242 DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW BIRDS FROM HERBERTON,

Cerithidea obtusa, Lam.		C.G.
Nerita polita, Linn, var. antiquata		C.G.
lineata, Chem		C.G.
reticulata, Karsten		C.G.
Turbo pethiolatus, Linn		C.G.
Trochus nicobaricus, Gmel. (?)	 B.R.	
Monodonta labio, Linn		C.(;
Parmophorus corrugatus, Reeve.		C.G.
Chiton, spp	 B.R.	
Bulla australis, Quoy & Gaimard	 B.R.	
Tridacna squamosus, Lam.	 B.R.	
Meleagrina, sp	 B.R,	
Malleus, sp	 B.R.	
Pecten, sp	 B.R.	
Arca, sp	 B.R.	

P.D.

DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW BIRDS FROM HERBERTON;

BY C. W. DE VIS, M.A.

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GEOCICHLA CUNEATA, n.S..-

The occurrence in Lat. 17° of a Ground Thrush more nearly allied to the Southern Ground Thrushes than to the inter-local species *G. heinii*, is of interest to the student of the distribution of Australian birds, more especially as it belongs to a local fauna which on the whole is rather tropical than temperate in habit. The present species is chiefly distinguished by the peculiar colouration of the outer-most tail feather, the ochreous under tail-coverts and the distinct superiority of the fourth primary in length.

Adult male.—General colour above olive-brown with a slight russet tinge on the head and fore neck : each feather with a subterminal band, which is russet on the head, yellower elsewhere, and most clearly defined on the hinder neck, and with a terminal black

crescentic band which is narrowest on the head and tail-coverts; lores obscurely grey; no trace of a post-ocular stripe; ear coverts broadly black tipped, the tips forming a line which is continued over the side of the neck, and forward to the lower mandible; greater wing-coverts almost black on the inner, olive brown on the outer webs, tipped with ochreous buff : primary coverts broadly tipped with black : quills brown on the inner, russet olive-brown on the outer webs ; four centre tail feathers russet olive-brown; third, fourth and fifth on each side darkish brown on the inner, russet olive-brown on the outer webs : outermost pale-brown with tip of outer web and an elongate wedge-shaped mark between the shaft and the edge of the inner web white : all the feathers very indistinctly barred, the penultimate feather buff tipped. Beneath white, on the throat greyish with a few of the hinder and lateral feathers black tipped ; breast, flanks, upper abdomen and sides of lower much tinge I with ochre-yellow, with black terminal cresentic bands broadest on the flanks; centre of lower abdomen uniform white. Under tailcoverts ochreous buff. Axillaries white at base, more than the terminal half black : under wing-coverts black at base, less than the terminal half ochreous; basal half of primaries and secondaries pale ochreous, scapulars and all the feathers of the back, upper tail-coverts and breast with distinct pale shafts; legs and feet pale-brown; bill blackish-brown, much paler on base of lower mandible, Wing with fourth primary the longest, third and fifth unequal, second distinctly shorter than sixth. Wing 139 m.m. = 5.45, bastard primary 30 m.m. = 1.1, tail 130 m.m. = 5.1, culmen 25 m.m. = 1.0, tarsus 34.5 m.m. = 1.35.

In a male of apparently inferior age, the under tail-coverts and the base of the primaries and secondaries are but faintly tinged with ochreous, and the under wing-coverts are pure white beyond the black base. All the tail feathers but the outermost, which is as in the adult, are lightly tipped with white.

The female has likewise the under tail-coverts white, stained with ochreous, but of this colour there is but the faintest possible tinge on the inner surface of the primaries and secondaries.

244 DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW BIRDS FROM HERBERTON.

Three examples 2 3 1 2.—Locality, Herberton at 4,500 feet, collector Mr. K. Broadbent.

SERICORNIS GUTTURALIS,-

General colour above, wings and tail, coffee brown passing into blackish-brown on the head; feathers of the front and mid-line of the crown with paler centres; lores black, the feathers immediately over the crown with paler centres; supra—and infraoculars white; a post-orbital streak commencing over the middle of the orbit yellowish-white; ear coverts dark-brown with pale shaft-streaks; wings uniform, externally as the back: inner webs of primaries and secondaries dark-brown; tail uniform; chin and upper throat white, extending upwards to middle of side of neck; on the lower throat a broad black crescentic band with its marginal feathers posteriorly edged with ashy-white; under tail-coverts broadly edged with yellow,rest of under surface, avillaries and flanks olive-brown; legs and feet brown, flesh colour in life; bill black—iris brown. Total length 116 m.m. culmen 12.5 m,m. tarsus 20 m.m. wing 63 m.m.

One example, 2.-Locality, Herberton Scrubs at 4,500 feet.

Of this bird two examples only were seen; on both occasions feeding on the ground, scratching over leaves, &c., in company with Orthonyx spaldingi; the collector Mr. Broadbent regards it as a rare bird.

P.S.—A male example subsequently procured is similar in colouring but of greater size.

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De Vis, Charles Walter. 1889. "Descriptions of new birds from Herberton." *The Proceedings of the Royal Society of Queensland* 6(5), 242–244. <u>https://doi.org/10.5962/p.244661</u>.

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