

## AN EXPLANATION OF SCIENTIFIC NOMENCLATURE.

A Glossary of scientific names, commonly found in East African Ornithological Nomenclature.

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It is a common, though entirely erroneous belief, that the "latin", or scientific names of birds and animals are invented, without rhyme or reason, by the experts, with the dual purpose of impressing and confusing the amateur. Moreover it is thought that one of the primary requirements of such names is that they should be long, complicated and unintelligible. The following notes and glossary are therefore put forward as an attempt to explain briefly the system employed, and to enable the amateur to understand some of the names which, at first sight, appear to be so incomprehensible.

Colloquial names vary not only in different countries, but also from district to district, and it was partly owing to the resulting confusion that the great Swedish naturalist Linné (Linnaeus) devised a method, published in the 10th edition of his "Systema Naturae" in 1758, by which the entire Animal Kingdom was classified and divided into groups, or species, each of which was given two scientific names. In order that they should be of international value, Latin or Greek names were used. The first, or generic name, indicated a relationship within a group of species, whilst the second, or specific name, distinguished the related species from one another. Thus the Mistle-Thrush, Song-Thrush, Fieldfare, Redwing, Blackbird etc., being clearly allied species, all have the first name *Turdus*, which is the Latin word meaning a Thrush. Occasionally, as in this case, the generic name is just the Latin or Greek word for the group, but more often names are composite words drawing attention to some characteristic feature of the species (e.g. *Turdus viscivorus* = Mistletoe-eating Thrush = Mistle-Thrush).

In the days of Linnaeus, ornithology was not the highly developed science that it is today, and although the original classification is largely maintained, it has been necessary to subdivide some genera into sub-genera, and many species into sub-species or races. For this reason a trinomial system of nomenclature has been introduced, and in addition to the generic and specific names, many birds have been given a third name, known as the subspecific- or racial-name. The subspecies is usually distinguished on geographical grounds, coupled with some recognisable variation in colour or form, and the third name thus often indicates the locality, consisting of a place-name with the latin suffix *-i*, *-ae* or *-ensis*. Where a species has been divided into two or more subspecies, the one originally described is known as the "nomino-typical" race, and the third name is then merely a repetition of the specific name.

For instance, in 1823 Lichtenstein described the Cape Rook under the name *Corvus capensis*. In 1919, Laubmann pointed out that in the province of Kordofan a smaller form occurred, which he named *Corvus capensis kordofanensis*. Thus the original South African race becomes *Corvus capensis capensis* Licht.

The ornithologist who "invents" a name to describe a new race or species, is known as the "author" of the name, and when referring to a bird by its scientific name it is customary to add the name of the author. Many bird-names date back to Linnaeus or other early ornithologists, and in some cases subsequent research has shown that a group of species originally assigned to a single genus, really represents two or more genera, which must be named separately. In this case the name of the first author is put in brackets, to indicate that the name now employed is not exactly as originally proposed. For example, Linnaeus included the Rock-Thrush with all the other Thrushes, and called it *Turdus saxatilis*, but in 1822 Boie showed that it was generically distinct, and proposed the new generic name *Monticola*. The name therefore is now *Monticola saxatilis* (Linn). In this case, since no subspecies have been described, it is unnecessary to duplicate the second name.

All too frequently authors have followed the line of least resistance, and have named species after the individual (human) who first collected or recognised it. Occasionally there may be some justification for such a course, but descriptive names are generally preferable, and, on the whole, more usual.

In such a system of nomenclature, duplication of names is clearly to be avoided except within a single species, although some specific names may recur in several different genera. The Greeks and Romans did not have separate names for all the different genera that are recognised today, and it becomes increasingly difficult for the expert to find suitable names to define new genera. In addition to the direct use of the appropriate Latin or Greek words such as *Aquila* (Eagle), *Torgos* (Vulture) etc., or the composite descriptive words such as *Erythroptgia* (Red-rump) or *Macronyx* (Long-claw), many generic names have been derived from other sources. Some have been compounded from pre-existing genera, giving rise to such names as *Butastur* (*Buteo* + *Astur*) and *Circaëtus* (*Circus* + *Aëtus*): others bring in a pre-existing name, with a prefix or suffix to denote a certain similarity, hence *Alaemon* (a kind of Lark): *Pseudalaemon* (false-*Alaemon*), or *Crex* (Corn-crake): *Crecoptis* (Crake-like), whilst others again make use of a diminutive (*Calandra* — *Calandrella*: *Psittacus* — *Psittacula*). Many names are descriptive of habits, both real and imaginary (*Campephaga* = Caterpillar-eater: *Caprimulgus* = Goat-sucker), or of habitat (*Actitis* = Shore-dweller: *Schoenicola* = Reed-dweller): place-names may also be used, in a latinised form (*Balearica*, *Terekia*, *Ruwenzorornis*, etc.), and occasionally proper names are employed, for example *Sheppardia*, *Smithornis* and others.

Perhaps the most interesting names are those derived from the fascinating legends of Greek mythology. Pandion, king of Athens, gives his name to the Osprey, and the name of his daughter Procne, who was transformed into a Swallow, is perpetuated in several Hirundine genera. Pandion's second daughter Philomela (Song-lover), had her tongue cut out by her wicked brother-in-law Tereus, to serve some evil purpose of his own, but the gods made up for it by transforming her into a Nightingale. Halcyon, daughter of the wind-god Aeolus, married Lucifer's son Ceyx, who was subsequently drowned at sea. Awaiting his return on the shore, Halcyon saw his body drifting on the tide, and after appealing to the Gods, both she and her husband's spirit were transformed into Kingfishers and granted immortality.

Most of us acquired, at school, at least a smattering of the classics, and bearing in mind that most scientific names are simple or composite Latin or Greek words with a perfectly rational meaning, we begin to realise that they give no cause for alarm, but are, indeed, highly instructive and often entertaining.

The following glossary defines, perhaps somewhat loosely at times, the meaning and derivation of the majority of the composite names commonly found in East African Ornithology. Space does not allow for a complete list, and some names have been deliberately omitted, either because their meaning should be obvious, or because the derivation is obscure, but by breaking up a doubtful name into its component parts and looking them up separately, it should be possible to elucidate it without difficulty. If in doubt about the construction, look up the first three or four letters, and the rest follows. It must be admitted that there are some gaps which can only be attributed to the author's abysmal ignorance of the classics, but it is hoped that these notes may serve to diminish that sense of awe and frustration which the sight of a complicated scientific name so often inspires in us.

#### Glossary of Scientific names and name-roots.

L=Latin.	G=Greek		=: a composite name.
a—, an—	G without	afer, afr—	L african.
acantha	G thorn; spine.	affinis	L related.
Accipiter	L Hawk.	agap—	G love.
acer	L sharp.	agr—	L field.
acredula	L kind of bird.	alar	L of the wing.
acro—	G top; summit.	albi—, albo—	L white.
act—	G shore.	albicauda	= white-tailed.
acuta	L sharp.	albiceps	= „ headed.
aeginthis	G sparrow.	albicollis	= „ necked.
aeneus	L brassy.	albicrissalis	= „ bellied.
aeneigularis	= brazen-throated.	albifrons	= „ fronted.
aeruginosus	L rusty.	albigularis	= „ throated.
aëtho—	G unusual.	albirostris	= „ bellied.
Aëtus	G Eagle.	albiventris	= „ bellied.

albonotatus	= white-spotted.	arcte	L narrow.
Alcedo	L Kingfisher.	arcticincta	= narrow-banded.
alius	L another.	arcuatus (arqu-)	L bowed; curved.
alopo—	G fox	Ardea	L Heron.
als—	G woodland.	ardens	L burning.
amaur—	G dark.	ardesiacus	L slate-grey.
amauroura	= dark-tailed.	argaleo—	G difficult.
ambi—, amphi—	LG both.	argent-atus,	
ambigua	L doubtful.	—eus	L silvery.
amblio—	G blunt; stupid.	aridula	L of the desert.
ana—	G similar to; like.	arizelo—	G distinct.
andro	G man.	armatus	L armed.
angusti—	L narrow.	arundinaceus	L of the reeds.
angusticauda	= slender-tailed.	Astur	L Hawk.
anomalo—	G uneven; unusual.	atimast—	G neglected.
anous	G stupid.	atri—	L black.
anthos	G flower.	atricapilla	= black-haired.
apalo—	G soft.	atriceps	= „ headed.
apatellus	G illusory.	atrifrons	= „ fronted.
apis	L bee.	atrocaerulea	= black-blue.
apiaster	= bee-eater.	aureus	L golden.
apivorus	= bee-eating.	aurantiigula	= golden-throated.
apl—	G simple.	australis	L of the south.
arbor	L tree.	axilla	L arm-pit.

## B

badius	L brown; chestnut.	brachyurus	= short-tailed.
—baenus	G climber.	brady—	G slow.
baeo—	G small.	brevis	L short.
balaena	L whale.	brevirostris	= short-billed.
balaeniceps	= whale-headed.	brunne—	L brown.
barbat-us, —ula	L bearded.	brunneiceps	= brown-headed.
—bates	G dweller.	brunneigularis	= „ throated.
bathmo—	G graduated.	brychus	G roar; bellow,
b—, bis	L twice.	bu	G ox.
bifasciatus	= two-banded.	bubal	G buffalo.
binotata	= two-spotted.	Bubo	L Horned Owl.
borealis	L of the north.	bubul	L of cattle.
braccae	L breeches.	buccal	L of the cheek.
brachium	L arm.	buccina	L trumpet.
brachy—	= short tailed.	buc(e)inator	L trumpeter.
brachyptera	= short-winged.	Budytes	G Wagtail.
brachyrhynchos	= „ billed.	Buteo	L Hawk.

## C

caeruleus	L blue; violet.	caniceps	= grey headed.
caesia	L grey.	canicollis	= „ necked.
cafer	L of Kafirland.	cantans	L singing.
calam—	G of reeds.	capella	L goat (bleater).
calandrella	G dim: of Calandra, Lark,	capillus	L hair.
calva	L smooth; bare.	capistratus	L banded.
campe	G caterpillar.	capra, capri—	L goat.
campestris	L of the plains.	caput, capit—	L head.
campt—	G shoulder.	carunculata	L wattled.
cani—	L grey.	casm—	G open mouth.
		castaneus	L chestnut.

castaneiceps	= chestnut-headed.	citriniceps	= yellow-headed.
cauda	L tail.	clarus	L clear.
centr—	G spine; spur.	climaco—	G barred.
cephal-o, —us	G head.	climacurus	= barred-tail.
ceps	L head.	clypeata	L shielded.
ceras	G horn.	clyto—	G glorious.
cercus	G tail.	cneme, (—us)	G knee.
ceria	G chest.	cocc—	G grain; berry.
certhios	G small-bird.	Coccyx	G Cuckoo.
cervix	L neck.	—cola	G dweller.
cervinus	L tawny.	collis	L neck.
Ceryle	G Kingfisher.	collaris	L collared.
ceuth—	G hidden.	concinus	L neat; pretty.
Ceyx	G Kingfisher.	concolor	L of one colour.
chalco—	G copper; bronze.	contra	L opposite.
chalconelas	= bronze-black.	conus	G cone; forehead.
chalcomitra	= bronze-crowned.	conirostris	= cone-billed.
chalcopterus	= „ winged.	Corax	L Raven; Crow.
chalcospilos	= „ spotted.	corona	L of the crown.
chalybaeus	G steel-coloured.	corruscus	L wrinkled.
charadr—	L of cleft; gully.	corys, —th	G helmet; crest.
charit—	G graceful.	cosm-o, —eto	G adorned.
charmosyna	G agreeable.	cosyphos	G singing bird.
cheilos	G lip.	costa	L rib.
chel	G cloven; forked.	coxa	L hip.
cheldon	G swallow.	craspedo—	G bordered.
Chen	G Goose.	crassi—	G thick.
chlamys	G cloak; mantle.	crassirostris	= thick-billed.
chlidon	G ornament.	creas	G flesh; wattle.
chloro—	G yellow-green.	Crex	G Crake.
chlorochlamys	= green-mantled.	cricos	G ring.
chori—	G dancing.	crinis	L hair.
chroma	G colour.	crissa—	L belly; flanks.
chryso—	G golden.	crista	L crest.
cichla	G kind of thrush.	croc-atu8, —eus	L saffron-yellow.
Ciconia	L Stork.	cruentus	L bloody; red.
cilium	L eyelid.	crumen	L pouch; bag.
cinclos	G kind of bird; lattice.	crura	L legs.
cinctus	L banded.	crypto—	G hidden; secret.
cinerea	L grey.	cryptoleuca	= hidden-white.
cinereiceps	= grey-headed.	cucull-us, —atus	L hood, hooded.
cinereocapilla	= „ haired.	culmen	L summit.
cinereola	L ashy.	cuma	G wave.
cinnamomea	L cinnamon.	cun— (—ae)	L cradle.
cinnyris	G small-bird.	cupreus	L copper.
Circus	G Harrier (hawk that flies in circles).	cyano—	G blue.
cirrhos	G tawny; grey.	cyanocephalus	= blue-headed.
cirrhocephalus	= grey-headed.	cyanogenys	= blue-cheeked.
cist—	G shrub.	cyanolaema	= blue-throated.
citrin—	L lemon-yellow.	cyanoleuca	= blue-white.
		cyanostictus	= blue-spotted.
		cypselos	G martin; swift.

## D

dactyla	G toe.	dendro—	G tree.
dasy—	G hairy.	dens, dentate	L tooth; toothed.
decipiens	L deceptive.	derma	G skin.

di—	G	twice.	dont	G	tooth.
diaphor—	G	different.	dorsal	L	of the back.
dicro—	G	forked.	dorsostriatus	=	stripe-backed.
dilutior	L	weak.	drepano—	G	sickle-shaped.
dimidiatus	L	half; halved.	drepanorhynchus	=	sickle-billed.
diopt—	G	scout.	drymo—	G	forest.
diplo—	G	double.	dryo—	G	tree.
dipn—	G	food.	dusa	G	of the sunset.
diss	G	double.			

## E

e—, ex—	L	without; lacking.	Erodios	G	Heron.
ecaudatus	=	tail-less.	erythros	G	red.
ecto—	G	outside.	erythrocephalus	=	red-headed.
edulis	L	edible.	erythroceria	=	„ chested.
elachior	G	small.	erythrogaster	=	„ bellied.
Elanus	G	Kite.	erythrophthalma	=	„ eyed.
elos	G	marsh frequenter.	erythroptis	=	„ faced.
Emberiza	L	Bunting.	erythroptis	=	„ rumped.
empid	G	gnat.	erythrorhyncha	=	„ billed.
endo— ento—	G	within.	—estes	L	eater.
—ensis	L	from (place).	eu—	G	straight; true.
ephippio—	G	saddle.	euro—, eurys	G	wide; eastern.
epi—	G	upon.	euricricotis	=	wide-ringed.
eranos	G	lovely.	eurocephalus	=	wide-headed.
eremo—	G	solitary; gentle.	excubitor	L	sentinel.
erisma	G	prop.	eximia	L	distinguished.
erithacus	G	solitary.	exustus	L	of the desert.

## F

falcin-ellus	L	sickle (dimin).	flavivertex	=	yellow-crowned.
famosa	L	renowned.	flavocincta	=	„ banded.
fascia (—tus)	L	band, banded.	flavotorquata	=	„ collared.
fasciinucha	=	banded-nape.	fluviatilis	L	of the river.
fasciiventer	=	banded-belly.	fren-atus, —um	L	bridled.
ficus	L	fig (tree).	fringilla	L	finch.
flammulatus	L	flame-coloured.	frons	L	forehead.
flava	L	yellow.	fulg-ens, —idus	L	shining.
flavicrissalis	=	yellow-flanked.	Fulica	L	Coot.
flavigaster	=	„ bellied.	fuliginosa	L	sooty.
flavigula	=	„ throated.	fulva	L	yellow-brown.
flavilateralis	=	„ flanked.	fulvopectoralis	=	fulvous-breasted.
flavirostris	=	„ billed.	funebrea	L	dusky; dark.
flavitarisus	=	„ legged.	fuscus	L	dark.
flaviventris	=	„ bellied.	fusconota	=	dark-backed.

## G

galactos	G	of milk.	g'bber	L	hump.
gal-eo, —er—	L	helmeted; crested.	glareola	L	of gravel.
gaster	G	stomach; belly.	gluteal	G	of the buttocks.
gelo—	G	laughing.	gnathos	G	jaw.
gena	L	cheek.	gracilis	L	slender.
genys	G	jaw; cheek.	gracilirostris	=	slender-billed.
geo—	G	of the earth.	graculus	L	jackdaw.
geranus	G	crane.	griseus	L	grey.

griseigula	= grey-throated.	gymno—	G bare; naked.
griseopygia	= „ rumped.	gymnobucco	= bare-cheeked.
gular	L of the throat.	gymnogenys	= „ cheeked.
gutt-ata, —era	L speckled.	Gyps	G Vulture.

## H

haema	G blood; red.	hippolais	L singing-b'rd.
'haematocephala	= red-headed.	hirsutus	L hairy.
hal—	G of the sea.	hispid	L bristly.
hamatus	L hooked.	holo—	G whole.
haplo—	G simple.	homo—	G similar.
harp—	G sickle; Kite.	hoplon	G weapon.
hedy	G sweet.	horus	L sun (Anc. Egypt).
helios	G sun.	humeral	L of the shoulder.
'helo—	G marsh-frequenter.	hydro—	G water.
hemi—	G half.	hyla	G wood; copse.
Herodios	G Heron.	hyper—	G above.
hetero—	G different.	hyphantes	G weaver.
hiat—	L cleft.	hypo—	G underneath.
hieros	G sacred.	hypochlora	= yellow-underparts.
hierax	G falcon; hawk.	'hypostictus	= spotted „
himant—	G leather strap.	hypoxanthus	= yellow „

## I

ianthinus	L violet.	infuscatus	L dark-coloured.
ianthinogaster	= violet-bellied.	ingens	L large.
icter	G yellow; (Oriole).	insignis	L marked.
Ictinos	G Kite.	intercedens	L coming between.
igneus	L fiery.	interpres	L go-between.
igneiventris	= fiery-bellied.	iolaema	G rusty-throated.
ilio—	L of the flanks.	irrisor	L mocker; mimic.
illas, illad—	G kind of thrush	irroratus	L mottled.
imberbis	L beardless.	isabeline	greyish-yellow.
indicator	L guide.	—ius	G of; dweller.
infulatus	L banded.	ixos	G berry; reed.

## J

juncus	L of rushes.	Jynx	G Wryneck.
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## L

labium	L lip.	leuco—	G white.
laema	G throat.	leucogaster	= white-bellied.
laetus	L joyful.	leucolophus	= „ crested.
lais	G kind of thrush.	leucomela	= white & black.
lamella	L small plate.	leucomystax	= „ moustached.
lampr—	G shining.	leuconotus	= „ backed.
lanius	L butcher.	leucoparaeus	= „ cheeked.
lateralis	L of the flanks.	leucophrys	= „ browed.
lati—, —us	L broad.	leucoptera	= „ winged.
latifrons	= broad-fronted.	leucopygia	= „ rumped.
latistriatus	= „ striped.	leucorhynchus	= „ billed.
lepid-a, —us	L neat.	leucotis	= „ eared.
lepido—	G scaly.	limno—	G of marsh or pond.
lepto—	G slender.	linea	L line.
lestes	G robber.	lingua	L tongue.

lio—, liss—	G	smooth.	lucidus	L	bright.
lithos	G	stone.	lucidipectus	=	bright-breasted.
littoralis	L	of the shore.	lugens	L	in mourning.
longipennis	=	long-winged.	lugubris	L	mournful; dark.
longirostris	=	„ billed.	Luscinia	L	Nightingale.
lopho—	G	crested.	luteus	L	orange-yellow.

machaer	G	dagger.
machus	G	battle.
macro—	G	large; long.
macroceras	=	large-horned.
macroura	=	long-tailed.
maculata	L	spotted.
maculicollis	=	spotted-neck.
malaco—	G	soft.
malaconotus	=	soft-backed.
marg:natus	L	of the shore.
mega—	G	large; long.
megarhyncha	=	large-billed.
melas	G	black.
melamprosopus	=	black-masked.
melanocephala	=	„ headed.
melanogaster	=	„ bellied.
melanoleucus	=	black & white.
melanonota	=	black-backed.
melanops	=	black-faced.
melanoptera	=	„ winged.
melanorhynchus	=	„ billed.
melanota	=	„ eared.
melanoxanthus	=	black & yellow.
melis	L	honey.
meliphilus	=	honey-lover.

na'as	G	water-nymph.
nanus	L	dwarf.
—nastes	G	occupant.
nasutus	L	long-nosed.
nautes	G	sailor.
necros	G	corpse.
nectar	L	'honey.
nema	G	thread.
neo—	G	new.
neso—	G	islander.
netta	G	duck.
niger, nigri—	L	black.
nigricauda	=	black-tailed.
nigriceps	=	„ headed.

occiput	L	back of head.
ochro—	G	yellow.
Ocnos	G	Bittern.
ocular	L	of the eye.
—odius	G	of; by the way.

## M

melitta	G	bee.
melittophagus	=	bee eater.
melos	G	song.
melocichla	=	singing-thrush.
mentalis	L	of the chin.
Merops	L	Bee-eater.
meso—	G	medium.
micro—	G	small.
microrhynchus	=	small-billed.
Milvus	L	Kite.
minusculus	L	little.
mitra	G	head-dress; crown.
monach-a, —us	G	solitary.
mono—	L	alone; one.
montana	L	of the mountains.
morpha	G	shape; form.
Motacilla	L	Wagtail.
mulg-us	L	milk; suck.
multi—	G	many.
musc-a, —i—	L	fly.
muso	L	banana.
myct—	G	fungus.
myi (—as)	G	fly.
myrmecos	G	of ants.
mystax	G	moustache.

## N

nigricollis	=	black-necked.
nigrifrons	=	„ fronted.
nigripennis	=	„ winged.
nigriscapularis	=	„ shouldered.
nigrodorsalis	=	„ backed.
nigrotemporalis	=	„ templed.
nigroventris	=	„ bellied.
nitens	L	coloured.
nitidus	L	shinning.
nivea	L	snow.
notatus	L	spotted.
notum	L	back.
nuchal	L	of the nape.
nycti—	L	of the night.

## O

—odont	G	tooth.
oecetor	G	inhabitant.
oedos	G	swollen.
Oena	G	Dove.
Oenanthe	G	Wheatear.



onax	G	king.	orthos	G	straight.
onych	G	claw.	Ortyx (ortygo-)	G	Quail.
ophthalma	G	of the eye.	ostrinus	L	purple.
ops	G	eye; face.	otis, otus	L	ear.
—opsis, —opius.	G	appearance; —like.	Otis	G	Bustard.
orbito—	L	of the eye.	Otus	L	Horned Owl.
oreo	G	mountain.	ourus	G	tail.
orestes	G	mountaineer.	oxy—	G	sharp.
ornis	G	bird.			

## P

pachy—	G	thick; fat.	pictipennis	=	painted-wing.
pachyrhyncha	=	thick-billed.	pileata	L	capped.
pada	G	tree.	pinar	G	dirty.
paludis	L	marsh.	pirum	L	pear.
paludicola	=	marsh-dweller.	platalea	L	spoon.
palustris	L	marsh.	platy—	G	flat.
pan—, pam—	G	all.	plectes	G	plaiter; twister.
pammelaina	=	ail black.	plectron	G	spur.
para	G	besides.	plegadis	G	sickle.
par-aeus, —eia	G	cheek.	pleura	G	flanks.
parra	L	bird of ill-omen.	plocus	G	plaiter; weaver.
Parus	L	Tit.	plumbeum	L	grey.
parva	L	small.	pod	G	foot.
pastor	L	herdsman.	podex, podic—	L	rump.
pecten	L	comb.	poecilo—	G	mottled.
pectus	L	chest.	poecilolaemus	=	mottled-throat.
pecuarius	L	grazing.	poecilosterna	=	„ breast.
ped	L	foot.	pogon	G	beard.
pedilo—	G	sandal.	polem	G	war-like.
pele	G	black.	polio—	G	grey.
Pelia	G	Dove.	poliocephalus	=	grey-headed.
peltata	L	with a shield.	poliolopha	=	„ crested.
pennis	L	wing.	poliophrys	=	„ browed.
penth—	G	sorrow.	poliopleura	=	„ flanked.
percnos	G	dark.	polioptera	=	„ winged.
percnopterus	=	dark-winged.	poliothorax	=	„ breasted.
periss—	G	uneven.	pomast	G	lid; cover.
permista	L	mixed.	porphyreo—	G	purple; russet.
personata	L	marked.	porphyreolaema	=	purple-throated.
perspicillata	L	conspicuous.	prasina	L	green.
petrosus	L	of stones.	prion	G	jagged.
phaeo—	G	dark.	Procne, Progne	G	Swallow.
phaga, (—us)	G	eater.	proct—	G	of the hind-parts.
phalacro—	G	bald.	prosopus	G	face-mask.
philo—	G	loving.	psalido—	G	shears.
phoenico—	G	crimson; purple.	Psar (psarus)	G	Starling.
pholi—	G	scaly.	pseudo—	G	false.
phoneus	G	murderer.	Psittacus	G	Parrot.
—phonus	G	voice.	pternistes	G	one who strikes with the heel.
phorm—	G	woven basket.	pter-on, —yx	G	wing; feather.
—phorus	G	bearer.	ptilos	G	feather; wing.
Phoyx	G	kind of Heron.	ptyon	G	fan.
—phryx	G	of the brow.	pulchra	L	beautiful.
phylla	G	green; leafy.	pumilus	L	dwarf.
phyto—	G	of plants.	punctata	L	spotted.
picta	L	painted.			

purpureus	L purple.	pycnos	G strong.
purpureiceps	= purple-headed.	pygargus	G white-rumped.
purpureiventris	= „ bellied.	pygia	G rump; tail.
purpuropterus	= „ winged.	pyren	G fruit-stone.
pus	G foot.	pyrrho—	G bronzy; reddish.
pusillus	L small.	pyrrhopterus	= bronze-winged.

## Q

quad—	L four.	quadrivirgatus	= four-striped.
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## R

rallus	L Rail; thin.	rubiginosa	L rusty-red.
recurv—	L bent back or up.	rubrifascies	L red-faced.
rhaph—us	G beak.	rudis	L wild.
rhino—	G nose; rasp.	rufi—, rufo—	L red.
rhapis	G fan.	ruficapilla	= red-haired.
—rhis	G nose.	ruficollis	= „ necked.
rhodo—	G rosy.	rufidorsalis	= „ backed.
rhodogaster	= rosy-bellied.	rufigula	= „ throated.
rhodopareia	= „ checked.	rufinuchalis	= „ naped.
rhodophoneus	= „ murderer.	rufipennis	= „ winged.
rhynchos	G beak.	rufiventris	= „ bellied.
riparia	L frequenter of stream-banks.	rufobuccalis	= red-cheeked.
roseus	L rosy.	rufocinctus	= „ banded.
roseicrissa	= rosy-flanked.	rufocinnamomeus	= red & grey.
rostrum	L beak.	rufocinnamomeus	= red & cinnamon.
ruber	L red.	rufogularis	= red-throated.
		rupestris	L of rocks.

## S

sagitta	L arrow.	speculum	L mirror.
salpinctes	G trumpeter.	sperm	G seed.
sarki—	G flesh; wattle.	spheno—	G wedge; bill.
sarothron	G broom.	sphenurus	= wedge-tailed.
saxa, (saxatilis)	L rock; of rocks.	spilo—	G spotted.
scapularis	L of the shoulders.	spilogaster	= spotted-belly.
schistaceus	G slaty.	spiza	G finch.
schizo—	G cloven; forked.	splendens	L shining.
schoeno—	G of reeds.	spora	G seed.
scirpaceus	L of reeds.	squamatus	L scaly.
sclero—	G hard.	Squatarola	L Black-bellied Plover.
scopt—	G mimic.	stagnatilis	G of pools.
scopus	G watchman.	stegano—	G covered; webbed.
scoto—	G dark.	steira	G keel; wattle.
scute	L shield.	stelgid—	G scraper.
sei—	G shake.	stella	L star.
seicercus	= tail-shaker.	steno—	G narrow.
semi—	L half.	stephano—	G of the crown.
semirufa	= half-red.	stephanophorus	= crown-bearer.
semitorquata	= half-collared.	sternum	G chest.
sibilatrix	L whistler.	stictus	G spotted.
silvanus	L of the trees.	stictilaema	= spotted-throat.
soma	G body.	stigmato—	G spotted.
sparsus	L scattered.	stigmatophorus	= spot-bearer.
sparsifasciatus	= sparse-banded.	stigmatothorax	= spotted chest.
speciosa	L handsome.		

stilbo—	G	shining.	striolatus	L	striped.
stiphros	G	sturdy.	Strix	G	Owl.
stoma	G	mouth.	Struthio	L	Ostrich.
strepheus	G,	twister.	sub—	L	under; below.
strepitans	L	noisy.	sulphuratus	L	sulphur-yellow.
strepto—	G	pliant.	supercilium	L	eyebrow.
striatus	L	striped.	sycobius	G	of fig-trees.
striatipectus	=	stripe-breasted.	sylvia	L	of the woods.

## T

tachy—	G	swift.	tigr—	G	striped.
taenia	G	band.	tinniens	L	tinkling.
taeniolaema	=	banded-throat.	tmet—	G	dividing.
tarsus	G	leg; foot.	Torgos	G	Vulture.
tegmen	L	cover.	torquata	L	collared.
tel—	G	at the end.	trachelos	G	neck.
tenellus	L	tender.	trachy—	G	rough.
tenui—	L	slender.	tri—	L	three.
tenuirostris	=	slender-billed.	tricho—	G	hairy.
tephro—	G	ashy-grey.	tricoloris	=	three-collared.
tephrolaema	=	grey-throated.	tricolor	=	„ coloured.
tergum	L	back.	trigon	G	triangle.
testa	L	shell.	Tringa	G	Sandpiper.
thalassa	G	sea.	tristigma	=	three-spotted.
thamno—	G	of shrubs.	tristriata	=	„ striped.
theio—	G	run.	trocho—	G	wheel; round.
—thera	G	hunter.	trogodytes	G	cave-dwellers.
thorax	G	chest.	trogon	G	gnawer.
—threptes	G	nourished.	Turnix	L	Quail.
threski—	G	sacred.	tympanum	L	drum.
thrix	G	hair.	Tyto	G	Owl.
thylax	G	bag; pouch.			

## U

undusus	L	wavy.	unicolor	=	one-coloured.
uni—	L	one.	Upupa	L	Hoopoe.
unicincta	=	one-banded.	—urus	G	tail.

## V

venter	L	belly.	vinaceigularis	=	purple-throated.
venustus	L	pretty.	virens	L	green.
vermis	L	worm.	virgatus	L	striped.
vermiculate	=	fine wavy lines.	viridis	L	green.
vertex	L	crown.	viridisplendens	=	shining-green.
verticalis	L	of the crown.	vitelline	L	yolk-like; yellow.
versicolor	L	parti-coloured.	vittatus	L	banded.
vidua	L	widowed.	—vorus	L	eater.
vinaceus	L	wine-like.			

## X

xanthos	G	yellow.	xanthomelas	=	yellow & black.
xantholophus	=	yellow-crested.	xanthophilus	=	yellow-loving.

Z

zona	G band.	zoster	G band; girdle.
zonurus	= banded-tail.	zosterops	= banded-eye.

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