

In concluding this abridgment, which is certainly too short to enable the reader to judge as to the justice of my opinions, but may perhaps suffice to give an idea of them, I will add one or two words—namely, that my memoir is illustrated with fourteen woodcuts representing the figures, in part restored, of the principal types of the palæichthyological system, and also that the ichthyological table annexed to it, when compared with that in the great work of Prof. Agassiz, will furnish the means of seizing at a glance the principal progress made in palæichthyology from 1843 to 1869.

XLII.—*On a new Species of Lemur from Madagascar, and on the Changes of Lemur macaco, Linn.* By Dr. J. E. GRAY, F.R.S. &c.

Prosimia rufipes, n. sp.

Fur woolly, thick, dark rufous brown, with a golden gloss from the tips of the hairs; the sides of the head and cheeks, the hand and arm, and the feet and the sides to the under part of the body bright bay. Tail nearly black, rather longer than the head and body. Male with the middle of the throat greyish; face with short blackish hair. Female similar above, but with the chin, throat, and front half of the under part of the body reddish grey; the face and edge of the under jaw covered with blackish hairs.

Hab. Madagascar (Mr. Crossley). B.M.

With these two Lemurs were received a series of *Varecia varia* and *V. rubra*, showing that they are one species, extremely variable in colour; but, as far as I have observed, the head, the underside of the body, limbs, the feet, and tail are black, the back of the neck and the base of the tail are always white, while the colour of the back varies from dark red-brown through all gradations to pure white. In most specimens the shoulders, the sides of the chest, and the outside of the thighs, are the same colour as the back; but in one specimen these parts are deep black like the underside of the body. I might have been inclined to consider this variety to be a distinct species, as I believe it has been considered (*Lemur macaco*, Linn.); but one of the nearly white specimens has the base of the white hair of these parts black and partly showing through the white fur, and the white hairs of all parts of the body have a black base.

This series shows that *Lemur macaco* and *Lemur ruber* and *niger* of Geoffroy are one species.

Lemur macaco presents three distinct varieties, which gradually pass into each other. 1. *Lemur macaco*, Linn. White, with the shoulders and front of the thighs black; the size of the black patches varies in different individuals: when they cover the greater part of the body, it is *L. subcinctus* of A. Smith; and when they unite together, abolishing the white, they are *Lemur niger*. 2. White, yellow, or red; the shoulders and front of the thighs like the rest of the back. The red variety is called *L. rufus* by Geoffroy. The 3rd variety is described as pure white; but this we have not got.

I believe the variously coloured specimens are all males, showing a great mutability in that sex. On the other hand, all the females that I have hitherto seen are of one colour, brown, with white whiskers—*Lemur leucomystax*, Bartlett.

XLIII.—*Description of a new Species of the Family Pittidæ.*
By JOHN GOULD, F.R.S. &c.

Pitta (Phœnicocichla) arquata, Gould.

Forehead, lores, and throat reddish buff; crown, nape, and breast rich rusty red; over (but posterior to) the eye a lovely stripe of blue, as in *Pitta granatina*; a broken tooth-like bar of the same beautiful hue across the breast, separating the rich rusty red of the chest from the deep scarlet of the abdomen; upper surface of the body and scapularies brownish olive-green; primaries and secondaries brown, tinged with green; the secondaries are also tipped with splendid blue, but not so conspicuously as in *P. granatina*; tail blue, tinged with olive; legs and bill black.

Total length 6 inches; bill 1, wing $3\frac{1}{4}$, tail $1\frac{1}{4}$, tarsi $1\frac{1}{2}$.

Hab. Borneo.

Remark. This new species is somewhat allied to the *Pitta granatina* of Temminck and the *Pitta concinna* of Eyton. If there be any difference in size, it is perhaps a trifle smaller than either of those species, but is at once distinguished from both by its very remarkable colouring, which in some respects resembles that of the *Pitta erythrogastra* of Temminck. The specimen above described is supposed, with some probability, to be a female; if so, the male, when discovered, will prove to be a still more lovely bird.



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