

# THE FAUNA OF BRITISH INDIA

INCLUDING

CEYLON AND BURMA

BIRDS.—VOL. II.

(SECOND EDITION.)

BY

E. C. STUART BAKER, O.B.E., F.Z.S., Etc.

# THE FAUNA OF BRITISH INDIA,

INCLUDING

## CEYLON AND BURMA.

*PUBLISHED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE SECRETARY OF  
STATE FOR INDIA IN COUNCIL.*

EDITED BY SIR ARTHUR E. SHIPLEY, Sc.D. Cantab., HON. D.Sc. Princeton,  
HON. LL.D. Michigan, F.R.S.

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April, 1924.

## PREFACE.

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DURING the calendar year 1923 the following volumes of the 'Fauna of British India' appeared—DIPTERA, Vol. III. *Pipunculidæ*, *Syrphidæ*, *Conopidæ*, *Æstridæ*, by E. Brunetti, and OLIGOCHÆTA, by Dr. J. Stephenson.

In 1922 the first volume of the Aves, re-edited by Mr. E. C. Stuart Baker, was published. The present volume contains a further instalment of the *Passeres* including the *Cinclidæ* (Dippers); *Turdidæ* (Thrushes, Chats, etc.); *Muscicapidæ* (Flycatchers); *Laniidæ* (Shrikes); *Dicruridæ* (Drongos); *Sylviidæ* (Warblers), and *Regulidæ* (Goldcrests, etc.). It is hoped that a third volume will complete the *Passeres* and possibly also include the Woodpeckers, Barbets and other birds contained in Volume III. of the first edition with the exception of the *Strigidæ* and *Falconidæ*.

Certain additions and alterations have been made in the form in which the first volume of this edition appeared. These it is hoped will be an improvement and will be of use to readers other than pure field-naturalists and observers. The first reference to each genus and also the type of the genus and the type-locality have been given. When the typical form of any genus or species is "extra-limital" to the area included in this work, similar references have again been given and also a brief note showing how the nearest form in Indian limits differs from the typical one.

Finally, separate keys to the subspecies have been given as well as keys to the species; these it is hoped will facilitate identification.

I may add that the present volume is in other respects fully up to the standard set by the author in his previous publication of eighteen months ago.

Christ's College Lodge,  
Cambridge.  
15th March, 1924.

A. E. SHIPLEY.

## AUTHOR'S PREFACE.

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THIS second volume of the Avifauna contains a further instalment of the *Passeres*, including 473 species and sub-species, bringing the total number dealt with up to date to 949. The second volume of the Avifauna has appeared within about 20 months of the first, although the prescribed period between the publication of each issue is supposed to be two years. This is due to the persistence of our Editor, Sir Arthur E. Shipley, and, it must be added, to the fact that the Authorities concerned fully appreciate the value of rapid production in a work of this nature. A still more important success gained by the Editor is sanction to a sixth volume to the Avifauna, which is to contain a full Synonymy of all first references in addition to corrigenda and addenda to the first five volumes.

It is hoped that the third volume will be completed in another 18 months or less and that subsequent volumes will appear at even shorter intervals. Readers will, however, realize that any work which entails the consideration of *sub-species*—a new factor in Indian Zoology—also entails an enormous amount of Museum work, which cannot be hurried over. Nomenclature, also, is at present in such a state of flux that it is extremely difficult to follow the writings of those who make a special study of this subject, in addition to the original research work the Author himself has to get through.

E. C. STUART BAKER.

Upper Norwood,  
March 1924.

# SYSTEMATIC INDEX.

|                                                         | Page |
|---------------------------------------------------------|------|
| IX. Family CINCLIDÆ .....                               | 1    |
| 107. Genus Cinclus <i>Borkhausen</i> .....              | 1    |
| 265. cinclus ( <i>Linn.</i> ) .....                     | 1    |
| 374. cinclus cashmiriensis <i>Gould</i> .....           | 2    |
| 375. cinclus leucogaster <i>Bonaparte</i> .....         | 3    |
| 266. pallasii <i>Temm.</i> .....                        | 4    |
| 376. pallasii tenuirostris <i>Bonaparte</i> .....       | 4    |
| 377. pallasii marila <i>Swinhoe</i> .....               | 5    |
| X. Family TURDIDÆ .....                                 | 7    |
| Subfamily BRACHYPTERYGINÆ .....                         | 9    |
| 108. Genus Brachypteryx <i>Horsf.</i> .....             | 9    |
| 267. major ( <i>Jerdon</i> ) .....                      | 10   |
| 378. major major ( <i>Jerdon</i> ) .....                | 10   |
| 379. major albiventris ( <i>Fairbank</i> ) .....        | 11   |
| 109. Genus Larvivora <i>Hodgs.</i> .....                | 12   |
| 268. cyane ( <i>Pall.</i> ) .....                       | 12   |
| 269. brunnea <i>Hodgs.</i> .....                        | 14   |
| 270. wickhami ( <i>Stuart Baker</i> ) .....             | 15   |
| 110. Genus Heteroxenicus <i>Sharpe</i> .....            | 16   |
| 271. stellatus ( <i>Gould</i> ) .....                   | 16   |
| 272. hyperythrus ( <i>Jerdon &amp; Blyth</i> ) .....    | 17   |
| 273. cruralis ( <i>Blyth</i> ) .....                    | 17   |
| 274. nipalensis ( <i>Hodgs.</i> ) .....                 | 19   |
| 380. nipalensis nipalensis ( <i>Hodgs.</i> ) .....      | 19   |
| 275. sinensis ( <i>Rickett &amp; La Touche</i> ) .....  | 20   |
| 111. Genus Hodgsonius <i>Bonap.</i> .....               | 21   |
| 276. phoenicuroides ( <i>Hodgs.</i> ) .....             | 21   |
| 381. phoenicuroides phoenicuroides ( <i>Hodgs.</i> ) .. | 21   |
| Subfamily SAXICOLINÆ .....                              | 22   |
| 112. Genus Saxicola <i>Bechst.</i> .....                | 23   |
| 277. caprata ( <i>Linn.</i> ) .....                     | 24   |
| 382. caprata burmanica <i>Stuart Baker</i> .....        | 24   |
| 383. caprata atrata ( <i>Kelaart</i> ) .....            | 25   |
| 384. caprata bicolor ( <i>Sykes</i> ) .....             | 26   |
| 278. torquata ( <i>Linn.</i> ) .....                    | 27   |
| 385. torquata indica ( <i>Blyth</i> ) .....             | 28   |
| 386. torquata przewalskii ( <i>Pleske</i> ) .....       | 30   |

## X. Family TURPIDÆ (cont.).

|                                               |      |
|-----------------------------------------------|------|
| 112. Genus Saxicola (cont.).                  | Page |
| 387. torquata stejnegeri (Parrot).....        | 30   |
| 388. torquata leucura (Blyth).....            | 31   |
| 279. macrorhyncha (Stoliczka).....            | 32   |
| 280. insignis (Hodgs.).....                   | 33   |
| 113. Genus Oreicola Bonap. ....               | 34   |
| 281. jerdoni Blyth .....                      | 35   |
| 282. ferrea (Gray) .....                      | 36   |
| 389. ferrea ferrea (Gray).....                | 36   |
| 390. ferrea haringtoni Hartert .....          | 38   |
| 114. Genus Cenanthe Vieill. ....              | 38   |
| 283. monacha (Temmm.) .....                   | 40   |
| 284. alboniger (Hume) .....                   | 40   |
| 285. picata (Blyth) .....                     | 42   |
| 286. capistrata (Gould) .....                 | 43   |
| 287. opistholeuca (Strickland).....           | 44   |
| 288. leucomela (Pall.) .....                  | 45   |
| 391. leucomela leucomela (Pall.).....         | 45   |
| 289. melanoleuca (Güldenst.) .....            | 47   |
| 392. melanoleuca melanoleuca (Güldenst.) .... | 47   |
| 290. cenanthe cenanthe (Linn.) .....          | 48   |
| 393. cenanthe cenanthe (Linn.) .....          | 48   |
| 291. isabellina (Cretzschm.) .....            | 49   |
| 292. deserti Temm. ....                       | 51   |
| 394. deserti atrogularis (Blyth) .....        | 51   |
| 395. deserti oreophila Oberholser .....       | 52   |
| 293. xanthoprymna (Hemp. & Ehrenb.) .....     | 53   |
| 396. xanthoprymna chrysopygia (De Filippi) .. | 53   |
| 115. Genus Cercomela Bonap. ....              | 54   |
| 294. fusea (Blyth) ..                         | 54   |
| Subfamily ENICURINÆ .....                     | 56   |
| 116. Genus Enicurus Temm. ....                | 56   |
| 295. maculatus Vigors .....                   | 57   |
| 397. maculatus maculatus (Vigors) .....       | 57   |
| 398. maculatus guttatus (Gould) .....         | 58   |
| 296. schistaceus Hodgs. ....                  | 59   |
| 297. immaculatus Hodgs. ....                  | 61   |
| 298. leschenaulti (Vieill.) .....             | 61   |
| 399. leschenaulti indicus Hart. ....          | 62   |
| 400. leschenaulti sinensis (Gould) .....      | 63   |
| 117. Genus Hydrocichla Sharpe .....           | 63   |
| 299. frontalis (Blyth) .....                  | 64   |
| 300. ruficapilla (Temmm.) .....               | 64   |
| 118. Genus Microcichla Sharpe .....           | 65   |
| 301. scouleri (Vigors) .....                  | 65   |
| 401. scouleri scouleri (Vigors) .....         | 65   |
| Subfamily PHENICURINÆ .....                   | 67   |
| 119. Genus Phenicurus Forster .....           | 68   |

## X Family TURPIDÆ (cont.).

|                                              |      |
|----------------------------------------------|------|
| 119. Genus <i>Phœnicurus</i> (cont.).        | Page |
| 302. <i>frontalis</i> Vigors                 | 69   |
| 303. <i>schisticeps</i> (Hodgs.)             | 70   |
| 304. <i>aureus</i> (Pall.)                   | 71   |
| 305. <i>erythronotus</i> (Eversm.)           | 73   |
| 306. <i>hodgsoni</i> (Moore)                 | 74   |
| 307. <i>ochrurus</i> (Gmelin)                | 75   |
| 402. <i>ochrurus phœnicuroides</i> (Moore)   | 76   |
| 403. <i>ochrurus rufiventris</i> (Vieill.)   | 77   |
| 308. <i>erythrogaster</i> (Güldenstädt)      | 78   |
| 404. <i>erythrogaster grandis</i> (Gould)    | 78   |
| 120. Genus <i>Chaimarrhornis</i> Hodgs.      | 79   |
| 309. <i>leucocephala</i> (Vigors)            | 79   |
| 121. Genus <i>Rhyacornis</i> Blanf.          | 81   |
| 310. <i>fuliginosa</i> (Vigors)              | 81   |
| 405. <i>fuliginosa fuliginosa</i> (Vigors)   | 81   |
| 122. Genus <i>Cyanosylvia</i> Brehm          | 83   |
| 311. <i>suecica</i> (Linn.)                  | 83   |
| 406. <i>suecica suecica</i> (Linn.)          | 83   |
| 407. <i>suecica pallidogularis</i> (Sarudny) | 85   |
| 408. <i>suecica robusta</i> (Buturlin)       | 85   |
| 312. <i>cyaneula</i> (Wolf)                  | 86   |
| 409. <i>cyaneula abbotti</i> (Richmond)      | 86   |
| 123. Genus <i>Luscinia</i> Forster           | 87   |
| 313. <i>megarhyncha</i> Brehm                | 87   |
| 410. <i>megarhyncha golzii</i> (Cabanis)     | 87   |
| 124. Genus <i>Grandala</i> Hodgs.            | 88   |
| 314. <i>cœlicolor</i> Hodgs.                 | 89   |
| 125. Genus <i>Calliope</i> Gould             | 90   |
| 315. <i>calliope</i> (Pall.)                 | 91   |
| 316. <i>pectoralis</i> Gould                 | 92   |
| 411. <i>pectoralis pectoralis</i> (Gould)    | 92   |
| 412. <i>pectoralis confusa</i> (Hartert)     | 93   |
| 317. <i>tschebaiewi</i> Przewalski           | 94   |
| 126. Genus <i>Tarsiger</i> Hodgs.            | 95   |
| 318. <i>chrysæus</i> Hodgs.                  | 95   |
| 413. <i>chrysæus chrysæus</i> (Hodgs.)       | 95   |
| 414. <i>chrysæus whistleri</i> Ticehurst     | 97   |
| 127. Genus <i>Ianthia</i> Blyth              | 97   |
| 319. <i>cyanura</i> (Pall.)                  | 98   |
| 415. <i>cynura cyanura</i> (Pall.)           | 98   |
| 416. <i>cyanura rufilata</i> (Hodgs.)        | 99   |
| 417. <i>cyanura pallidiora</i> , subsp. nov. | 101  |
| 320. <i>indica</i> (Vieill.)                 | 102  |
| 418. <i>indica indica</i> (Vieill.)          | 102  |
| 321. <i>hyperythra</i> Blyth                 | 103  |
| 128. Genus <i>Adelura</i> Bonap.             | 104  |
| 322. <i>cœruleocephala</i> (Vigors)          | 104  |

|                                           |      |
|-------------------------------------------|------|
| X. Family TURPIDÆ (cont.).                | Page |
| 129. Genus <i>Notodela</i> Less.          | 105  |
| 323. <i>leucura</i> (Hodgs.)              | 106  |
| 130. Genus <i>Callene</i> Blyth           | 107  |
| 324. <i>frontalis</i> (Blyth)             | 107  |
| 131. Genus <i>Saxicoloides</i> Lesson     | 108  |
| 325. <i>fulicata</i> (Linn.)              | 109  |
| 419. <i>fulicata fulicata</i> (Linn.)     | 109  |
| 420. <i>fulicata cambaiensis</i> (Lath.)  | 111  |
| 132. Genus <i>Copsychnus</i> Wagler       | 111  |
| 326. <i>saularis</i> (Linn.)              | 112  |
| 421. <i>saularis saularis</i> (Linn.)     | 113  |
| 422. <i>saularis musicus</i> (Raffles)    | 114  |
| 423. <i>saularis ceylonensis</i> (Slater) | 115  |
| 424. <i>saularis andamanensis</i> (Hume)  | 116  |
| 133. Genus <i>Kittacincia</i> Gould       | 116  |
| 327. <i>macroura</i> (Gmel.)              | 117  |
| 425. <i>macroura macroura</i> (Gmel.)     | 117  |
| 426. <i>macroura indica</i> , nom. nov.   | 118  |
| 427. <i>macroura albiventris</i> (Blyth)  | 119  |
| Subfamily TURPINÆ                         | 120  |
| 134. Genus <i>Turdus</i> Linn.            | 121  |
| 328. <i>merula</i> Linn.                  | 123  |
| 428. <i>merula maximus</i> (Seeböhm)      | 123  |
| 429. <i>merula simillimus</i> (Jerdon)    | 125  |
| 430. <i>merula kinnisii</i> (Blyth)       | 126  |
| 431. <i>merula bourdilloni</i> (Seeböhm)  | 127  |
| 432. <i>merula nigropileus</i> (Lafres.)  | 128  |
| 433. <i>merula albocinctus</i> (Royle)    | 129  |
| 329. <i>boulboul</i> (Lath.)              | 130  |
| 330. <i>castaneus</i> (Gould)             | 132  |
| 434. <i>castaneus castaneus</i> (Gould)   | 132  |
| 435. <i>castaneus gouldi</i> (Verr.)      | 133  |
| 331. <i>eunomus</i> (Temm.)               | 133  |
| 332. <i>kessleri</i> Przew.               | 134  |
| 333. <i>pallidus</i> Gmel.                | 135  |
| 334. <i>ruficollis</i> Pall.              | 136  |
| 335. <i>atrogularis</i> Temm.             | 137  |
| 336. <i>unicolor</i> Tickell              | 138  |
| 337. <i>dissimilis</i> Blyth              | 140  |
| 338. <i>obscurus</i> Gmel.                | 141  |
| 436. <i>obscurus obscurus</i> (Gmel.)     | 141  |
| 437. <i>obscurus subobscurus</i> (Salv.)  | 142  |
| 339. <i>feæ</i> (Salv.)                   | 143  |
| 135. Genus <i>Geocichla</i> Kuhl          | 144  |
| 340. <i>wardi</i> (Jerdon)                | 145  |
| 341. <i>sibirica</i> Pallas               | 146  |
| 438. <i>sibirica sibirica</i> (Pall.)     | 146  |
| 439. <i>sibirica davisoni</i> (Hume)      | 147  |

## X. Family TURDIDÆ (cont.).

135. Genus *Geocichla* (cont.).

|                                                  | Page |
|--------------------------------------------------|------|
| 342. <i>citrina</i> (Lath.)                      | 148  |
| 440. <i>citrina citrina</i> (Lath.)              | 148  |
| 441. <i>citrina cyanotis</i> (Jard. & Selby)     | 150  |
| 442. <i>citrina innotata</i> (Blyth)             | 151  |
| 443. <i>citrina andamanensis</i> (Wald.)         | 152  |
| 444. <i>citrina albogularis</i> (Blyth)          | 153  |
| 136. Genus <i>Arceuthornis</i> Kaup              | 153  |
| 343. <i>viscivorus</i> (Linn.)                   | 154  |
| 445. <i>viscivorus bonapartei</i> (Verr.)        | 154  |
| 344. <i>pilaris</i> (Linn.)                      | 155  |
| 345. <i>musicus</i> (Linn.)                      | 156  |
| 137. Genus <i>Oreocincla</i> Gould               | 157  |
| 346. <i>dauma</i> (Lath.)                        | 158  |
| 446. <i>dauma dauma</i> (Lath.)                  | 158  |
| 447. <i>dauma nilgiriensis</i> (Blyth)           | 159  |
| 448. <i>dauma imbricata</i> (Layard)             | 160  |
| 347. <i>aurea</i> (Holandre)                     | 161  |
| 449. <i>aurea aurea</i> (Holandre)               | 161  |
| 348. <i>mollissima</i> (Blyth)                   | 162  |
| 450. <i>mollissima mollissima</i> (Blyth)        | 162  |
| 451. <i>mollissima whiteheadi</i> (Stuart Baker) | 163  |
| 452. <i>mollissima simlaensis</i> , subsp. nov.  | 164  |
| 349. <i>spiloptera</i> Blyth                     | 165  |
| 138. Genus <i>Zoothera</i> Vigors                | 166  |
| 350. <i>monticola</i> Vigors                     | 166  |
| 351. <i>marginata</i> Blyth                      | 168  |
| 139. Genus <i>Monticola</i> Boie                 | 169  |
| 352. <i>erythrogastra</i> (Vigors)               | 170  |
| 353. <i>cinclorhyncha</i> (Vigors)               | 171  |
| 354. <i>solitaria</i> (P. L. S. Müller)          | 172  |
| 453. <i>solitaria transcaspica</i> Hartert       | 173  |
| 454. <i>solitaria pandoo</i> (Sykes)             | 174  |
| 455. <i>solitaria affinis</i> (Blyth)            | 175  |
| 456. <i>solitaria philippensis</i> (Müller)      | 175  |
| 355. <i>gularis</i> (Swinh.)                     | 176  |
| 457. <i>gularis gularis</i> (Swinh.)             | 176  |
| 356. <i>saxatilis</i> (Linn.)                    | 177  |
| 140. Genus <i>Myiophoneus</i> Temm.              | 178  |
| 357. <i>horsfieldi</i> Vigors                    | 178  |
| 358. <i>temminckii</i> Vigors                    | 179  |
| 458. <i>temminckii</i> (Vigors)                  | 180  |
| 459. <i>temminckii eugenei</i> (Hume)            | 181  |
| 141. Genus <i>Arrenga</i> Less.                  | 182  |
| 359. <i>blighi</i> Holdsworth                    | 182  |
| 142. Genus <i>Cochoa</i> Hodgs.                  | 183  |
| 360. <i>purpurea</i> Hodgs.                      | 184  |
| 361. <i>viridis</i> Hodgs.                       | 185  |

## X. Family TURDIDÆ (cont.).

|                                                        |      |
|--------------------------------------------------------|------|
| 142. Genus <i>Cochoa</i> (cont.).                      | Page |
| 362. rothschildi, sp. nov. ....                        | 186  |
| Subfamily PRUNELLINÆ .....                             | 187  |
| 143. Genus <i>Laiscopus</i> <i>Gloger</i> .....        | 187  |
| 363. collaris ( <i>Scop.</i> ) .....                   | 188  |
| 460. collaris nipalensis ( <i>Blyth</i> ) .....        | 188  |
| 461. collaris rufilatus ( <i>Severtz.</i> ) .....      | 189  |
| 462. collaris tibetanus ( <i>Bianchi</i> ) .....       | 190  |
| 463. collaris rippeni ( <i>Hartert</i> ) .....         | 191  |
| 364. himalayamus ( <i>Blyth</i> ) .....                | 191  |
| 144. Genus <i>Prunella</i> <i>Vieill.</i> .....        | 192  |
| 365. immaculata ( <i>Hodgs.</i> ) .....                | 193  |
| 366. rubeculoides ( <i>Moore</i> ) .....               | 193  |
| 367. atrogularis ( <i>Brandt</i> ) .....               | 194  |
| 368. strophciata ( <i>Blyth</i> ) .....                | 195  |
| 464. strophciata strophciata ( <i>Blyth</i> ) .....    | 196  |
| 465. strophciata jerdoni ( <i>Brooks</i> ) .....       | 197  |
| 369. fulvescens ( <i>Severtzoff</i> ) .....            | 197  |
| 466. fulvescens fulvescens ( <i>Severtzoff</i> ) ..... | 198  |

## XI. Family MUSCICAPIDÆ .....

|                                                         |     |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| 145. Genus <i>Muscicapa</i> <i>Linn.</i> .....          | 201 |
| 370. striata <i>Vroeg.</i> .....                        | 202 |
| 467. striata neumanni ( <i>Poche</i> ) .....            | 202 |
| 146. Genus <i>Hemichelidon</i> <i>Hodgson</i> .....     | 203 |
| 371. sibirica <i>Gmelin</i> .....                       | 204 |
| 468. sibirica cacabata ( <i>Penard</i> ) .....          | 204 |
| 469. sibirica gulmergi <i>Stuart Baker</i> .....        | 205 |
| 470. sibirica rothschildi <i>Stuart Baker</i> .....     | 206 |
| 372. cinereiceps <i>Hodgs.</i> .....                    | 206 |
| 147. Genus <i>Siphia</i> <i>Hodgs.</i> .....            | 207 |
| 373. strophciata <i>Hodgs.</i> .....                    | 208 |
| 471. strophciata strophciata <i>Hodgs.</i> .....        | 208 |
| 472. strophciata fuscogularis <i>Stuart Baker</i> ..... | 209 |
| 374. parva ( <i>Bechst.</i> ) .....                     | 210 |
| 473. parva parva ( <i>Bechst.</i> ) .....               | 210 |
| 474. parva albicilla ( <i>Pall.</i> ) .....             | 211 |
| 475. parva hyperythra ( <i>Cab.</i> ) .....             | 212 |
| 148. Genus <i>Cyornis</i> <i>Blyth</i> .....            | 213 |
| 375. cyanea ( <i>Hume</i> ) .....                       | 215 |
| 376. hodgsonii ( <i>Verr.</i> ) .....                   | 216 |
| 377. hyperythra ( <i>Blyth</i> ) .....                  | 217 |
| 476. hyperythra hyperythra ( <i>Blyth</i> ) .....       | 217 |
| 477. hyperythra malayana ( <i>O.-Grant</i> ) .....      | 219 |
| 378. tricolor ( <i>Hodgs.</i> ) .....                   | 219 |
| 478. tricolor tricolor ( <i>Hodgs.</i> ) .....          | 219 |
| 479. tricolor cerviniventris ( <i>Sharpe</i> ) .....    | 220 |
| 379. snperciliaris ( <i>Jerdon</i> ) .....              | 221 |

## XI. Family MUSCICAPIDÆ (cont.).

|                                                            |      |
|------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| 148. Genus <i>Cyornis</i> (cont.).                         | Page |
| 480. <i>superciliaris superciliaris</i> (Jerdon) . . . . . | 221  |
| 481. <i>superciliaris astigma</i> (Hodgs.) . . . . .       | 223  |
| 380. <i>melanoleuca</i> (Hodgs.) . . . . .                 | 224  |
| 482. <i>melanoleuca melanoleuca</i> (Hodgs.) . . . . .     | 224  |
| 483. <i>melanoleuca westermanni</i> (Sharpe) . . . . .     | 224  |
| 381. <i>sapphira</i> (Tickell) . . . . .                   | 225  |
| 382. <i>vivida</i> Swinh. . . . .                          | 226  |
| 484. <i>vivida oatesi</i> (Salvadori) . . . . .            | 226  |
| 383. <i>pallipes</i> (Jerdon) . . . . .                    | 227  |
| 485. <i>pallipes pallipes</i> (Jerdon) . . . . .           | 228  |
| 486. <i>pallipes hainana</i> (O.-Grant) . . . . .          | 229  |
| 384. <i>unicolor</i> Blyth . . . . .                       | 229  |
| 487. <i>unicolor unicolor</i> (Blyth) . . . . .            | 230  |
| 488. <i>unicolor infuscata</i> (Müller) . . . . .          | 231  |
| 385. <i>rubeculoides</i> (Vigors) . . . . .                | 231  |
| 489. <i>rubeculoides rubeculoides</i> (Vigors) . . . . .   | 231  |
| 386. <i>banyumas</i> Von Martens . . . . .                 | 233  |
| 490. <i>banyumas cœrulifrons</i> (Stuart Baker) . . . . .  | 233  |
| 491. <i>banyumas dialilæma</i> (Salvadori) . . . . .       | 233  |
| 387. <i>tickelliæ</i> Blyth . . . . .                      | 234  |
| 492. <i>tickelliæ tickelliæ</i> (Blyth) . . . . .          | 234  |
| 493. <i>tickelliæ sumatrensis</i> (Sharpe) . . . . .       | 235  |
| 494. <i>tickelliæ mesæa</i> Oberholser . . . . .           | 236  |
| 388. <i>magnirostris</i> Blyth . . . . .                   | 236  |
| 149. Genus <i>Nitidula</i> Jerd. & Blyth . . . . .         | 237  |
| 389. <i>hodgsoni</i> (Moore) . . . . .                     | 237  |
| 150. Genus <i>Stoparola</i> Blyth . . . . .                | 238  |
| 390. <i>melanops</i> (Vigors) . . . . .                    | 232  |
| 495. <i>melanops melanops</i> (Vigors) . . . . .           | 239  |
| 496. <i>melanops thalassoides</i> (Cab.) . . . . .         | 241  |
| 391. <i>sordida</i> (Wald.) . . . . .                      | 241  |
| 392. <i>albicaudata</i> (Jerd.) . . . . .                  | 242  |
| 151. Genus <i>Anthipes</i> Blyth . . . . .                 | 243  |
| 393. <i>monileger</i> (Hodgs.) . . . . .                   | 243  |
| 497. <i>monileger monileger</i> (Hodgs.) . . . . .         | 244  |
| 498. <i>monileger submonileger</i> (Hume) . . . . .        | 245  |
| 499. <i>monileger leucops</i> (Sharpe) . . . . .           | 245  |
| 394. <i>olivaceus</i> (Hume) . . . . .                     | 246  |
| 500. <i>olivaceus olivaceus</i> (Hume) . . . . .           | 246  |
| 501. <i>olivaceus poliogenys</i> (Brooks) . . . . .        | 247  |
| 152. Genus <i>Alseonax</i> Cabanis . . . . .               | 248  |
| 395. <i>latirostris</i> (Raffl.) . . . . .                 | 248  |
| 502. <i>latirostris latirostris</i> (Raffl.) . . . . .     | 248  |
| 503. <i>latirostris poonensis</i> (Sykes) . . . . .        | 249  |
| 396. <i>ruficaudus</i> (Swains.) . . . . .                 | 250  |
| 397. <i>muttui</i> (Layard) . . . . .                      | 251  |
| 153. Genus <i>Ochromela</i> Blyth . . . . .                | 252  |

## XI. Family MUSCICAPIDÆ (cont.).

|                                                   |      |
|---------------------------------------------------|------|
| 153. Genus <i>Ochromela</i> (cont.)               | Page |
| 398. <i>nigrorufa</i> (Jerd.)                     | 253  |
| 154. Genus <i>Culicicapa</i> Swinhoe              | 254  |
| 399. <i>ceylonensis</i> (Swains.)                 | 254  |
| 504. <i>ceylonensis ceylonensis</i> (Swains.)     | 254  |
| 505. <i>ceylonensis orientalis</i> Stuart Baker   | 256  |
| 506. <i>ceylonensis meridionalis</i> Stuart Baker | 256  |
| 155. Genus <i>Niltava</i> Hodgs.                  | 256  |
| 400. <i>grandis</i> (Blyth)                       | 257  |
| 507. <i>grandis grandis</i> (Blyth)               | 257  |
| 508. <i>grandis decipiens</i> Hartert             | 258  |
| 401. <i>sundara</i> Hodgs.                        | 259  |
| 509. <i>sundara sundara</i> (Hodgs.)              | 259  |
| 402. <i>macgrigorise</i> (Burton)                 | 260  |
| 156. Genus <i>Philentoma</i> Eyton                | 261  |
| 403. <i>velatum</i> (Temm.)                       | 262  |
| 404. <i>pyrrhopterum</i> (Temm.)                  | 263  |
| 157. Genus <i>Terpsiphone</i> Gloger              | 264  |
| 405. <i>paradisi</i> (Linn.)                      | 264  |
| 510. <i>paradisi paradisi</i> (Linn.)             | 264  |
| 511. <i>paradisi affinis</i> (Hay)                | 267  |
| 512. <i>paradisi leucogaster</i> (Swains.)        | 268  |
| 513. <i>paradisi nicobarica</i> (Oates)           | 269  |
| 158. Genus <i>Hypothymis</i> Boie                 | 269  |
| 406. <i>azurea</i> (Bodd.)                        | 269  |
| 514. <i>azurea azurea</i> (Bodd.)                 | 270  |
| 515. <i>azurea styani</i> (Hartl.)                | 271  |
| 516. <i>azurea ceylonensis</i> (Sharpe)           | 272  |
| 517. <i>azurea tytleri</i> (Beaven)               | 273  |
| 518. <i>azurea nicobarica</i> Bianchi             | 273  |
| 519. <i>azurea idiochroa</i> Oberholser           | 274  |
| 520. <i>azurea forrestia</i> Oberholser           | 274  |
| 159. Genus <i>Chelidorhynchus</i> Hodgs.          | 274  |
| 407. <i>hypoxanthum</i> (Blyth)                   | 275  |
| 160. Genus <i>Rhipidura</i> Vigors & Horsf.       | 276  |
| 408. <i>aureola</i> Less.                         | 276  |
| 521. <i>aureola aureola</i> (Less.)               | 277  |
| 522. <i>aureola burmanica</i> (Hume)              | 278  |
| 523. <i>aureola compressirostris</i> (Blyth)      | 279  |
| 409. <i>albicollis</i> (Vieill.)                  | 280  |
| 524. <i>albicollis albicollis</i> (Vieill.)       | 280  |
| 410. <i>javanica</i> (Sparrm.)                    | 281  |
| 525. <i>javanica javanica</i> (Sparrm.)           | 281  |
| 411. <i>pectoralis</i> (Jerd.)                    | 282  |

## XII. Family LANIIDÆ

|                                |     |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| 161. Genus <i>Lanius</i> Linn. | 284 |
| 412. <i>excubitor</i> Linn.    | 285 |

XII. Family LANIIDÆ (cont.).

|                                                  |      |
|--------------------------------------------------|------|
| 161. Genus <i>Lanius</i> (cont.).                | Page |
| 526. <i>excubitor lahtora</i> (Sykes)            | 285  |
| 527. <i>excubitor pallidirostris</i> (Cassin)    | 287  |
| 528. <i>excubitor aucheri</i> Bonap.             | 288  |
| 529. <i>excubitor przewalskii</i> Bogd.          | 289  |
| 413. <i>vittatus</i> Valenc.                     | 289  |
| 414. <i>collurioides</i> Less.                   | 291  |
| 415. <i>nigriceps</i> (Frank.)                   | 292  |
| 530. <i>nigriceps nigriceps</i> (Frank.)         | 292  |
| 531. <i>nigriceps longicaudatus</i> O.-Grant     | 294  |
| 416. <i>schach</i> Linn.                         | 294  |
| 532. <i>schach erythronotus</i> (Vigors)         | 295  |
| 533. <i>schach caniceps</i> (Blyth)              | 296  |
| 417. <i>tephronotus</i> (Vigors)                 | 297  |
| 418. <i>collurio</i> Linn.                       | 298  |
| 419 <i>senator</i> Linn.                         | 299  |
| 534. <i>senator niloticus</i> Bonpte.            | 299  |
| 420. <i>cristatus</i> Linn.                      | 300  |
| 535. <i>cristatus cristatus</i> (Linn.)          | 300  |
| 536. <i>cristatus lucionensis</i> (Linn.)        | 302  |
| 537. <i>cristatus isabellinus</i> (Hemp. & Ehr.) | 302  |
| 538. <i>cristatus phœnicuroides</i> (Severtz.)   | 303  |
| 421. <i>tigrinus</i> Drapiez                     | 304  |
| 162. Genus <i>Hemipus</i> Hodgs.                 | 305  |
| 422. <i>picatus</i> (Sykes)                      | 305  |
| 539. <i>picatus picatus</i> (Sykes)              | 306  |
| 540. <i>picatus capitalis</i> (McClelland)       | 307  |
| 423. <i>hirundinaceus</i> (Temm.)                | 308  |
| 163. Genus <i>Tephrodornis</i> Swainson          | 308  |
| 424. <i>pelvica</i> (Hodgs.)                     | 309  |
| 541. <i>pelvica pelvica</i> (Hodgs.)             | 309  |
| 542. <i>pelvica sylvicola</i> (Jerdon)           | 311  |
| 425. <i>pondiceriana</i> (Gmel.)                 | 312  |
| 543. <i>pondiceriana pondiceriana</i> (Gmel.)    | 312  |
| 544. <i>pondiceriana affinis</i> (Blyth)         | 313  |
| 545. <i>pondiceriana pallida</i> Ticehurst       | 314  |
| 164. Genus <i>Platylophus</i> Swainson           | 314  |
| 426. <i>galericulatus</i> Swainson               | 314  |
| 546. <i>galericulatus ardesiacus</i> (Cabanis)   | 314  |

XIII. Family PERICROCOTIDÆ..... 317

|                                             |     |
|---------------------------------------------|-----|
| 165. Genus <i>Pericrocotus</i> Boie         | 317 |
| 427. <i>speciosus</i> (Lath.)               | 318 |
| 547. <i>speciosus speciosus</i> (Lath.)     | 319 |
| 548. <i>speciosus fraterculus</i> (Swinhoe) | 320 |
| 549. <i>speciosus flammifer</i> (Hume)      | 321 |
| 550. <i>speciosus andamanensis</i> (Tytler) | 322 |
| 551. <i>speciosus flammeus</i> (Forst.)     | 322 |

## XIII. Family PERICROCOTIDÆ (cont.).

|                                                       |      |
|-------------------------------------------------------|------|
| 165. Genus <i>Pericrocotus</i> (cont.).               | Page |
| 428. <i>brevirostris</i> ( <i>Vigors</i> )            | 323  |
| 552. <i>brevirostris brevis</i> ( <i>Vigors</i> )     | 323  |
| 553. <i>brevirostris affinis</i> ( <i>McClell.</i> )  | 324  |
| 554. <i>brevirostris neglectus</i> ( <i>Hume</i> )    | 325  |
| 429. <i>igneus</i> <i>Blyth</i>                       | 325  |
| 430. <i>solaris</i> <i>Blyth</i>                      | 326  |
| 555. <i>solaris solaris</i> ( <i>Blyth</i> )          | 326  |
| 556. <i>solaris ripponi</i> , subsp. nov.             | 327  |
| 431. <i>roseus</i> ( <i>Vieill.</i> )                 | 328  |
| 557. <i>roseus roseus</i> ( <i>Vieill.</i> )          | 328  |
| 432. <i>peregrinus</i> ( <i>Linn.</i> )               | 329  |
| 558. <i>peregrinus peregrinus</i> ( <i>Linn.</i> )    | 329  |
| 559. <i>peregrinus vividus</i> <i>Stuart Baker</i>    | 331  |
| 560. <i>peregrinus malabaricus</i> ( <i>Gmel.</i> )   | 331  |
| 561. <i>peregrinus pallidus</i> <i>Stuart Baker</i>   | 332  |
| 433. <i>erythropygius</i> ( <i>Jerdon</i> )           | 332  |
| 434. <i>albifrons</i> ( <i>Jerdon</i> )               | 334  |
| 435. <i>cinereus</i> <i>Lafresn.</i>                  | 334  |
| 436. <i>cantonensis</i> <i>Swinhoe</i>                | 335  |
| 166. Genus <i>Lalage</i> <i>Boie</i>                  | 336  |
| 437. <i>melaschista</i> ( <i>Hodgs.</i> )             | 336  |
| 562. <i>melaschista melaschista</i> ( <i>Hodgs.</i> ) | 337  |
| 563. <i>melaschista avensis</i> ( <i>Blyth</i> )      | 337  |
| 438. <i>fimbriata</i> ( <i>Temm.</i> )                | 338  |
| 564. <i>fimbriata neglecta</i> ( <i>Hume</i> )        | 339  |
| 439. <i>sykesii</i> <i>Strickl.</i>                   | 340  |
| 440. <i>nigra</i> ( <i>Forster</i> )                  | 341  |
| 565. <i>nigra nigra</i> ( <i>Forster</i> )            | 341  |
| 167. Genus <i>Graculus</i> <i>Cuvier</i>              | 342  |
| 441. <i>macei</i> <i>Less.</i>                        | 343  |
| 566. <i>macei macei</i> ( <i>Less.</i> )              | 343  |
| 567. <i>macei nipalensis</i> ( <i>Hodgs.</i> )        | 344  |
| 568. <i>macei layardi</i> ( <i>Blyth</i> )            | 345  |
| 569. <i>macei siamensis</i> <i>Stuart Baker</i>       | 345  |
| 442. <i>dobsoni</i> <i>Ball</i>                       | 346  |

## XIV. Family ARTAMIDÆ

|                                                       |     |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| 168. Genus <i>Artamus</i> <i>Vieill.</i>              | 348 |
| 443. <i>fuscus</i> <i>Vieill.</i>                     | 348 |
| 444. <i>leucorhynchus</i> ( <i>Linn.</i> )            | 350 |
| 570. <i>leucorhynchus humei</i> ( <i>Stresemann</i> ) | 350 |

## XV. Family DICRURIDÆ

|                                                      |     |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| 169. <i>Dicrurus</i> <i>Vieill.</i>                  | 353 |
| 445. <i>annecteus</i> ( <i>Hodgs.</i> )              | 353 |
| 446. <i>macrocerus</i> ( <i>Vieill.</i> )            | 355 |
| 571. <i>macrocerus macrocerus</i> ( <i>Vieill.</i> ) | 356 |

## XV. Family DICRURIDÆ (cont.).

|                                                   |      |
|---------------------------------------------------|------|
| 169. Genus <i>Dicrurus</i> (cont.).               | Page |
| 572. <i>macrocerus albirictus</i> (Hodgs.)        | 357  |
| 573. <i>macrocerus minor</i> (Layard)             | 358  |
| 574. <i>macrocerus cathœcus</i> (Swinh.)          | 358  |
| 575. <i>macrocerus longus</i> (Bonaparte)         | 359  |
| 447. <i>leucophæus</i> (Vieill.)                  | 359  |
| 576. <i>leucophæus disturbans</i> Stuart Baker    | 360  |
| 577. <i>leucophæus nigrescens</i> (Oates)         | 361  |
| 578. <i>leucophæus hopwoodi</i> Stuart Baker      | 361  |
| 579. <i>leucophæus stevensi</i> Stuart Baker      | 362  |
| 580. <i>leucophæus longicaudatus</i> (A. Hav.)    | 362  |
| 581. <i>leucophæus minimus</i> Stuart Baker       | 364  |
| 448. <i>cœrulescens</i> (Linn.)                   | 365  |
| 582. <i>cœrulescens cœrulescens</i> (Linn.)       | 365  |
| 583. <i>cœrulescens leucopygialis</i> (Blyth)     | 366  |
| 449. <i>leucogenys</i> (Walden)                   | 367  |
| 584. <i>leucogenys leucogenys</i> (Walden)        | 367  |
| 170. Genus <i>Chaptia</i> Hodgs.                  | 368  |
| 450. <i>ænea</i> (Vieill.)                        | 368  |
| 585. <i>ænea ænea</i> (Vieill.)                   | 368  |
| 586. <i>ænea malayensis</i> (A. Hay)              | 369  |
| 171. Genus <i>Chibia</i> Hodgs.                   | 370  |
| 451. <i>hottentotta</i> (Linn.)                   | 370  |
| 587. <i>hottentotta hottentotta</i> (Linn.)       | 370  |
| 172. Genus <i>Dissemuroides</i> Hume              | 371  |
| 452. <i>andamanensis</i> (Tytler)                 | 371  |
| 588. <i>andamanensis andamanensis</i> (Tytler)    | 371  |
| 589. <i>andamanensis discruriformis</i> (Hume)    | 372  |
| 173. Genus <i>Dissemurulus</i> Oates              | 373  |
| 453. <i>lophorhinus</i> (Vieill.)                 | 373  |
| 174. Genus <i>Bhringa</i> Hodgs.                  | 374  |
| 454. <i>remifer</i> (Temm.)                       | 374  |
| 590. <i>remifer tectirostris</i> (Hodgs.)         | 375  |
| 175. Genus <i>Dissemurus</i> Gloger               | 376  |
| 455. <i>paradiseus</i> (Linn.)                    | 377  |
| 591. <i>paradiseus paradiseus</i> (Linn.)         | 377  |
| 592. <i>paradiseus rangoonensis</i> (Gould)       | 378  |
| 593. <i>paradiseus grandis</i> (Gould)            | 378  |
| 594. <i>paradiseus otiosus</i> Richmond           | 380  |
| 595. <i>paradiseus nicobariensis</i> Stuart Baker | 380  |
| 596. <i>paradiseus malabaricus</i> (Lath.)        | 381  |
| 597. <i>paradiseus ceylonensis</i> (Sharpe)       | 381  |

## XVI. Family SYLVIIDÆ

|                                             |     |
|---------------------------------------------|-----|
| 176. Genus <i>Agrobates</i> Swains.         | 385 |
| 456. <i>galactodes</i> (Temm.)              | 385 |
| 598. <i>galactodes familiaris</i> (Menetr.) | 386 |

|                                                                    |      |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| XVI. Family SYLVIIDÆ (cont.).                                      | Page |
| 177. Genus <i>Acrocephalus</i> <i>Naum.</i>                        | 387  |
| 457. <i>stentoreus</i> ( <i>Hempr. &amp; Ehrenb.</i> )             | 388  |
| 599. <i>stentoreus brunescens</i> ( <i>Jerd.</i> )                 | 389  |
| 600. <i>stentoreus amyæ</i> <i>Stuart Baker</i>                    | 390  |
| 458. <i>arundinaceus</i> ( <i>Linn.</i> )                          | 391  |
| 601. <i>arundinaceus orientalis</i> ( <i>Temm. &amp; Schleg.</i> ) | 391  |
| 459. <i>bistrigiceps</i> <i>Swinh.</i>                             | 392  |
| 460. <i>dumetorum</i> <i>Blyth</i>                                 | 393  |
| 461. <i>agricolus</i> ( <i>Jerdon</i> )                            | 394  |
| 462. <i>concinens</i> ( <i>Swinh.</i> )                            | 395  |
| 602. <i>concinens concinens</i> ( <i>Swinh.</i> )                  | 396  |
| 603. <i>concinens haringtoni</i> ( <i>Witherby</i> )               | 396  |
| 604. <i>concinens stevensi</i> <i>Stuart Baker</i>                 | 397  |
| 463. <i>orinus</i> <i>Oberholser</i>                               | 398  |
| 178. Genus <i>Locustella</i> <i>Kaup</i>                           | 399  |
| 464. <i>certhiola</i> ( <i>Pall.</i> )                             | 399  |
| 465. <i>lanceolata</i> ( <i>Temm.</i> )                            | 401  |
| 466. <i>nævia</i> <i>Bodd.</i>                                     | 401  |
| 605. <i>nævia straminea</i> ( <i>Seeböhm</i> )                     | 402  |
| 179. Genus <i>Tribura</i> <i>Hodgs.</i>                            | 403  |
| 467. <i>major</i> ( <i>Brooks</i> )                                | 403  |
| 468. <i>taczanowskia</i> ( <i>Swinhoe</i> )                        | 404  |
| 469. <i>thoracica</i> ( <i>Blyth</i> )                             | 405  |
| 606. <i>thoracica thoracica</i> ( <i>Blyth</i> )                   | 405  |
| 470. <i>luteoventris</i> <i>Hodgs.</i>                             | 406  |
| 180. Genus <i>Elaphrornis</i> <i>Legge</i>                         | 408  |
| 471. <i>palliseri</i> ( <i>Blyth</i> )                             | 408  |
| 181. Genus <i>Orthotomus</i> <i>Horsfield</i>                      | 410  |
| 472. <i>sutorius</i> ( <i>Forst.</i> )                             | 410  |
| 607. <i>sutorius sutorius</i> ( <i>Forst.</i> )                    | 410  |
| 608. <i>sutorius patia</i> ( <i>Hodgs.</i> )                       | 412  |
| 609. <i>sutorius longicaudus</i> ( <i>Gmelin</i> )                 | 412  |
| 610. <i>sutorius maculicollis</i> ( <i>Moore</i> )                 | 413  |
| 473. <i>atrigrularis</i> <i>Temm.</i>                              | 414  |
| 611. <i>atrigrularis atrigrularis</i> ( <i>Temm.</i> )             | 414  |
| 612. <i>atrigrularis nitidus</i> ( <i>Hume</i> )                   | 415  |
| 474. <i>ruficeps</i> ( <i>Less.</i> )                              | 415  |
| 475. <i>sepium</i> <i>Lafres.</i>                                  | 416  |
| 613. <i>sepium cineraceus</i> ( <i>Blyth</i> )                     | 416  |
| 182. Genus <i>Luscinola</i> <i>Gray</i>                            | 417  |
| 476. <i>melanopogon</i> ( <i>Temm.</i> )                           | 417  |
| 614. <i>melanopogon mimica</i> ( <i>Madarasz</i> )                 | 418  |
| 183. Genus <i>Cisticola</i> <i>Kaup</i>                            | 419  |
| 477. <i>exilis</i> ( <i>Vig. &amp; Horsf.</i> )                    | 419  |
| 615. <i>exilis erythrocephala</i> ( <i>Blyth</i> )                 | 420  |
| 616. <i>exilis tytleri</i> ( <i>Jerdon</i> )                       | 420  |
| 617. <i>exilis equicaudata</i> ( <i>Stuart Baker</i> )             | 422  |
| 478. <i>juncidis</i> ( <i>Rafinesque</i> )                         | 422  |