

plumis nigro apicatis, sed maculâ medianâ nigrâ nullâ distinguendus.

*Hab.* adhuc ignota.

With regard to the distribution of the South-American species of *Picumnus*, Mr. Hargitt remarked that there were none peculiar to the Patagonian Sub-region; 10 to the Sub-Andean Sub-region; 2 common to the Sub-Andean and Central American Sub-regions; 11 peculiar to the Amazonian Sub-region; 7 to the Brazilian Sub-region; and 1 common to the Amazonian and Brazilian Sub-regions.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE stated that during a recent examination of the specimens of *Ardeirallus flavicollis* in the collection of the British Museum, he had discovered that the birds recorded from Bourou and Ceram belonged to a totally different species, closely allied to *Ardeirallus woodfordi*, of Ogilvie Grant, from Guadalcanar; and as the species appeared to be without a name, Dr. Sharpe proposed to call the Ceram bird

ARDEIRALLUS PRÆTERMISSUS, sp. n.

Similis *A. woodfordi*, sed sordidior, brunnescentior, et collo postico brunnescente nec castaneo, et subcaudalibus cineraceis nec arenariis distinguenda. Long. tot. 19 poll., ala 8.2, tarso 2.6, digito medio cum ungue 2.4.

*Hab.* in insulis Moluccanis, "Ceram" et "Bourou" dictis.

Dr. SHARPE also read a list of the birds obtained by Surgeon-Captain Penton at Suakin in the Red Sea. About 40 miles to the south-west of the town Captain Penton had visited the forest district of Erkowit and had obtained specimens of *Francolinus erkelii*, thereby adding considerably to our knowledge of its northern range. Some of the migratory birds were of considerable interest, as indicating the route by which certain species proceeded towards South Africa. The collection included examples of the following species:—*Argya acaciæ*, *Corvus scapularis*, *Cuculus canorus* (juv.), *Coccytes glandarius*, *Coracias garrula* (juv.), *Æna*