and minutely freckled with brownish-black, a line of buff down the
crown and nape, and a narrow line of brownish-white down the
centre of the feathers, changing to broad and conspicuous stripes of
buff on the lower part of the back and tail-coverts; wings pale brown;
chin and throat black, on each side of which is an oblong patch of
white encircled by a narrow line of black; below the black a broad
crescent of white, fringed on the sides with black, and bounded
below by a narrow semi-crescent of deep black; under surface grey,
mottled on the flanks like the upper surface; line down the centre
of the abdomen, thighs, and under tail-coverts chestnut-red; bill
black; feet yellowish.

Total length 3 inches, bill ½, wing 2½, tarsi ¾.

Hab. Vicinity of Macassar, Celebes.

Remark.—For this, the most diminutive species of the Gallinacea
yet discovered, we are indebted to the researches of A. R. Wallace,
Esq. It is of precisely the same form and very nearly allied to, but
quite distinct from, the well-known Chinese Quail, Exsalsactoria
chinensis (Coturnix chinensis of authors).

The following extract from a Letter received by Mr. S. Stevens
from Mr. Wallace, dated Batchian, Moluccas, Oct. 29, 1858, was
read:

"Here I have been as yet only five days; but from the nature of
the country, and what I have already done, I am inclined to think
it may prove one of the best localities I have yet visited. Birds are
as yet very scarce; but I still hope to get a fine collection, though I
believe I have already the finest and most wonderful bird in the
island. I had a good mind to keep it a secret, but I cannot resist
telling you. I have a new Bird of Paradise! of a new genus!!
quite unlike anything yet known, very curious and very handsome!!
When I can get a couple of pairs, I will send them overland, to see
what a new Bird of Paradise will really fetch. Had I seen the bird in
Ternate, I should never have believed it came from here, so far out of
the hitherto supposed region of the Paradiseides. I consider it the
greatest discovery I have yet made; and it gives me hopes of getting
other species in Gilolo and Ceram. There is also here a species of
Monkey—much further eastwards than in any other island; so you
see this is a most curious locality, combining forms of the East and
West of the Archipelago, yet with species peculiar to itself. It also
differs from all the other Moluccas in its geological formation, con-
taining iron, coal, copper, and gold, with a glorious forest vegetation
and fine large mountain streams: it is a continent in miniature. The
Dutch are working the coals; and there is a good road to the mines,
which gives one easy access to the interior forests.

"I can do nothing at drawing birds, but send you a horrible
sketch of my discovery, that you may not die of curiosity. I am
told the wet season here is terrible, and it begins in December; so I
shall probably have to leave then."

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