

that we cannot regard it as diagnostic. In the Redcar specimen it agrees with what might be termed the average bird from the Pacific coasts, some of which have as little white as British taken examples.

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The Names of the Races of Pompadour Pigeon, *Treron pompadora* (Gmelin), in Java and Celebes

by Mr. R. W. SIMS and Miss R. M. L. WARREN

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There appears to be some confusion regarding the names of the representatives of *Treron pompadora* (Gmelin) in Java and Celebes. Riley (1924) observed that the name *Treron griseicauda* G. R. Gray, 1856, given to the Javanese bird was a *nomen nudum* for Gray merely listed it as “*Treron griseicauda* G. R. Gray MSS.” and referred to a specimen which was subsequently regarded as the type. Riley was of the opinion the name of the bird should be *Treron pulverulenta* given by Wallace in 1863 when he described the Pompadour Pigeon from Java, but Riley apparently overlooked Bonaparte (1854). Bonaparte described a pigeon—“Java and Borneo”—which he believed was *Columba aromatica* Gmelin; under this name he gave the synonyms “*Toria aromatica* Blyth” and “*Treron griseicauda* Gr. Mus. Brit. 1854”. The description, however, did not apply to either *C. aromatica* Gmelin or *T. aromatica* Blyth, nor to any bird described at that date. The name *Treron griseicauda* was taken from an unpublished G. R. Gray manuscript and, therefore, becomes the name of the bird described by Bonaparte—the *aromatica* of both Gmelin and Blyth having been misapplied. The name of this Javanese pigeon is *Treron griseicauda* Bonaparte, 1854, not of Gray because Bonaparte was the first person to publish the name.

Bonaparte restricted the bird to Java and Borneo, the first named being regarded as typical, this is important because the birds from Java are racially distinct from those of other islands such as Celebes. Wallace (1863*a*), however, described a pigeon from Celebes as “*Treron griseicauda* G. R. Gray”; then later in the same year (1863*b*) gave a new name, *Treron pulverulenta*, to another specimen from Java which he described in comparison with his own specimen from Celebes. Salvadori (1893) realised that Wallace had made a mistake and placed *T. pulverulenta* in the synonymy of *T. griseicauda* G. R. Gray. At the same time he gave the name *wallacei* to the Celebes bird which was without a name because Wallace had erroneously identified it as *griseicauda*.

Because of Riley’s observations Peters (1937) listed these pigeons as:

- (1) *Treron pompadora pulverulenta* Wallace, 1863.—Java.
- (2) *Treron pompadora griseicauda* Wallace, 1863.—Celebes.

It seems, however, that the nomenclature should be much as it was before 1924. Incidentally, Hartert (1927) gave the name of the Javanese bird as *Treron pompadora griseicauda* Gray (ex Bonaparte) acknowledging, to a certain extent, that Bonaparte was the first author to publish the name.

He should have written it as *Treron pompadora griseicauda* Bonaparte (ex Gray MSS.). In our opinion the nomenclature should be as follows:

(1) *Treron pompadora griseicauda* Bonaparte, 1854 (nec of Gray, 1856).—~~X~~ Java. Syn. *Treron pulverulenta* Wallace, 1863.

(2) *Treron pompadora wallacai* (Salvadori), 1893.—Celebes.

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Remarks on the Serins from Southern Kurdistan in the National Collection

by Mr. DEREK GOODWIN

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Ticehurst (1927) recorded Tristram's Serin, *Serinus syriacus*, as occurring commonly in winter at Dohuk and Mosul in southern Kurdistan. This statement was, apparently, based on information given to Sir Percy Cox and Major Cheeseman by La Personne, who collected in that area for them. Five Serins collected by La Personne at Dohuk in the winter of 1922 and labelled *Serinus syriacus* are in the national collection (B.M. Nos. 1924.3.20. 583–587). They are all *Serinus canarius serinus*, none showing any of the distinguishing features of *S. syriacus*.

If the collector made no mistake in the locality he attributed to these specimens they seem to indicate a slight eastward extension of the known range of *S. canarius serinus*. Witherby *et al.* (1938) gave the eastward extension of its range as Asia Minor and (in winter) Palestine. Tristram (1884) recorded it in winter in Palestine and said "Syria is its extreme eastern limit."

S. syriacus was recorded by Tristram (1884) as occurring in the Lebanon and Anti-Lebanon mountains. Meinertzhagen (1935) and Aharoni (1942) found it in the Lebanon and at Mount Hermon in Palestine but failed to find it in the Anti-Lebanon. Aharoni also found it extremely abundant about Jaffa in winter. Meiklejohn (1954) stated that it occurs in Syria but did not give any details. Allouse (1950) did not list either *S. syriacus* or *S. canarius serinus* as occurring in Iraq. The only specimens in the national collection are three adults from Palestine (Hermon and Rukleh) and an adult and juvenile from the Lebanon. In view of the above facts any more recent or precise information on the status and identity of serins encountered east of Palestine and the Lebanon would seem well worth putting on record.

N.B.—There is some difference of opinion as to whether *S. syriacus* is a good species or should be considered as a race of *S. canarius*. The former opinion has been adopted here chiefly for convenience.