves from Fao and north to Baghdad and Musayeb on the Tigris and Euphrates respectively. It also occurs in the reed beds of the marshes, but is absent from Mosul or north of the Baghdad area where no date gardens are found (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). Breeds from April to July, and probably two broods are reared; the usual clutch being 3 eggs, but sometime 4 and very rarely 5. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), the nest is placed in almost any bush, and is cup-shaped made of fine grass and small twigs, and lined with finer grass, fibers, and a little cottony material.

34. YELLOW-VENTED BULBUL. • بلبيل مصفر المخرج - ٣٤

Pycnonotus capensis xanthopygos (Hemprich and Ehrenberg).*Ixus xanthopygos* Hemprich and Ehrenberg, Symb. Phys. fol bb, 1833.*Pycnonotus xanthopygos*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 6, 1881, p.135.

According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), Pitman observed this Palestinian race near Feluja on May 25, where the White-eared Bulbul does not occur. He recognized it by the lack of white on the cheeks and the general dull smoky brown colour. There is no other record, and no specimens were ever obtained.

:o:—
Family CINCLIDAE.Genus CINCLUS Borkh.

35. BLACK-BELLIED DIPPER. • غماس الماء - ٣٥

Cinclus cinclus (caucasicus ?).*Cinclus cinclus* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.168.

This bird was reported to us by Mr. P. Mallet of the British Embassy, Baghdad,

who saw it very clearly at Aqrah (N.E. of Mosul), near a spring above "Sifa" waterfall, on December 26, 1952. This is the first record from Iraq. The race is probably *caucasicus*, which occurs in Asia Minor and northern Iran, close to the above - mentioned locality. There is no question of the typical habitat that our region provides for this mountain race.

:o:—

Family TROGLODYTIDAE.

Genus TROGLODYTES Vieillot.

36. WREN.

٣٦ - سكموكة الحيطان (لبنانية) .

Troglodytes troglodytes hyrcanus Sarudny and Loudon.

Troglodytes parvulus hyrcanus Sarudny and Loudon, Orn. Monatsber.,
1905, p.107.

Anorthura troglodytes, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 6, 1881, p.269.

A common winter visitor to the highlands in the northern part of the country and south to Baghdad. Reported as arriving in November and leaving in March. Recorded from Zakho, Dohuk, Mosul, Tekrit, Kirkuk, Hit, and Baghdad (Ticehurst, *et al.*: 1922, 1926; Meinertzhagen, 1924).

:o:—

Family TURDIDAE.

Genus TURDUS Linné

37. SONG - THRUSH.

٣٧ - سمينة مطربة .

Turdus philomelos philomelos Brehm.

Turdus philomelos Brehm, Handb. Naturg. Vog. Deutschl., 1891, p.382.

Turdus musicus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.191.

A fairly common winter visitor, and widely distributed in suitable localities (gardens and scrub). Reported from various places in our area ranging from Basra in the south to Dohuk in the north, and as arriving on about the middle of November and leaving from early March to the end of the month (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922).

38. BLACK-THROATED THRUSH. ٣٨ - سمنة سوداء الزور

Turdus ruficollis atrogularis Temminck.

Turdus atrogularis Temminck, Man. d'Orn., 1, 1820, p.169.

Merula atrigularis, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.267.

A rare winter visitor recorded from the southern part of the country. Reported by Pitman as feeding in scrub near Amara on January 30 (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). Seen by Tomlinson at Basra on May 8, 1911, probably on migration. Also recorded by Sarudny (1911) as a winter visitor in the Karun district.

39. BLACKBIRD. ٣٩ - شعور

a. *Turdus merula syriacus* Hemprich and Ehrenberg.

Turdus merula, var. *syriaca* Hemprich and Ehrenberg, Symb. Phys.

Aves, folio bb, 1833

Merula merula, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.235.

b. *Turdus merula intermedius* Richmond.

Turdus intermedius Richmond, Proc. U.S. Nat'l. Mus., 18, 1895, p.585.

Fairly common winter visitors, and widely distributed in suitable localities where gardens are abundant. Recorded by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922) not earlier than the end of November, and not later than March 19, from various places in the north, middle, and south. Our recently collected specimens from the northern district show that the first race probably breeds near Amadia, where a specimen was obtained on June 9, 1952. Another specimen was collected in Sersang (between Dohuk and Amadia) on November 17, earlier than the date given by Ticehurst, *et al.*

The first race was reported by Meinertzhagen (1924) from Mosul and southern Kurdistan, and probably breeds in Amadia area. According to Sarudny (1911), it breeds in the Zagros mountains in small numbers. The second race, which is larger than the first, occurs in Amara and south to Fao (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922).

40. FIELDFARE. ٤٠ - دج صغير

Turdus pilaris L.

Turdus pilaris L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.168.

One specimen shot by Mr. W.H. Jeffery at T. 3 Station (inside Syria) on April 24, 1950, is in our museum. This species occurs in Asia Minor, Palestine, and Iran. Not recorded from Iraq proper, but its occurrence in our area is likely.

Genus MONTICOLA Boie.

41. ROCK-THRUSH.

٤١ - سمنة الصخور ، سكله .

Monticola saxatilis saxatilis (L.).

Turdus saxatilis L., Syst. Nat., ed XII, 1, 1766, p.294.

Monticola saxatilis, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.313.

An uncommon passage migrant, recorded in the spring migration only (April and May) from Samarra and south to Fao, but it is commoner in the southern region (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922).

42. BLUE ROCK-THRUSH.

٤٢ - سمنة الصخور الزرقاء ، سكله زرقاء .

Monticola solitarius longirostris (Blyth).

Monticola longirostris Blyth, J. As. Soc. Bengal, 16, 1847, p.150.

Monticola cyanus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.316.

Probably resident in the highlands, and, in winter, wanders to the plains in small numbers. Recorded by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922, 1926) from the foot-hills east of Ali Gharbi in early October, from Mosul in December, from Zubair in late February, and as fairly common on the hills above Dohuk. They also reported it as probably breeding in the cliffs of Tekrit, and on passage at Fao from March 28 to April 22. We have two specimens from Fao dated April 13 and 28.

Genus OENANTHE Vieillot.

43. WHEATEAR.

٤٣ - ابلق ، ابو بليق .

Oenanthe oenanthe oenanthe (L.).

Monticola oenanthe L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1758, p.186.

Saxicola oenanthe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.391.

The majority are passage migrants, but a few may winter in our area. Spring migration lasts from early March to the middle of May, but is at its height in mid-April. Autumn migration from mid-August to the first week of November, and

is at its height in September and October. Winter records were reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922) from Tekrit, Samarra, Kut, and Kurna. We have recently obtained one specimen from Swaratuka (Dohuk area) on June 10, 1952, but whether it breeds there, or not, is unknown.

44. DESERT-WHEATEAR.

• ابلق البادية - ٤٤

Oenanthe deserti atrogularis (Blyth).

Saxicola atrogularis Blyth, J. As. Soc. Bengal, 16 1847, p.131.

Saxicola deserti, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.383.

A fairly common winter visitor and widely distributed in small numbers. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), it arrives in early September and leaves in March, and probably breeds in the hills near Ahwaz (Iran), east of Basra. Cumming recorded it as a winter visitor in Fao area from August to May (Sharpe, 1886). The race was formerly known as *albifrons*, which is now considered a synonym of *atrogularis*.

45. BLACK-EARED WHEATEAR.

• ابلق اسود الاذن - ٤٥

Oenanthe hispanica melanoleuca (Guldenstadt).

Muscicapa melanoleuca Guldenstadt, Nov. Comm. Acad. Petrop., 19, 1775, p.468, pl.15.

Saxicola melanoleuca, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.385.

Black-eared and White-eared Wheatears are two colour phases identical in habits and migration, and interbreed freely, and so both names apply to the same bird. Reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922) as uncommon passage migrants occurring from mid-September to mid-October, and again from late March to the end of April. Cumming recorded them in winter at Fao (Sharpe, 1886). This bird breeds in the Zagros mountains, western Iran.

46. PIED WHEATEAR.

• ابلق ابقع - ٤٦

Oenanthe leucomela leucomela (Pallas).

Motacilla leucomela Pallas, Nov. Comm. Petrop, 14, 1770, p.584, pl.22.

Saxicola morio, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.372.

A passage migrant in small numbers and widely distributed. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), autumn migration occurs in late September and all of

October, when the birds are most plentiful; and spring migration in March or earlier. Spring migrants may be seen in the first week of April, as we have a specimen from Taub Island, in the Persian Gulf, dated April 7.

47. FINSCH'S / ARABIAN WHEATEAR. ٤٧ - ابلق عربي

Oenanthe finschii barnesi (Oates).

Saxicola barnesi Oates, Fauna B. India, 2, 1890, p.75.

Saxicola finschii, Cat B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.388.

This black-and-white Wheatear is a winter visitor frequenting stony ground, cliffs, and hilly country. It seems to be more common in the area north of Baghdad, and in the foot-hills, than in the plains south of Baghdad, whence a few records only are available (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). According to them, also, these birds probably arrive in the second half of October and leave in early March.

48. ISABELLINE WHEATEAR. ٤٨ - ابلق اشهب

Oenanthe isabellina (Cretzschmar).

Saxicola isabellina Cretzschmar, Atlas zu Rupp, Reise, Vogel, 1826, p.52.

Saxicola isabellina, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.399.

This bird is chiefly a winter visitor, and widely distributed. Cumming reported it at Fao during autumn, winter, part of the spring, and only occasionally in summer (Sharpe, 1886). There are a few records in July from Amara, reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), who thought that some birds breed in the salt desert. This species breeds in the Karun district, Asia Minor, and Palestine. Weigold (1912) reported it breeding between Urfa and Aleppo (N.W. of Iraq) in April.

49. RED-TAILED WHEATEAR. ٤٩ - ابلق احمر الذنب

a. *Oenanthe xanthoprymna xanthoprymna* (Hemprich and Ehrenberg).

Saxicola xanthoprymna Hemprich and Ehrenberg, Symb. Phys. Aves fol. dd, 1833.

Saxicola xanthoprymna, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.381.

b. *Oenanthe xanthoprymna cummingi* (Whitaker).

Saxicola cummingi Whitaker, Bull. Brit. Orn. Cl., 10, 1899, p.17.

- c. *Oenanthe xanthopyrimna chrysopygia* (de Filippi).
Dromolaea chrysopygia de Filippi, Arch. Zool. Genova, 2, 1863, p.381.
Saxicola chrysopygia, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.389.

All of the three races are seen on passage only, and are rather uncommon.

The first race was reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922, 1926) from Baghdad in late September, from Dohuk on October 19, and from the hills east of Ali Gharbi on October 12; and also by Meinertzhagen (1924) from some place west of Ramadi on October 31. Sarudny (1911) reported it as breeding in the hills bordering the lower reaches of the Karun river, on its eastern side.

The second race is still rarer, and was reported by Cumming at Fao as passing in August and September, and again in March and April (Sharpe, 1891).

The third race, which breeds in the Iranian highlands and winters in northwestern India, was recorded by Sarudny (1911) as a winter visitor and passage migrant in the Karun district, and probably nesting there in small numbers.

50. RED-RUMPED WHEATEAR.

• ابلق احمر العجز •

Oenanthe moesta brooksbanksi Meinertzhagen.

Oenanthe moesta brooksbanksi Meinertzhagen, Bull. Brit. Orn. Cl., 43,
1923, p.147.

Saxicola moesta, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.382.

Reported as common at Rutbah on the Ramadi-Amman route, and as inhabiting the Syrian and North Arabian deserts (Meinertzhagen, 1924). It probably breeds in that region.

51. MOURNING WHEATEAR.

• ابلق حزين •

a. *Oenanthe lugens* (Lichtenstein).

Saxicola lugens Lichtenstein, Verz, Doubl. Mus., Berlin, 1823, p.33.

Saxicola lugens, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.370.

b. *Oenanthe lugens persica* (Seebohm).

Saxicola persica Seebohm, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.372.

The first race is reported by Weigold (1912) as occurring in the upper reaches of the Euphrates (in Turkish territory) on April 8, and probably occurs in our area too.

The second race was reported by Sarudny (1911) as a passage migrant in small numbers in the Karun district, and as breeding in the Zagros mountains. Its occurrence in the southern part of our area is likely.

52. INDIAN PIED WHEATEAR.

• ابلق ابقع هندي • ٥٢

Oenanthe picata (Blyth).*Saxicola picata* Blyth, Journ. As. Soc. Bengal, 16, 1847, p.131.*Saxicola picata*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.367.

Reported by Sarudny (1911) as a passage migrant in small numbers in the Karun district, and probably occurs in the southern part of our area.

53. WHITE-RUMPED BLACK WHEATEAR. • ابلق اسود مبيض العجز • ٥٣

Oenanthe leucopyga ernesti Meinertzhagen.*Oenanthe leucopyga ernesti*, Meinertzhagen, Nicoll's Birds of Egypt, 1, 1930, p.280.*Saxicola leucopyga*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.374.

Reported by Sarudny (1911) near Ahwaz in late February, and this is far to the east of its range in southern Palestine (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). It probably occurs in the southern part of our area.

54. HUME'S/BLACK AND
WHITE WHEATEAR.

• ابلق هيوم (اسود و ابيض) • ٥٤

Oenanthe albinigra (Hume).*Saxicola albinigra* Hume, Stray Feathers, 1, 1873, p.2.*Saxicola alboniger*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.366.

Probably a winter visitor, reported from Diala near Shahraban in November (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922), from the foot-hills east of Ali Gharbi in October (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1926), and from Jebel Hemrin ranges near the Iranian border in December (Meinertzhagen, 1924). According to Sarudny (1911) it is a winter visitor in the Karun District.

Genus SAXICOLA Bechstein.

55. WHINCHAT.

• قليعي احمر • ٥٥

Saxicola rubetra rubetra (L.).*Motacilla rubetra* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.186.*Pratincola rubetra*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 4, 1876, p.179.

A winter visitor in small numbers, increasing with the arrival of autumn and spring migrants. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), this bird arrives in early September, becomes more common in November and less common in December, January, and February; then increases in March and part of April and leaves by the end of April, although a very few may stay as late as May. Reported by Weigold (1912) on passage at Urfa from April 12 to 20. This race was formerly named *noskae* of Tschusi, which is now considered a synonym of *rubetra* (See: Buturlin & Dementiev, l'Oiseau, 5, 1935, p.437).

56. STONECHAT.

• قلیعی مطوق ۵۶

a. *Saxicola torquata rubicola* (L.).*Motacilla rubicola* L., Syst. Nat., 1, 1766, p.332.*Eriothacus rubecula*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.299.b. *Saxicola torquata maura* (Pallas).*Motacilla maura* Pallas, Reise d. versch. Prov. Russ. Reichs, 2, 1773, p.708.

Both races are winter visitors, and the first is apparently more common than the second. Reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922) as arriving in early September, becoming fairly numerous by mid-November, spreading throughout the country in winter, and leaving northward in March, although a few stay to about mid-April. The majority of our specimens were obtained from Baghdad and vicinity in November, December, January, and March; but we have two specimens from Baghdad dated August 27 and 28, which are probably early visitors. These birds frequent scrub, crops, and gardens where food supply is abundant under sheltered spots.

The second race is generally less common, and was reported by Ticehurst, *et al.*, also, from widely separated localities where suitable conditions exist.

57. PIED STONECHAT.

• قلیعی مطوق ابقع ۵۷

Saxicola caprata bicolor Sykes.*Saxicola bicolor* Sykes, Proc. Zool. Soc., London, 1832, p.92.*Pratincola caprata*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 4, 1879, p.195.

Probably a passage migrant, and was reported by Cumming (at Fao) in November and March (Sharpe, 1886). Sarudny (1911) listed it as accidental straggler in the Karun district.

Genus PHOENICURUS Forster.

58. REDSTART.

حميراء - ٥٨

a. *Phoenicurus phoenicurus phoenicurus* (L.).*Motacilla phoenicurus* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.187.*Ruticilla phoenicurus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.336.b. *Phoenicurus phoenicurus mesoleuca* (Hemprich and Ehrenberg).*Sylvia mesoleuca* Hemprich and Ehrenberg, Symb. Phys., fol. ee, 1832.*Ruticilla mesoleuca*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.338.

Both races are passage migrants. The first race was reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922) as arriving, in its spring migration, during the first week of April, or perhaps earlier, and leaving by the first week of May; arriving again, in its autumn migration, on the first week of October and leaving in the latter half of November. Some may pass the winter in our area, as Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926) recorded it in winter, and we have a specimen from Fahama (Baghdad) dated December 20.

The second race was recorded from Dohuk only on October 17, the only autumn record. In spring, it arrives in mid-March, or as early as the end of February, but the date of its leaving was not given by Ticehurst, *et al.* This race was also reported from Fao in April, May, and June, but no further evidence of its breeding in that locality (Ticehurst, *et al.*: 1922, 1926). Sarudny (1911) considered it a winter visitor and passage migrant in the Karun district.

59. BLACK REDSTART.

حميراء ديساء - ٥٩

a. *Phoenicurus ochruros ochruros* (Gmelin).*Motacilla ochruros* Gmelin, Reise d. Russland, 3, 1774, p.101, pl.19.*Ruticilla erythroprocta*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.341.b. *Phoenicurus ochruros phoenicurus* (Moore).*Ruticilla phoenicuroides* Moore, Proc. Zool. Soc., London, 22, 1855.

p.25. pl.58.

Ruticilla rufiventris, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.342.

The first race is a fairly common winter visitor, recorded from Mosul and Kurdistan south to Hilla in December and January.

The second race is probably more common in Baghdad and southward, and Meinertzhagen (1924) considered it the predominating race at Baghdad. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), both races arrive in late October or earlier and leave mostly by the second week of March. We have a specimen from Taub Island, at the head of Persian Gulf, dated March 26.

60. EVERSMAANN'S REDSTART. حميراء ايفرسمان • ٦٠

Phoenicurus erythronotus (Eversmann).

Sylvia erythronota Eversmann, Add. Pallas Zoog. Ross. As. 2, 1841,
p.11.

Ruticilla erythronota, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.348.

An uncommon winter visitor reported from Amara on December 31 and March 11 (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). Sarudny (1911) listed it as a winter visitor in the Karun district.

Genus LUSCINIA Forster.

61. NIGHTINGALE. هزار افريقى • ٦١

a. *Luscinia megarhyncos africana* (Fischer and Reichenow).

Lusciola africana Fischer and Reichenow, Journ. f. Orn., 1884, p.182.

Erithacus philomela, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.295.

b. *Luscinia megarhyncos hafizi* Severtzow.

Luscinia hafizi Severtzow, Vertik i. gorizont. Rasprostr. Turkest.

Zhivotn, 1872, p.120.

Erithacus golzii, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.297.

The first race is a fairly common summer visitor, reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922) as arriving in early April or the end of March, and probably breeding in the date groves at Amara or similar places elsewhere, where it was heard singing about the middle of May. They, later (1926), confirmed its breeding at Baghdad where a nest with two eggs on May 22, and another with 5 eggs on June 1, were found in a garden. It also breeds near Mosul, where Mr. E.S. Steward found 3 nests with eggs in May, 1949.

The second race was reported by Sarudny (1911) as a winter visitor in the Karun district, and is perhaps the same race recorded by Cumming (Sharpe, 1886) at Fao as arriving in autumn and staying till spring.

The typical race (*L. m. megarhyncos*) was reported by Weigold (1913) from April 5 to 17; as well as *africana* and *golzii*.

62. THRUSH-NIGHTINGALE.

٦٢ - عندليب

Luscinia luscinia (L.).

Motacilla luscinia L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.184.

Erithacus luscinia, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.294.

A passage migrant reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922) at Feluja during spring migration, where it was plentiful from April 27 to 30 in willows and scrub, and at Shaiba during autumn migration in late September. Reported by Cumming as a winter visitor at Fao (Sharpe, 1886). So a few may winter in the southern part of our area, though the majority just pass through. Weigold (1913) recorded it from Urfa in April 16 and 17.

63. BLUETHROAT.

٦٣ - مسهر

a. *Luscinia suecica suecica* (L.).

Motacilla suecica L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.187.

Erithacus caeruleculus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.308.

b. *Luscinia suecica magna* (Sarudny and Loudon).

Cyanecula wolfii magna Sarudny and Loudon, Orn. Jahrb., 1904, p.225.

c. *Luscinia suecica occidentalis* (Sarudny).

Cyanecula suecica occidentalis Sarudny, Materialy K. poznania Fauny

i, Flory Ross. Imp., 1, 1892, p.146.

The majority are passage migrants to be met with in thick cover such as scrub, wheat fields, and especially thick reed beds on the edges of the marshes. Some, however, may remain in winter in sheltered spots (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922).

The typical race was recorded from Amara, and may winter there in small numbers (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922).

The second race breeds in S.W. Iran and is possibly the most common Blue-throat in our area, both in autumn and spring, from Baghdad south to Fao. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), this race arrives early in August, becomes very common by the middle of the month, and moves away in late November. Spring

migration, they reported, starts from about mid-March and ends by mid-May, but the birds are more common in April.

The third race (which replaces name *volgae* of Kleinschmidt) was reported from Amara and Shaikh Saad in March, probably in its spring passage. *L. s. pallidogularis* (Sarudny) was reported by Weigold (1913) from Aleppo and Urfa in the first half of April.

Genus ERITHACUS Cuvier.

64. ROBIN.

٦٤ - ابو الحناء .

a. *Erithacus rubecula rubecula* (L.).

Motacilla rubecula L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1758, p.188.

Erithacus rubecula, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.299.

b. *Erithacus rubecula hyrcanus* Blanford.

Erithacus hyrcanus Blanford, Ibis, 1874, p.79.

Erithacus hyrcanus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.301.

c. *Erithacus rubecula caucasicus* Buturlin.

Erithacus rubecula caucasicus Buturlin, Orn. Monatsber., 1907, p.9.

Robins are mostly winter visitors in our area but some are passage migrants. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), they arrive in the last third of October; some move away in November, but the majority winter in the gardens and thick scrub where they stay well through February and leave late in the month, or even as late as mid-March. The fact that the birds may stay much later is shown by a specimen obtained at Baghdad on April 4, 1948.

The typical race was reported by Neumann (1915) in the middle of January at Ras-el-Ain, beyond the northwestern border of Iraq, and probably occurs in the northern part of the country.

The second race is generally distributed and is apparently the most common (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922).

The third race was reported mostly from the northern district, and we have a specimen from Baghdad dated November 10.

Genus IRANIA de Filippi.

65. WHITE-THROATED ROBIN.

٦٥ - أبو الحناء أبيض الزور

Irania gutturalis (Guérin).*Cossypha gutturalis* Guérin, Rev. Zool., 1843, p.162.*Erithacus gutturalis*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.304.

A passage migrant which is more common in spring migration than in autumn. Reported as early as March 25 at Basra, and moves away in late April or early May (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). The only record in autumn is that by Cheesman on August 2 (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1926). Sarudny (1911) recorded it as a passage migrant and winter visitor in small numbers in the Karun district. It breeds in the Zagros mountains and the highlands of western Iran.

:o:

Family SYLVIIDAE.

Genus PHYLLOSCOPUS Boie.

66. CHIFFCHAFF.

٦٦ - نقشارة

a. *Phylloscopus collybitus collybitus* (Vieillot).*Sylvia collybita* Vieillot, Nouv. Dict. d'Hist. Nat., ed. XI, 1817, p.235.*Phylloscopus rufus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.60.b. *Phylloscopus collybitus abietinus* (Nilsson).*Sylvia abietina* Nilsson, Kon. Vat-Akad. Handl., 1819, p.115.c. *Phylloscopus collybitus tristris* Blyth.*Phylloscopus tristris* Blyth, Journ. As. Soc. Bengal, 12, 1843, p.966.*Phylloscopus tristris*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.63.d. *Phylloscopus collybitus sindianus* Brooks.*Phylloscopus sindianus* Brooks, Stray Feathers, 1880, p.476.e. *Phylloscopus collybitus lorenzii* (Lorenz).*Phyllopnuste lorenzii* Lorenz, Beitr. z. Kennt. Orn. Faun. Nord. Kaukasus, 1887, p.28.

Chiffchaffs are chiefly passage migrants, and partly winter visitors, frequent-

ing gardens, fields, reeds, and scrub throughout the country. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), they arrive in late October, becoming noticeably fewer in winter when many seem to pass the winter further south, and are more common in late March and part of April, leaving late in the month.

According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), the first race is the commonest. Recorded by Meinertzhagen (1924) from Mosul and Baghdad in December and January.

The second race was reported by Weigold (1912) as the commonest small bird at Urfa from April 10 to 23. Sarudny (1911) reported it as a winter visitor and passage migrant in the Karun district.

The third race was reported from Amara and Kadhimain; and Cumming met with it at Fao from March to May (Sharpe, 1886). It is a winter visitor in the Karun district.

The fourth race was obtained from Basra on November 20 (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922).

The fifth race is, according to Ticehurst, *et al.*, also, rare and of limited distribution, and probably occurs in our area. It certainly winters in Iran. *P. c. neglectus* (Hume) which breeds in the Zagros mountains and is a winter visitor in the Karun district, may also occur in our area (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922).

67. WILLOW-WARBLER.

٦٧ - نقشارة الصفصاف

a. *Phylloscopus trochilus trochilus* (L.).

Motacilla trochilus L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1758, p.188.

Phylloscopus trochilus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.55.

b. *Phylloscopus trochilus eversmanni* (Bonaparte).

Phyllopneuste eversmanni Bonaparte, Consp. Gen. Avium, 1, 1842, p.289.

Both races are passage migrants in September and again in late March and April, but a late migrant was reported from Baghdad on May 22 (Ticehurst, *et al.*: 1922, 1926).

68. WOOD-WARBLER / WOOD-WREN.

٦٨ - نقشارة الغاب

Phylloscopus sibilatrix sibilatrix (Bechstein).

Motacilla sibilatrix Bechstein, Naturforscher, 27, 1793, p.47.

Phylloscopus sibilatrix, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.54.

Although this bird was not recorded from Iraq proper, its occurrence is likely. Recorded by Weigold (1912) from Urfa as a passage migrant, being observed from April 13 to 18.

69. BONELLI'S WARBLER.

٦٩ - نقشارة بونلي الرمادية •

Phylloscopus bonelli orientalis (Brehm).

Phyllopneusta orientalis Brehm, Vogelfang, 1855, p.332.

Phylloscopus bonelli, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.59.

Recorded by Weigold (1912) at Urfa from April 12 to 22. It probably passes through our area on migration, but we have no records so far.

Genus CETTIA Bonaparte.

70. CETTI'S WARBLER.

٧٠ - هازجة ستى الشرقية •

Cettia cettia orientalis Tristram.

Cettia jPotamodusi orientalis Tristram, Ibis, 1867, p.79.

Cettia cetti, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.135.

Recorded by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922, 1926) in the latter half of September, October, November, January, and April. It seems that some birds stay for part of the winter, at least, in our area. Also reported by Weigold (1912) at Urfa from April 12 to 22. Recorded for the first time as breeding in our area by Mr. E.S. Steward, who found several nests and eggs at Hatra in May, 1949.

Genus LUSCINIOLA Gray.

71. MOUSTACHED WARBLER.

٧١ - هازجة أم الشارب •

Lusciniola melanopogon mimica Madarasz.

Lusciniola mimica Madarasz, Verlauf. uber. ein. neu. Rohrsanger,
1903.

Lusciniola melanopogon, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.132.

Reported as common in the sedges on the edge of Huwaiza marsh, southeast of Amara, on July 13, and evidently breeding (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). Also

recorded near Baghdad on November 5 (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1926). Its status requires further investigation.

Genus LOCUSTELLA Kaup.

72. GRASSHOPPER-WARBLER. • خنشع الجراد - ٧٢

Locustella naevia straminea Seebohm.

Locustella straminea Seebohm, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.117.

According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), this bird probably occurs in our area, but there are no records.

73. RIVER-WARBLER. • خنشع الماء - ٧٣

Locustella fluviatilis fluviatilis (Wolf).

Sylvia fluviatilis Wolf, in Meyer & Wolf's Taschenb. deutsch.

Vogelkunde, 1, 1810, p.229.

Locustella fluviatilis, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.110.

There is only one record, from Basra, on May 11 (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). It breeds in Asia Minor and Palestine, and winters in North Africa.

74. SAVI'S WARBLER. • خنشع صغير - ٧٤

Locustella luscinioides luscinioides (Savi).

Sylvia luscinioides Savi, Nuovo Giorn. Letter., VII, 1824, p.341.

Locustella luscinioides, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.112.

Its occurrence in our area is likely (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922), but there are no records. The race usually winters in Palestine, Iran, and Africa.

Genus ACROCEPHALUS Naumann.

75. GREAT REED-WARBLER. • هازجة القصب الكبيرة - ٧٥

a. *Acrocephalus arundinaceus arundinaceus* (L.).

Turdus arundinaceus L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1758, p.170.

Acrocephalus turdoides, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.95.

b. *Acrocephalus arundinaceus zarudnyi* Hartert.

Acrocephalus arundinaceus zarudnyi Hartert, Bull. Brit. Orn. Cl., 21, 1907, p.26.

According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926), these warblers breed in our area and were observed near Baghdad singing in the last two weeks of May in a fruit garden, although there were no reeds or water in the vicinity. Mr. E.S. Steward met with one nest and eggs near Hindiya Barrage in May, 1949. It is also a passage migrant, being reported in April and in September, mostly from places near the marshes (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). We have a specimen from Baghdad dated May 15.

76. BABYLONIAN REED-WARBLER. • هازجة القصب البابلية - ٧٦

Acrocephalus griseldis (Hartlaub).

Calamoherpe griseldis Hartlaub, Abh. Nat. Ver. Bremen, 12, 1891, p.7.

Acrocephalus babylonicus Ticehurst, Bull. Brit. Orn. Cl., 41, 1920, p.12.

A passage migrant and also breeding in the marshes. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922, 1926), this bird arrives in April, breeds in May, and leaves in late June; then it comes again in August. The nest is made of reeds and grasses, woven around two reed stems and is about 3 to 4 inches in diameter (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1926).

77. REED-WARBLER. • هازجة القصب ، أبو دخنة - ٧٧

Acrocephalus scirpaceus scirpaceus (Hermann).

Turdus scirpaceus Hermann, Observ. Zool., 1804, p.202.

Acrocephalus streperus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.102.

A passage migrant reported from the marshes in April and early May, and again in August, September, and October (Ticehurst, *et al.*: 1922, 1926).

78. MARSH-WARBLER. • هازجة البطائح - ٧٨

Acrocephalus palustris (Bechstein).

Sylvia palustris Bechstein, Latham's Allgem. Uebersicht, III, 2, 1798, p.545.

Acrocephalus palustris, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.101.

Reported on migration at Fao by Cumming in March and April (Sharpe, 1886); and from the desert near Akkarkuf on September 1 by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926).

79. SEDGE-WARBLER. • هازجة السعد ، أم نوح - ٧٩

Acrocephalus schoenobaenus (L.).

Motacilla schoenobaenus L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1758, p.184.

Achocephalus phragmitis, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.91.

Possibly a passage migrant, being recorded from the marshes at Amara, Basra, and Shaikh Saad in March and May (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922); as well as from the foothills east of Ali Gharbi on October 15, and from Baghdad on May 7 (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1926). Cumming thought the bird to be resident at Fao as he frequently saw it on both sides of Shatt-el-Arab near its estuary (Sharpe, 1886).

Genus HIPPOLAIS Baldenstein.

80. ICTERINE WARBLER.

٨٠ - هازجة ليمونية الصدر .

Hippolais icterina alaris Stresemann.

Hippolais icterina alaris Stresemann, Journ. f. Orn., 76, 1928, p.375.

Hypolais icterina, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.77.

Reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922) in a garden at Baghdad on May 19. This is the only record so far.

81. UPCHER'S TREE-WARBLER.

٨١ - هازجة الشجر .

Hippolais languida (Hemprich and Ehrenberg).

Curruca languida Hemprich and Ehrenberg, Symb. Phys. Aves, fol. cc, 1833.

Hypolais languida, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.80.

Reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922) as a passage migrant at Fao. Cumming thought it breeding there, but this was not confirmed. It certainly breeds in Syria, Palestine, and Iran. Sarudny (1911) listed it as a winter visitor and passage migrant in the Karun area.

82. OLIVACEOUS WARBLER.

٨٢ - هازجة الزيتون .

Hippolais pallida elaeica (Lindermayer).

Salicaria elaeica Lindermayer, Isis, 1843, p.342.

Hypolais pallida, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.82.

A very common summer visitor frequenting scrub and gardens, from Tekrit south to Fao. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), this bird arrives in late May or early April and breeds by the end of April, then leaves by the middle of September. Tomlinson (1916), who found it very common at Basra, said that it breeds during the latter half of May and early June; the nests being usually 2 to 3

feet from ground and often in rose bushes (sometimes high up in willow trees). Full clutches consist of 3 eggs, and rarely 4. The nest is small, deep, and thin-walled.

Genus SYLVIA Scopoli.

83. BARRED WARBLER. دخلة موشمة - ٨٣

Sylvia nisoria nisoria (Bechstein).

Motacilla nisoria Bechstein, Gem. Nat. Deutschl., 4, 1795, p.580.

Sylvia nisoria, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.6.

A passage migrant in small numbers. Reported in spring migration between April 24 and 30, sometimes as late as May 8, and in autumn migration in September (Ticehurst, *et al.*: 1922, 1926).

84. ORPHEAN WARBLER. مناغى بستانى - ٨٤

Sylvia hortensis crassirostris Cretzchmar.

Sylvia crassirostris Cretzchmar, Atlas Reise Ruppell., 1826, p.49. pl.33.

Sylvia orpheus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.14.

There is one record only from Baghdad on April 3 (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1926). It commonly nests in the Zagros mountains of western Iran.

85. GARDEN-WARBLER. دخلة البساتين ، قرقنة - ٨٥

Sylvia borin Boddaert.

Motacilla borin Boddaert, Tabl. pl. Enl., 1783, p.35.

Sylvia hortensis, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.10.

A fairly common passage migrant, reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922) from mid-April to the end of May, and from the first week in September to the first week in November. But they had one record from Amara on June 12.

86. BLACKCAP. أبو قلنسوة ، الخورى (لبنانية) - ٨٦

Sylvia atricapilla atricapilla (L.).

Motacilla atricapilla L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.187.

Sylvia atricapilla, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.23.

A passage migrant which seems to be much commoner in spring than in autumn. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922, 1926), this bird arrives in late March and leaves after mid-May, and is seen again during September and October. Meinertzhagen (1924) reported it at Mosul in early December, and so it possible that some birds winter in our area.

87. WHITETHROAT.

• ٨٧ - زريقة فيرانية ، هازجة بيضاء الزور

Sylvia communis icterops Ménétriès.

Sylvia icterops Ménétriès, Cat. Rais. Caucase, 1832, p.34.

Sylvia cinerea, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.8.

A fairly common passage migrant which, according to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), arrives in early April and leaves in late May, and is again seen from late August to late September. It probably breeds in the highlands at no great distance from our area (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1926).

88. LESSER WHITETHROAT.

• ٨٨ - فرتية فيرانية صغيرة

a. *Sylvia curruca curruca* (L.).

Motacilla curruca L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.184.

Sylvia curruca, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881 p.16.

b. *Sylvia curruca affinis* Blyth.

Sylvia affinis Blyth, Journ. As. Soc. Bengal, 14, 1845, p.564.

Sylvia althaea, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.20.

The first race is a common passage migrant. Reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922) from Basra as early as March 19, but the majority are common between early April and early May, and again from mid-September to mid-October. We have a specimen from Baghdad collected on May 5.

The second race was recorded by Sarudny (1911) as a winter visitor and passage migrant, in small numbers, in the Karun district, and as commonly breeding in the Zagros mountains. Its occurrence in our area is not unlikely.

89. DESERT-WARBLER.

• ٨٩ - شوالة

Sylvia nana nana (Hemprich and Ehrenberg).

Curruca nana Hemprich and Ehrenberg, Symb. Phys. Aves, fol. cc,

1833.

Sylvia nana, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.26.

The status of this bird in our area is not clear as we have very few records. There is a record from Kumeit (Amara Liwa) on November 13, being reported as frequenting salt desert where hardly any other bird is seen; as well as one specimen in the British Museum from Fao dated March 19 (Ticehurst, *et al.*: 1922, 1926). Sarudny (1911) recorded it as a common winter visitor in the Karun district, and as breeding in the Zagros mountains in small numbers.

90. SARDINIAN WARBLER.

٩٠ - دخلة رأساء ، هازجة سردينيا •

a. *Sylvia melanocephala melanocephala* (Gmelin).*Motacilla melanocephala* Gmelin, Syst. Nat., I, 2, 1788, p.970.*Sylvia melanocephala*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.29.b. *Sylvia melanocephala mystacea* Ménétriès.*Sylvia mystacea* Ménétriès, Cat. Rais. Caucase. 1832, p.34.*Sylvia mystacea*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.20.

A common warbler, frequenting gardens, cultivation, and scrub, and only absent during the coldest months of winter. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), this bird becomes common from early March onwards, and breeds in suitable localities throughout our area in April. Full clutches of 3 or 4 eggs may be seen by the end of April. Fresh eggs were taken as late as June 6, 9 and 20, which suggests the possibility of rearing a second brood (Ticehurst, *et al.*: 1922, 1926). Nests are usually placed 1 to 2 feet above ground in scrub, pomegranate trees, thistles, and acacia. Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922) described the nests as deep cups loosely constructed of grass stems interwoven with "goose grass", and lined with finer grass stems and horse hair.

The first race was reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926) at Mosul on January 1 and 21. It also occurs in Asia Minor and Palestine.

The second race (also known as the Ménétriès Warbler) seems to be the breeding form in our area.

91. SPECTACLED WARBLER.

٩١ - دخلة أم نظارة •

Sylvia conspicillata conspicillata Temminck.*Sylvia conspicillata* Temminck, Man. d'Orn., ed. II, 1, 1820, p.210.*Sylvia conspicillata*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.22.

The first, and the only, record we have is that by Meinertzhagen (1924) who obtained a female in a grass-field near Baghdad on January 11. The range of this bird extends from the Canary Islands to Palestine, and this is a further extension eastwards.

Genus ERYTHROPYGIA Smith.

92. RUFOUS/GREY-BACKED WARBLER. حمرة رمادية الظهر - ٩٢
• هازجة الشرق

- a. *Erythropygia galactotes familiaris* (Ménétrières).
Sylvia familiaris Ménétrières, Cat. Rais. Caucase, 1832, p.32.
Sylvia familiaris, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 5, 1881, p.36.
- b. *Erythropygia galactotes syriaca* (Hemprich and Ehrenberg).
Curruca galactodes, var. *syriaca* Hemprich and Ehrenberg, Symb. Phys.
Aves fol. bb, 1833.

Very common as a summer visitor and widely distributed, frequenting gardens. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), this warbler arrives in late April or early May, and the majority leave in late October. Breeding, they observed, starts as early as the end of April, but most nests are found in the middle of May, and eggs were reported in June and July; so it probably rears two broods. Nests are usually built some 3 or 4 feet above ground on a young palm tree or in bushes, and full clutches contain 4 or 5 eggs. Most nests contain pieces of snake skin in their lining (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1926).

According to Weigold (1912), these two races are separated by the Euphrates in its upper reaches, *familiaris* to the east and *syriaca* to the west of the river, but such separation does not exist elsewhere. In Feluja, for example, both races were reported breeding (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). Sarudny (1911) recorded *syriaca* as a rare bird in the Karun district; but *familiaris* is very common there, as also in southern Iraq.

Genus PRINIA Horsfield.

93. STREAKED WREN-/GRACEFUL WARBLER. • ابو زعر - ٩٣

Prinia gracilis irakensis Meinertzhagen.

Prinia gracilis irakensis Meinertzhagen, Bull. Brit. Orn. Cl., 43, 1923,
p.147.

Burnesia lepida, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 7, 1883, p.211.

This species is common and resident, extending from Kirkuk and Baghdad south down the Tigris and Euphrates to Fao. In winter, it retreats to thick cover, especially acacia jungles, corn, and reed beds; but it spreads out in summer or performs local migrations (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). According to Ticehurst, *et al.* also, this bird breeds throughout our area, especially in reed beds in ditches and marshes, where nests with eggs were found from the latter half of May to July, and fledglings were noted on September 20. This suggests that more than one brood may be reared. They described the nest as an egg-shaped structure of fine grasses, interwoven and lined with thistle down, and have a deep opening in the side. Full clutches consist of 4 or 5 eggs.

Genus CISTICOLA Kaup.

94. FAN-TAILED WARBLER. * هازجة مروحية الذنب ٩٤

Cisticola juncidis neurotica Meinertzhagen.

Cisticola cisticola neurotica Meinertzhagen, Bull. Brit. Orn. Cl., 41, 1920
p.25.

Cisticola cisticola, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 7, 1883, p.259.

Fairly common and resident from Baghdad and Feluja south to Basra. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), nest building was noted on June 12 in green grass over water or wet ground. A complete nest was seen on July 30, one with young on July 20, and another with young as late as August 17. The nest is well concealed and of the usual purse shape, with the opening at the top (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922).

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Family TIMELIIDAE.

Genus TURDOIDES.

95. HUTTON'S BABBLER. * ثرثارة هاتون ٩٥

Turdoides caudata huttoni (Blyth).

Malacocercus huttoni Blyth, Journ. As. Soc. Bengal, 16, 1847, p.476.

Argya huttoni, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 7, 1883, p.394.

Evidently a resident bird, reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922) as occurring around Baghdad in date-palm gardens, and at Khanakin (Diala Liwa). They also

recorded a nest with 3 eggs at Kadhimain on April 13, which they described as thin-walled cup made of corn stalks, roots, and grass stems interwoven with date palm fibers and lined with finer fibers. As many as 5 eggs were found in the nest. We have specimens collected from Baghdad area on August 21 and November 11.

96. MESOPOTAMIAN BABBLER. نثرارة عراقية •

Turdoides caudata altirostris (Hartert).

Crateropus altirostris Hartert, Vog. Pal. Fauna, 1, 1910, p.623.

This babbler is peculiar to our area, and is rather patchy in distribution. Cumming noted it as plentiful at Fao, and as breeding in April and May to the middle of June, finding eggs as late as June 19 (Sharpe: 1886, 1891). Clutches of 3 eggs are usual. Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922) reported it as common in palm groves and cultivated fields around Basra and at Nasiriyah, as well as in the extensive reed beds in the marshes near Amara, but rather rare in Amara and Kut.

Since it inhabits reeds growing in water, it was not found from Kut to Tekrit on the Tigris, or from Nasiriyah to Feluja on the Euphrates, but was recorded from Khanakin on the Diala river. It is also resident in the Karun district.

Family MUSCICAPIDAE.

Genus MUSCICAPA Linné.

97. SPOTTED FLYCATCHER. خاطف الذباب المرقط •

a. *Muscicapa striata striata* (Pallas).

Motacilla striata Pallas, Vroeg's Cat. Varzam. Vog., etc. 1764, p.3.

Muscicapa grisola, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 4, 1879, p.151.

b. *Muscicapa striata neumanni* Poche.

Muscicapa grisola neumanni Poche, Orn. Monatsbr., 1904, p.26.

A fairly common passage migrant and widely distributed. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1922), it arrives in mid-April and leaves in May, but a few were

reported as late as the second week in June; and is seen again between the second week in September and late October. They also noted that the second race is more common than the first.

98. PIED FLYCATCHER.

• ٩٨ - خاطف الذباب الابقع

Muscicapa hypoleuca hypoleuca (Pallas).

Motacilla hypoleuca Pallas, Vroeg's Cat. Verzam. Vog., etc., 1764, p.3.

Muscicapa atricapilla, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 4, 1879, p.157.

Reported by Weigold (1912) at Urfa on passage for a few days in mid-April. It may occur in the northern part of our area.

99. COLLARED FLYCATCHER.

• ٩٩ - خاطف الذباب المطوق

a. *Muscicapa albicollis albicollis* Temminck.

Muscicapa albicollis Temminck, Man. d'Orn., 1815, p.100.

Muscicapa collaris, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 4, 1879, p.160.

b. *Muscicapa albicollis semitorquata* Homeyer.

Muscicapa semitorquata Homeyer, Zeitschr. Ges Orn., 2, 1885, p.185.

The first race was reported by Weigold (1912) at Urfa on passage from April 15 to 21, and possibly occurs in the northern part of our area.

The second race, also noted by Weigold at Urfa, was reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926) at Baghdad as early as March 7 in its spring passage, and as early as August 14 in its autumn passage. *M. a. semitorquata* was formerly considered a race of *M. hypoleuca*, but, according to Stresemann (Orn. Monatsber., 1926, p.4), it is in reality a form of *M. albicollis*.

100. RED-BREASTED FLYCATCHER.

• ١٠٠ - خاطف الذباب احمر الصدر

Muscicapa parva parva Bechstein.

Muscicapa parva Bechstein, Latham's Allg. Uebers, 2, 1794, p.356.

Muscicapa parva, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 4, 1879, p.161.

Reported by Cumming at Fao on October 10, probably on passage (Sharpe, 1886).

Family PRUNELLIDAE.

Genus PRUNELLA Vieillot.

101. ALPINE ACCENTOR. ١٠١ - عصفور الشوك الجبلي .

Prunella collaris caucasicus (Tschusi).

Accentor caucasicus Tschusi, Orn. Monatsber., 1902, p.186.

Accentor collaris, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 7, 1883, p.661.

A winter visitor in northern Iraq, reported by Meinertzhagen (1924) at Dohuk in small flocks in December, and also by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926) in the same area in winter.

102. HEDGE-SPARROW. ١٠٢ - عصفور الشوك .

Prunella modularis orientalis (Sharpe).

Accentor orientalis Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 7, 1883, p.652.

A common winter visitor in the northern part of the country, reported by Meinertzhagen (1924) at Mosul, Zakho, Feshkhabur, and Dohuk in December; as well as by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926) at Mosul and Dohuk in winter. Another name given to this race is *obscura* of Hablizl.

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Family MOTACILLIDAE.

Genus MOTACILLA Linné.

103. PIED /WHITE WAGTAIL. ١٠٣ - ذعرة بيضاء ، أم زكعكع (لبنانية) .

a. *Motacilla alba alba* L.

Motacilla alba L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1758, p.185.

Motacilla alba, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 10, 1885, p.464.

b. *Motacilla alba dukhunensis* Sykes.

Motacilla dukhunensis Sykes, P.Z.S. London, 1832, p.91.

c. *Motacilla alba persica* Blanford.

Motacilla personata, var. *persica* Blanford, East. Persia, 2, 1876, p.232.

Motacilla persica, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 10, 1885, p.479.

d. *Motacilla alba personata* Gould.*Motacilla personata* Gould, Birds of Asia, 4, 1861, p.93, pl.63.*Motacilla personata*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 10, 1885, p.479.

White Wagtails are common winter visitors, and widely distributed in our area. Reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1921) as arriving early in October, becoming numerous in the latter half of the month, and leaving by the end of March; but a few stay through April, and, rarely, into May. The typical race seems to be the commonest, and the three other races were also reported by Meinertzhagen (1924).

104. BLUE-HEADED WAGTAIL.

ذعرة زرقاء الرأس . ١٠٤

a. *Motacilla flava flava* L.*Motacilla flava* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1758, p.185.*Motacilla flava*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 10, 1885, p.516.b. *Motacilla flava dombrowskii* (Tschusi).*Budytes flavus dombrowskii* Tschusi, Orn. Jahrb., 14, 1903, p.161.

GREY-HEADED WAGTAIL.

ذعرة رمادية الرأس .

c. *Motacilla flava thunbergi* Billberg.*Motacilla thunbergi* Billberg, Synop. Faun. Scand., Aves, 1, 1828,

p.50.

YELLOW WAGTAIL.

ذعرة صفراء .

d. *Motacilla flava lutea* (Gmelin).*Parus luteus* Gmelin, Reis. d. Russl., 3, 1774, p.101, pl.20.

BLACK-HEADED WAGTAIL.

ذعرة سوداء الرأس .

e. *Motacilla flava feldegg* Michahelles.*Motacilla feldegg* Michahelles, Isis, 1830, p.812.*Motacilla feldeggi*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 10, 1885, p.527.

All races of *M. flava* are passage migrants in Iraq, the commonest being *dombrowskii* and *feldegg*. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1921), they arrive in mid-March or later and leave in late April, the return passage occurs between early August and the first days of October.

The typical race is apparently rare, and Ticehurst, *et al.* recorded it from Shaikh Saad on April 3. We have a specimen from Taub Is., at the head of the Persian Gulf, dated March 23, and another from H.1 Station dated May 1.

The second race was reported as common at Shaikh Saad and Feluja in spring migration, and at Shaikh Saad, Shaiba, Kut, Amara, and Baghdad in autumn migration (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1921).

The Grey-headed Wagtail (*M. f. thunbergi*) was also reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* at Feluja on April 14, at Hammar Lake on May 18, and at Baghdad on October 3. We have a specimen from H.1 Station dated May 1.

The Yellow Wagtail (*M. f. lutea*) is fairly common along with the other forms, and was reported by Ticehurst, *et al.*, also, from Shaikh Saad on March 27 and April 11, from Amara on April 19-20, and again from Amara on September 9. We have two specimens obtained by Mr. Jeffery from H.1 and H.2 Stations on May 1 and 27, respectively.

The Black-headed Wagtail (*M. f. feldegg*) was reported by Ticehurst, *et al.*, as very common on passage throughout the country. Several observers recorded it in June and July from marshy localities, in which it probably breeds.

105. GREY WAGTAIL.

١٠٥ - ذعرة رمادية

a. *Motacilla cinerea cinerea* Tunstall.

Motacilla cinerea Tunstall, Orn. of Britain, 1771, p.2.

Motacilla melanope, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 10, 1885 p.497.

b. *Motacilla cinerea caspica* (Gmelin).

Parus caspicus Gmelin, Reise d. Russl., 3, 1774, p.104, pl.20.

Both races are winter visitors in small numbers. Reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1921) as leaving by the end of March, or even as late as April 11. The typical race is widely distributed in our area, and *caspica* was reported by Meintzhagen (1924) as common at Dohuk and Feshkhabur (in northern Iraq) in December.

Genus ANTHUS Bechstein.

106. RICHARD'S PIPIT.

١٠٦ - أبو تمره ريشارد

Anthus richardi richardi Vieillot.

Anthus richardi Vieillot, Nouv. Dict. d'Hist. Nat., 26, 1818, p.491.

Anthus richardi, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 10, 1885, p.564.

Reported by Sarudny (1911) as a winter visitor in the Karun district.

107. TAWNY PIPIT.

١٠٧ - أبو تمرة الصحراوي

a. *Anthus campestris campestris* (L.).

Alauda campestris L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1758, p.166.

Anthus campestris, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 10, 1885, p.569.

b. *Anthus campestris griseus* Nicoll.

Anthus campestris griseus Nicoll, Bull. Brit. Orn. Cl., 41, 1920, p.25.

The first race was reported as a common winter visitor, frequenting scrub and desert, and widely distributed in suitable localities. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1921), it probably arrives in October and leaves in April. Weigold (1912) reported it at Urfa on April 23. The second race was found in the foot-hills east of Ali Gharbi on October 6 (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1926).

108. MEADOW-PIBIT.

١٠٨ - أبو تمرة الغيطي

Anthus pratensis (L.).

Alauda pratensis L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1758, p.166.

Alauda pratensis, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 10, 1885, p.580.

An uncommon winter visitor in small numbers, reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1921) as frequenting damp places from November 20 to March 19. They, later in (1926), recorded it from the foothills east of Ali Gharbi on October 15.

109. TREE-PIBIT.

١٠٩ - أبو تمرة الشجري

Anthus trivialis trivialis (L.).

Alauda trivialis L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1758, p.166.

Anthus cervinus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 10, 1885, p.585.

A passage migrant with wide distribution. Reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1921, 1926) in late March and well into April; and again in late September to November 1. We have a specimen dated September 6. It is a passage migrant both in the Karun and Urfa districts.

110. RED-THROATED PIPIT. أبو تمرّة احمر الزور • ١١٠

Anthus cervinus (Pallas).*Motacilla cervina* Pallas, Zoogr. Rosso-Asiat, 1, 1811, p.511.*Anthus cervinus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 10, 1885, p.585.

Probably a rare winter visitor, but the majority seem to be passage migrants, as most records relate to April and November.

111. WATER-PIPIT. أبو تمرّة الماء • ١١١

a. *Anthus spinoletta blakistoni* Swinhoe.*Anthus blakistoni* Swinhoe, Proc. Zoo. Soc., 1863, p.90.*Anthus spinoletta*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 10, 1885, p.592.b. *Anthus spinoletta coutellii* Savigny.*Anthus coutelli* Savigny, in Descr. Egypt, 33, 1828, p.360, pl.5.

Both races are winter visitors, the first being the commoner. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1921), this species is more often seen during spring and autumn migration. Records range in date from November to late March. The second race was recorded by Sassi (1912) from Mosul in January.

112. BROWN ROCK-PIPIT. أبو تمرّة الصخري البنى • ١١٢

Anthus sordidus decaptus Meinertzhagen.*Anthus sordidus decaptus* Meinertzhagen, Bull Brit. Orn. Cl., 41, 1920, p.23.*Anthus sordidus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 10, 1885, p.560.

An uncommon winter visitor in small numbers, reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1921) from Amara on February 11.

:o:

Family BOMBYCILLIDAE.

Genus HYPOCOLIUS Bonaparte.

113. GREY HYPOCOLIUS. خناق رمادي • ١١٣

Hypocolius ampelinus Bonaparte.*Hypocolius ampelius* Bonaparte, Consp. Gen. Av., 1, 1850, p.336.*Hypocolius ampelinus*. Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 3, 1877, p.316.

A summer visitor and very locally distributed in Iraq, where it is generally found in date palm groves and scrub jungles, from Mosul to Fao. Reported by Cumming as arriving at Fao from the southeast early in April, and breeding in June and early July (Sharpe, 1891). He got his first eggs on June 13, and full clutches, he said, contained 4 eggs. Tomlinson (1916) noted that this bird breeds up the Karun river in May, and Ticehurst *et al.* (1922, 1926) reported it breeding at Baghdad, Adhaim river, and Amara in May also. The nest was described by Cumming as built of coarse grass stems or tendrils, lined with fine grass, wool, and, sometimes, hair, and is placed on a young palm tree or in a bush, some 3 to 5 feet above the ground.

Meinertzhagen (1924), who noted the bird in a garden at Mosul from November 23 to 26, and obtained two out of eight in a party, remarked that this species does not remain in its breeding quarters throughout winter, but probably migrates to restricted winter quarters in northeastern Africa. Other reports show that the bird is very common from late September to the middle of November in the scrub jungles along the Adhaim river (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). The bird was described as very active and restless, running up and down the stems much like a babbler.

:o:

Family LANIIDAE.

Genus LANIUS Linné.

114. GREAT GREY SHRIKE.

١١٤ - جزار البادية ، صرد كبير

a. *Lanius excubitor pallidirostris* Cassin.

Lanius pallidirostris Cassin, Proc. Acad. Philad., 5, 1852, p.244.

Lanius fallax, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 8, 1883, p.247.

b. *Lanius excubitor aucheri* Bonaparte.

Lanius aucheri Bonaparte, Rev. Mag. Zool., 1853, p.294.

Both races were reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1921) as winter visitors and widely distributed in this country, inhabiting thin scrub on the desert, and sometimes gardens as well. A few, they noted, arrive in late September, but the majority come early in October and are seen through winter, then leave in the second week of March. Some observers, they added, noted unidentified birds of

this species nesting between Baghdad and Musayeb from July onwards, and an unfinished nest was also found at Samarra. We have a specimen from Baghdad collected on August 9, 1952, which adds to the evidence of its breeding in Baghdad area.

115. LESSER GREY SHRIKE. • جزار رمادی صغیر ، سرد صغیر • ۱۱۵

Lanius minor minor Gmelin,

Lanius minor Gmelin, Syst. Nat., 1, 1788, p.308.

Lanius minor, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 8, 1883, p.235.

A passage migrant in small numbers and widely distributed. Spring migration lasts from late March to early May, and autumn migration from the second half of August to the third week in September (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1921). We have a specimen from Abu-Ghuraib collected on September 22, 1952. Sassi (1912) recorded one specimen from Feshkhabur on July 1. According to Sarudny (1911) this bird nests in the Zagros mountains of western Iran.

116. WOODCHAT SHRIKE. • جزار نیلی ، دقناش • ۱۱۶

Lanius senator niloticus (Bonaparte).

Enneoctonus niloticus Bonaparte, Rev. Mag. Zool., 1853, p.439.

Lanius auriculatus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 8, 1883, p.283.

This bird was reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1921) as a passage migrant, frequenting the plains in small numbers. It arrives in the second week of March, becoming numerous up to April 27; and is seen again from early August to mid-September. It probably breeds in the mountainous region of Dohuk, as we have a specimen from there obtained on June 9, 1952. Sarudny (1911) noted it breeding commonly in the Zagros mountains, and Tomlinson (1916) reported it up the Karun river in early June and thought it breeding there.

117. MASKED SHRIKE. • جزار قبطی • ۱۱۷

Lanius nubicus Lichtenstein.

Lanius nubicus Lichtenstein, Verz. Doubl. Mus. Berlin, 1823, p.47.

Lanius nubicus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 8, 1883, p.282.

A common passage migrant and widely distributed in our area from north to

south. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1921, 1926), spring migrants appear from early April to the end of the month; but Sassi (1912) reported it from Mosul on May 10. Autumn migrants, according to them also, appear from late August to late September, and we have two specimens from Baghdad dated September 22 and 25. Buxton observed them at Amara in the first half of June, and noted a bird carrying food or nest material on June 17, and so some birds, at least, remain to breed in the plains (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1922). Ward (1919) recorded it as common in Samarra and breeding in the scrub, and Sarudny (1911) reported it breeding in the Zagros mountains.

118. RED-BACKED SHRIKE.

جزار احمر الظهر - ١١٨

a. *Lanius collurio collurio* L.*Lanius collurio* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1758, p.94.*Lanius collurio*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 8, 1883, p.286.b. *Lanius collurio isabellinus* Hemprich & Ehrenberg.*Lanius isabellinus* Hemprich and Ehrenberg. Symb. Phys. Fol. e, note.*Lanius isabellinus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 8, 1883, p.277.c. *Lanius collurio phoenicuroides* (Schalow).*Otomela phoenicuroides* Schalow, Journ. f. Orn., 1875, p.148.*Lanius phoenicuroides*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 8, 1883, p.278.

They are largely birds of passage. The first race is a common passage migrant arriving in the spring in late March and leaving by mid-May; and is again seen in autumn from late August to late September (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1921). We have a specimen from Baghdad dated September 25, 1950. Cumming recorded it from Fao as late as May 30 and November 15, in spring and autumn migrations respectively (Sharpe, 1886).

The Isabelline Shrike (*L. c. isabellinus*) is a common winter visitor, frequenting thorny scrub and gardens, and is reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1921) and by Cumming, also, as arriving in late September and leaving in late April or early May. It is also a passage migrant in part.

The Red-tailed Shrike (*L. c. phoenicuroides*) is a passage migrant in the southern districts of Iraq, and seems to be uncommon as we have a few records only.

Family STURNIDAE.

Genus STURNUS Linné.

119. STARLING.

• زرزور - ۱۱۹

a. *Sturnus vulgaris vulgaris* L.*Sturnus vulgaris* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.167.*Sturnus vulgaris*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 13, 1890, p.47.b. *Sturnus vulgaris purpurascens* Gould.*Sturnus purpurascens* Gould, Proc. Zool. Soc., 1868, p.219.*Sturnus purpurascens*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 13, 1890, p.37.c. *Sturnus vulgaris caucasicus* Lorenz.*Sturnus caucasicus* Lorenz, Beitr. Orn. Faun. Nord. Caucasus, 1887,
p.9, pl.5, fig.1.*Sturnus caucasicus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 13, 1890, p.37.d. *Sturnus vulgaris poltaratskii* Finsch.*Sturnus poltaratskii* Finsch, Proc. Zool. Soc., 1878, p.713.*Sturnus poltaratskii*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 13, 1890, p.36.e. *Sturnus vulgaris nobilior* Hume.*Sturnus nobilior* Hume, Stray Feathers, 1879, p.175.

Starlings are common winter visitors to the Iraq plains, arriving in late October and leaving early in March, or rarely after mid-March.

The first and second races are very common and widely distributed. The third race is less common. The fourth and fifth races are fairly common.

One race, probably *poltaratskii*, was reported by Meinertzhagen (1924) as resident and breeding in Mosul, and Sassi (1912) recorded it from there on May 30.

Genus PASTOR Temminck.

120. ROSE-COLOURED STARLING.

• زرزور وردی ، سمرمز - ۱۲۰

Pastor roseus (L.).*Turdus roseus* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.170.*Pastor roseus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 13, 1890, p.63.

A bird of passage which was reported in May as passing through in flocks over the Tigris and Euphrates rivers (Ticehurst, et al.: 1921, 1926). We have a specimen collected by Mr. W.H. Jeffery from T.3 Station (inside Syria) on April 20, 1950.

:o:

Family PLOCEIDAE.

Genus PETRONIA Kaup.

121. ROCK-SPARROW.

۱۲۱ - عصفور صخري

a. *Petronia petronia intermedia* Hartert.

Petronia petronia intermedia Hartert, Novit. Zool., 4, 1901, p.324.

Passer petronius exiguus Hellmayr., Orn. Jahrb., 1902, p.128.

b. *Petronia petronia exigua* (Hellmayr).

Passer petroniusexiguus Hellmayr., Orn. Jahrb., 1902, p.128.

The first race was reported by Sarudny (1911) as a winter visitor in the Karun district. The second race is a winter visitor in the northern part of our area, and was reported at Mosul by Sassi (1912) and Meinertzhagen (1914), and at Dohuk by Ticehurst, et al. (1926). This species inhabits the hills and mountains.

122. DESERT ROCK-SPARROW.

۱۲۲ - عصفور صخري صحراوي

Petronia brachydactyla brachydactyla Bonaparte.

Petronia brachydactyla Bonaparte, Consp. Gen. Av., 1, 1850, p.513.

Petronia brachydactyla, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 12, 1888, p.292.

Flocks of this species were reported on passage in April 18, flying north-northwesterly at Fatah Gorge up the line of Jebel Hemrin ranges (Ticehurst, et al., 1921). It is a winter visitor and passage migrant in the Karun district, and breeds in the Iranian highlands of Luristan (Sarudny, 1911). According to Vaurie (Amer. Mus. Novit., No. 1406, 1949, p.2), the genera *Petronia*, *Carpospiza*, and *Gymnoris* are so closely related that they should be merged together under *Petronia*, as were treated by earlier authors. The species is still known as *Carpospiza brachydactyla* by many contemporary authors.

123. YELLOW-THROATED SPARROW. * عصفور اصفر الزور - ١٢٣

Petronia xanthocollis transfuga (Hartert).

Gymnoris flavicollis transfuga Hartert, Vog. Pal. Fauna, 1, 1910, p.145.

Petronia flavicollis, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 12, 1888, p.293.

A summer visitor, frequenting date palm groves from Fao to Baghdad. Not recorded north of Baghdad, but it is fairly distributed in suitable localities from Baghdad south to Fao. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1921), this bird arrives in April, breeds in the latter part of May or earlier, and leaves in August and September. Tomlinson (1916) noted it breeding in holes of date trees ranging 8 to 20 feet above the ground, and building its typical sparrow nest out of dead grass and lining it with feathers. Full clutches consisted of 5-6 eggs (Sharpe, 1886). The bird probably rears two broods, as Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926) reported it breeding at Baghdad on May 16, and noted flying young there on June 21, then four fresh eggs on June 30. This bird is still named by many authors "*Gymnoris x. transfuga*," but I followed Vaurie's decision to merge *Gymnoris* with *Petronia*.

Genus PASSER Brisson.

124. HOUSE-SPARROW. * عصفور بيتي - ١٢٤

Passer domesticus biblicus Hartert.

Passer domesticus biblicus Hartert, Vog. Pal. Fauna, 1, 1910, p.149.

Passer domesticus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 12, 1888, p.307.

Very common and resident throughout the country where food is abundant. Breeds as early as April, and according to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1921), Cheesman observed the feeding of young on April 19. It probably rears two broods, as many nests were found by Ticehurst, *et al.* in late June. Nests were found in scrub jungle, small bushes or trees, wood roofings, ruins, and holes in trees or banks. Full clutches contained four eggs. An albino House-Sparrow was shot at Sersang, south of Amadia, on November 14, 1952, where it was among a group of ordinary Sparrows.

125. SPANISH SPARROW. * عصفور اسباني - ١٢٥

Passer hispaniolensis transcaspicus Tschusi

Passer hispaniolensis transcaspicus Tschusi, Orn. Jahrb., 1903, p.10.

Passer hispaniolensis, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 12, 1888, p.317.

A common winter visitor, frequenting suitable localities where scrub is abundant. Reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1921) as arriving at Amara on December 7, becoming commoner in January, and gradually disappearing towards the middle of April. Pitman found it common at Kut in February and in scrubby localities between Kut and Baghdad, and again at Feluja on April 17 during the spring migration of Wagtails; while Cheesman saw large flocks migrating along the line of Jebel Hemrin on April 18 (Ticehurst *et al.*, 1921). According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926), the bird was observed on migration at Pusht-i-Kuh mountains (in eastern Iraq) on May 16 and October 8.

126. TREE-SPARROW.

• عصفور شجری - ۱۲۶

Passer montanus transcausicus Buturlin.

Passer montanus transcausicus Buturlin, Ibis, 1906, p.423.

Passer montanus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 12, 1888, p.301.

A winter visitor reported among flocks of Spanish Sparrows at Felahiya (near Baghdad) on February 10 (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1921), but we have no other records so far. This race also occurs in northern Iran in winter.

127. SCRUB-SPARROW.

• عصفور الاحراش - ۱۲۷

Passer moabiticus moabiticus Tristram.

Passer moabiticus Tristram, Proc. Zool. Soc., 1864, p.169.

Passer moabiticus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 12, 1888, p.321.

A local resident in deep scrub jungles where it is found in flocks, wandering farther afield from its breeding haunts in winter (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1921). Reported as occurring among flocks of House-Sparrows. Cheesman (Bull. B.O.C., 40, 1919, p.59) described a colony of this bird (under the name of *P.m. mesopotamicus* Sarudny) which he saw on May 1, 1919, saying that it was found in a thick scrub jungle near Baghdad, several miles in extent on the banks of the Tigris. The nests were 5 to 8 feet above the ground, built of comparatively large sticks, and lined with down from rushes and thistles with a few fibers and small feathers; the roof is covered, but a small hole is left for entrance. Up to 6 eggs were found in the nest. Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926) reported two other colonies on May 16, and a nest holding 6 eggs on June 12. It may be found mixed with Spanish Sparrows, as reported by Cheesman also, who saw them near Amara on January 13.

Family FRINGILLIDÆ.

Subfamily CARDUELINÆ.

Genus FRINGILLA Linné.

128. CHAFFINCH. • عصفور ظالم ، صغنج (لبنانية)

Fringilla coelebs coelebs L.*Fringilla coelebs* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.179.*Fringilla coelebs*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 12, 1888, p.171.

A common winter visitor to our plains, and is usually found in gardens. Reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1921) from November 2 to March 8 in various places throughout the country. The latest record is from Ba'quba on March 11, 1952.

129. BRAMBLING. • شرشور جبلي

Fringilla montifringilla L.*Fringilla montifringilla* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.179.*Fringilla montifringilla*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 12, 1888, p.178.

A winter visitor frequenting Tamarisks, wheat fields, or other crops in small flocks. Recorded from Dohuk south to Baghdad between November and February. Sarudny (1911) listed it as a winter visitor in small numbers in the Karun district.

Genus SERINUS Koch.

130. RED-FRONTED SERIN. • كثار احمر الجبهة

Serinus pusillus (Pallas).*Passer pusillus* Pallas, Zoogr. Rosso.-Asiat., 2, 1811, p.28, pl. 43.*Serinus pusillus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 12, 1888, p.373.

An uncommon winter visitor, frequenting the highlands. Reported by Meinertzhagen (1924) and Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926) from Dohuk in winter; and also by Buxton from Amara on February 7, 1918.

131. SYRIAN/TRISTRAM'S SERIN.

• ۱۳۱ - کنار سوری

Serinus canarius syriacus Bonaparte.*Serinus syriacus* Bonaparte, Consp. Gen. Av., 1, 1850, p.523.*Serinus caronicus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 12, 1888, p.372.

Reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1926) as fairly common at Dohuk in the latter half of December, and at Mosul in January.

Genus CARDUELIS Boie.

132. GOLDFINCH.

• ۱۳۲ - حسون

a. *Carduelis carduelis loudoni* Sarudny.*Carduelis carduelis loudoni* Sarudny, Orn. Monatsber., 1906, p.48.*Carduelis carduelis*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 12, 1888, p.185.b. *Carduelis carduelis niediecki* Reichenow.*Carduelis carduelis niediecki* Reichenow, Journ. f. Orn., 1907, p.623.

The first race is a rather scarce winter visitor, and was reported from Amara, probably coming from its breeding haunts in Iran (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1921).

The second race is fairly common at Dohuk and Mosul and less common elsewhere in Iraq, as it is a bird of the highlands. It probably breeds in the extreme north of Iraq, as Meinertzhagen (1924) found an old nest at Feshkhabur. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1921), it arrives from late November and probably leaves in late February. We have obtained 3 specimens from Baghdad on March 11, 1952. *C. c. volgensis* Buturlin was recorded by Sarudny (1911) in winter at the Karun district; and Weigold (1912) obtained the typical race, *carduelis*, at Urfa in April. The bird was seen in flocks in the gardens of Amara and on thistles at Suleimaniyah (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1921).

133. SISKIN.

• ۱۳۳ - حسون الشوك

Carduelis spinus (L.).*Fringilla spinus* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.181.*Chrysomitris spinus*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 12, 1888, p.212.

An uncommon winter visitor, reported by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1921, 1926) from Suleimaniyah and Mosul, and by Meinertzhagen (1924) from Baghdad, in Jan-

uary. It arrives late in October as we have two specimens from H.2 Station shot by Mr. Jeffery on October 31, 1950.

134. GREENFINCH.

• خضیری - ۱۳۴

Carduelis chloris turkestanicus (Sarudny).

Chloris chloris turkestanicus Sarudny, Orn. Monatsber., 1907, p.61.

Chloris chloris, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 12, 1888, p.21.

Reported as common in the gardens of Dohuk on October 17 onwards, and also at Mosul in January (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1926).

Genus ACANTHIS Borkhausen.

135. LINNET.

• تفاحی - ۱۳۵

Acanthis cannabina fringillirostris (Bonaparte).

(-bella Brehm).

Linota fringillirostris Bonaparte, Consp. Gen. Av. 1, 1850, p.539.

A winter visitor arriving in early November and probably leaving by the end of February. Recorded by Meinertzhagen (1914, 1924) at Mosul and Erbil; by Ticehurst, *et al.* (1921, 1926) at Dohuk, Kirkuk, Suleimaniyah, and Amara in winter; and by Sassi (1912) at Mosul in February. Sarudny (1911) listed it as a winter visitor and passage migrant in the Karun district.

Genus RHODOPECHYS Cabanis.

136. DESERT-FINCH.

• عصفور وردی صحراوی - ۱۳۶

Rhodopechys obsoleta (Lichtenstein).

Fringilla obsoleta Lichtenstein, in Eversmann's "Reise Orenb. Buchara", Anhang, 1826, p.132.

Rhodospiza obsoleta, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 12, 1888, p.282.

A scarce visitor reported at Baghdad, Hilla, and Amara from December to February, frequenting gardens in small flocks (Ticehurst, *et al.*: 1921, 1926).

137. TRUMPETER BULLFINCH.

• زمیر - ۱۳۷

Rhodopechys githaginea crassirostris (Blyth).

Carpodacus crassirostris Blyth, Journ. As. Soc. Bengal. 16, 1847, p.476.

Erythropiza githaginea, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 12, 1888, p.284.

Probably occurring in the Fao area in winter, and Sarudny (1911) recorded it as nesting and wintering in the Karun district. Tomlinson (1916) found a nest holding 5 eggs near Ahwaz on March 25.

Genus COCCOTHAUSTES Brisson.

138. HAWFINCH.

• بلبل زيتوني - ١٣٨

Coccothraustes coccothraustes (*coccothraustes* L. ?).*Loxia coccothraustes* L., Syst. Nat., X, 1, 1758, p.171.*Loxia coccothraustes*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 12, 1888, p.36.

One adult male was obtained alive from Sersang, south of Amadia, on November 22, 1952. This is the first record in Iraq. The race is not determined yet, but it could be either the typical race or *nigricans* of the Caucasus.

Subfamily EMBERIZINAE.

Genus EMBERIZA Linné.

139. CORN-BUNTING.

• دراسة مألوفة ، صعو - ١٣٩

Emberiza calandra L.*Emberiza calandra* L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.176.*Miliaria miliaria*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 12, 1888, p.552.

A resident bird which is common and widely distributed in winter, frequenting scrub, arable land, and corn fields. Reported as migrating locally from one place to another beyond the breeding season, and especially in winter. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1921, 1926), this bird breeds in Shergat area (south of Mosul) in March, where a nest containing 6 eggs was found on the 24th, and two others, one with 3 eggs and 4 young and the other with 5 eggs, were found in April. It probably breeds elsewhere, as in Amara, where Buxton got a male with testes well advanced on April 7 (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1921). Meinertzhagen (1924) reported it as common in south Kurdistan and around Mosul in winter.

140. YELLOW BUNTING .

• دراسة صفراء - ١٤٠

Emberiza citrinella erythrogegens Brehm.*Emberiza erythrogegens* Brehm, Vogelfang. 1855, p.414.*Emberiza citrinella*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 12, 1888, p.515.

A winter visitor in small numbers, reported at Basra on April 10, and at Dohuk on October 13 and December 15 (Ticehurst, *et al.*: 1921, 1926). Sassi (1912) recorded it from Mosul on January 23. It is a winter visitor in the Karun district, and was recorded by Weigold (1912) at Urfa on April 8.

141. PINE-BUNTING. • درسة بيضاء الرأس - ١٤١

Emberiza leucocephala S.G. Gmelin.

Emberiza leucocephalos S.G. Gmelin, Nov. Comm. Acad. Sci. Imp.
Petropol., 15, 1771, p.480, pl.23.

Emberiza leucocephala, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 12, 1888, p.549.

A winter visitor, and the only record we have is that of Meinertzhagen (1914) who saw it just north of Baghdad in January.

142. BLACK-HEADED BUNTING. • درسة سوداء الرأس - ١٤٢

Emberiza melanocephala Scopoli.

Emberiza melanocephala Scopoli, Annus I, Hist. Nat., 1769, p.142.

Emberiza melanocephala, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 12, 1888, p.503.

A passage migrant of which we have spring records only. Reported as arriving about the middle of April and leaving late in the month, but a few may be seen as late as May 15 (Ticehurst, *et al.*: 1921, 1926). We have a specimen from Swaratuka (north of Dohuk) shot on June 10, 1952. It probably breeds in northern Iraq as Sassi (1912) got 11 eggs from there. Mr. S.E. Steward saw many nests and eggs at Mosul, Erbil, and near Zakho in April and May, 1949.

143. RED-HEADED BUNTING. • درسة حمراء الرأس - ١٤٣

Emberiza bruniceps Brandt.

Emberiza bruniceps Brandt, Bull. Acad. Sci. St-Petersb., 9, 1841, p.12.

Emberiza luteola, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 12, 1888, p.506.

The only record is that of Cumming who got a young bird of this species at Fao on September 1 (Sharpe, 1886). Its status is not clear.

144. ORTOLAN BUNTING. • أرطلان ، بلبل الشعير - ١٤٤

Emberiza hortulana L.

Emberiza hortulana L., Syst. Nat., ed. X, 1, 1758, p.177.

Emberiza hortulana, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 12, 1888, p.530.

A passage migrant in fairly large numbers and widely distributed from Mosul to Fao. According to Ticehurst, *et al.* (1921), flocks were seen passing up the line of Jebel Hemrin ranges taking a north-northwesterly direction. First arrival in spring was observed at Kut on April 7-10; last seen was on May 8. Reported at Shaiba on September 27, the only autumn record.

145. GREY-NECKED BUNTING. * درسة رمادية العنق - ١٤٥

Emberiza buchanani huttoni (Blyth).*Euspiza huttoni* Blyth, Journ. As. Soc. Bengal, 18, 1849, p.811.*Emberiza buchanani*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 12, 1888, p.533.

Recorded by Sarudny (1911) as a passage migrant in the Karun district, and nesting in small numbers in the Zagros mountains.

146. GREY-HEADED BUNTING. * درسة رمادية الرأس - ١٤٦

Emberiza cineracea semenowi Sarudny.*Emberiza semenowi* Sarudny, Orn. Jahrb., 15, 1904, p.117.*Emberiza cinerea*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 12, 1888, p.529.

A scarce passage migrant in the Karun district, and nesting in large numbers in Arabistan, Iran (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1921). It also occurs in Syria and Asia Minor; and probably in our area, too.

147. ROCK-BUNTING. * درسة صخرية - ١٤٧

Emberiza cia par Hartert.*Emberiza cia par* Hartert, Vog. Pal. Fauna, 1, 1904, p.184.*Emberiza cia*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 12, 1888, p.537.

A winter visitor which was obtained from a flock at Dohuk on December 15 (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1926), and is possibly more numerous than the reports indicate.

148. RUSTIC-BUNTING. * درسة ريفية - ١٤٨

Emberiza rustica Pallas.*Emberiza rustica* Pallas, Reise d. versch. Prov. Russ. Reichs, 3, 1776, p.698.*Emberiza rustica*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 12, 1888, p.490.

Recorded by Sarudny (1911) as a winter visitor in the Karun district, but we have no records from Iraq proper, although its occurrence is likely.

149. STRIOLATED BUNTING. * درسة مخططة - ١٤٩

Emberiza striolata striolata (Lichtenstein).*Fringilla striolata* Lichtenstein, Verz. Doubl. Zool. Mus. Berlin, 1823, p.24.*Fringillaria striolata*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 12, 1888, p.561.

Recorded by Sarudny (1911) as a winter visitor in the Karun district, and may nest there in the low hills (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1921). It occurs in Palestine, Arabia, and southern Iran.

150. REED-BUNTING.

١٥٠ - درسة القصب .

Emberiza schoeniclus pallidior Hartert.

Emberiza schoeniclus pallidior Hartert, Vog. Pal. Fauna, 1, 1910, p.197.

Emberiza schoeniclus, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., 12, 1888, p.480.

A winter visitor which is uncommon or, perhaps, very local. A flock was noted near Kut on scrub growing along the bank of the Tigris in January; and single birds seen at Samarra on December 18, at Sheikh Saad on December 6, and at Basra in reed beds on November 20, (Ticehurst, *et al.*, 1921). Also recorded from Zakho and Kirkuk in December by Meinertzhagen (1924). Sarudny (1911) recorded it as a winter visitor in the Karun district, as well as the typical race of which we have no record at present for Iraq.

THE END.

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This simplified index is basically an index of English and Scientific names as applied in this study. Larger taxonomic groups (orders, suborders, families, and subfamilies) are not indexed, nor any synonyms of scientific names. The Table of Contents provides adequate reference to the system of classification adopted in this paper, and major groups are to be looked for there.

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انحلت لى فرصة الدراسة واعداد هذا البحث فى افضل بيئة علمية . كما اننى مدين جدا للدكتور فان تاين لعنايته بقراءة الاصل وتدقيقه وابداء الكثير من الملاحظات والتوجيهات العلمية ، دون ان انقل اليه أية مسؤولية أدبية عن الاخطاء التى قد ترد فى هذه الرسالة . واشكر كذلك الدكتور براون رئيس دائرة علم الحيوان وافراد هيئة متحف جامعة ميشيگان لمساعدتهم الثمينة وتشجيعهم المستمر .

واخيرا فاننى أذكر مع مزيد الشكر فضل بعض الذوات الذين ارسلوا الى المتحف تقارير ونماذج قيمة ساعدتني عند رجوعى الى بغداد على تصحيح بعض المعلومات التى وردت فى الاصل أو اضافة ملاحظات جديدة لم ترد فى التقارير القديمة ، والامل ان نزداد معلوماتنا عن الطيور العراقية كلما نشط المتحف فى جمع النماذج وامتدت بعثاته الى الانحاء النائية من القطر لاننا على يقين بان ثمة انواع من الطيور توجد فى العراق ، أبدة أو مهاجرة ، ولكن لا البنادق اصابتها ولا أعين المتخصصين رصدتها بعد .
ويأمل المؤلف ان تساعده الظروف على اصدار كتاب مفصل عن طيور العراق باللغة العربية يضم اوصافها وصورها ومعلومات عن وجودها فى العراق .

مقدمة

منذ ان نشرت « قائمة الطيور العراقية » فى سنة ١٩٥٠ ترددت لدى فكرة وضع رسالة أوفى عن طيور العراق ، مستقصاة من البحوث والمقالات المنشورة فى مختلف المجالات الاختصاصية ، ومستندة الى نماذج الطيور التى تضمها مجموعة متحف التاريخ الطبيعى العراقى والى الملاحظات المباشرة التى اجريت فى السنوات المتأخرة - تلك الملاحظات التى اضافت الكثير من المعلومات الجديدة القيمة عن طيور العراق أو اكملت تقارير هواة الطيور السابقين أو صححتها •

على ان اعداد بحث من هذا النوع يتطلب بلا شك الرجوع الى مكتبة غنية بالمراجع الاصلية يتعذر وجودها فى مكتبة متحف صغير لم يمض على تشكيله أكثر من ست سنوات ، وبات الالتجاء الى متاحف الغرب أمرا لا مندوحة عنه لتحقيق الهدف المنشود •

وقد قيص لهذه الفكرة ان تتحقق بفضل مساعدة منظمة الاونسكو التى منحتنى زمالتها لعام ١٩٥١ لزيارة متاحف التاريخ الطبيعى فى الولايات المتحدة الاميركية والاطلاع على تنظيماتها واعمالها الفنية لمدة (٦) أشهر ابتداء من أول تشرين الثانى ١٩٥١ • وقد صرفت النصف الاول من هذه المدة فى انجاز منهاج الزيارات التى وضعت لى من قبل الدوائر المختصة فى الاونسكو ومعهد التربية الدولى فى نيويورك ، وخصصت النصف الثانى - بالاضافة الى اربعة اشهر أخرى منحتنى أياها وزارة المعارف الجليلة - فى استئناف الدراسة واجراء البحوث فى جامعة ميشيكان خلال فصلى الربيع والصيف الدراسيين لعام ١٩٥٢ •

وفى جو جامعى هادىء وبين جدران متحف غنى بالنماذج والمصادر وضعت هذه الرسالة باشراف احد مشاهير علماء الطيور الاميركيين هو الدكتور جوزلين فان تاين أمين قسم الطيور فى متحف الجامعة والاستاذ المشارك فيها • وقد اتبعت فى تصنيفى للطيور العراقية طريقة العلامة الشهير الدكتور الكساندر ويتمور المتبعة فى الوقت الحاضر ، كما حققت الاسماء العلمية تحقيقا وافيا لاتخاذ احدث التسميات المستعملة فى كتب الاختصاصيين المعاصرين •

وارى واجبا على ان أشكر منظمة الاونسكو وجامعة ميشيكان لمساعدتهما المالية التى

متحف التاريخ الطبيعي العراقي
بغداد

العدد - - - - -
التاريخ ١٩٥٣/٧

كلية الآداب والعلوم
متحف التاريخ الطبيعي العراقي
شرة رقم (٣)

طيور العراق

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الاستاذ المساعد في علم الحيوان بكلية الآداب والعلوم
ومدير متحف التاريخ الطبيعي
(بغداد)



طبع
بمطبعة التفيض الاهلية - بغداد
١٩٥٣

كلية الآداب والعلوم

متحف التاريخ الطبيعي العراقي

نشرة رقم (٣)

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طبع
بمطبعة التفيض الاهلية - بغداد
١٩٥٣

