

species; of these only six are represented in Australia, and by only sixteen species. He adds that he has not been "struck by any special differences between the western and eastern portions of the archipelago, so far as the Longicornia are concerned;" and says further, "With regard to the Coleoptera generally, my impression is that there is a fair admixture of forms from Singapore to New Guinea, without any remarkable division between them anywhere; but that between the Australian and Malayan regions (including New Guinea) the difference, on the contrary, is really something marvellous." The weight to be attached to these observations will be more definitely ascertained when Mr. Pascoe has completed his descriptions of the species. Under any circumstances, his work will prove a valuable contribution to entomological literature.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Note on Dr. Fitzinger's Paper on Ptychochærus plicifrons.

By Dr. J. E. GRAY, F.R.S. &c.

I AM amused at Dr. Fitzinger's observation (*Annals, ante*, p. 80) that this Pig "has been imperfectly noticed by Bartlett and Gray." Mr. Bartlett gave a figure and an account of the external appearance and habits of the animal; and in my paper I not only described its external characters, but likewise described and figured the skull, and pointed out how it differs from that of other Pigs.

But my chief object in this note is to restate that there can be no doubt that the Pig I described came from Japan. The ship that brought it came direct from that island, and was never near Abyssinia. Also to express my astonishment that Dr. Fitzinger should try to identify it with the "Hassama" of the Abyssinians because that "animal is black, has a short blunt head and large ears"—a description that will fit several domestic breeds of the common Pig. If the "Hassama" had such a plaited face as the Japan Pig, it would not have escaped Dr. T. Von Heuglin's observation. From the description, I suspect that the animal described by Dr. Fitzinger is only one of the half-breeds bred between the typical *Centuriosus pliciceps* and a common domestic sow of the Berkshire breed, several of which were sent by a dealer to the Continent.

Note on the so-called "Japanese" Pig (Centuriosus pliciceps, Gray; Ptychochærus plicifrons, Fitzinger). By P. L. SCLATER, M.A., PH.D., F.R.S.

In the last number of the 'Annals,' I observed a notice of a paper by Dr. L. J. Fitzinger in the 'Sitzungsberichte' of the Academy of Vienna, in which it is stated to be Dr. Fitzinger's opinion that Abyssinia, and not Japan, is the native country of this curious animal. In confirmation of this view, Dr. Fitzinger thinks it probable that the new Pig recently discovered by Heuglin in Abyssinia, and called *Hassana*, may be the same as the so-called "Japanese" Pig.



Gray, John Edward. 1865. "Note on Dr. Fitzinger's Paper on Ptychochærus plicifrons." *The Annals and magazine of natural history; zoology, botany, and geology* 15, 154–154.

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