#### A SUMMARY OF THE BIRDS OF THE ADDIS ABEBA REGION, ETHIOPIA

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# KENNETH M. GUICHARD

The material for this paper was compiled over three years, from July 1945 to July 1948, when the author was a locust officer in Ethiopia with headquarters in Addis Abeba.

No account of the ornithology of the region has yet appeared, and the present paper partly aims at providing a basis, such as the author himself has lacked and greatly desired, for a study of the bird life of the widely different types of country that surround Addis Abeba.

For obvious reasons, repetition of general information has been avoided and the notes under species have been kept as brief as possible unless they reveal new data. An apology is not given for another "list" as Ethiopia is still one of the most inaccessible countries in Africa, and Addis Abeba is the centre of the European population in a country where any scientific investigations, however harmless, are looked upon with suspicion and thwarted whenever possible.

Before the Italian conquest of Ethiopia a collection of birds, some of them from near Addis Abeba, was made by P. C. Zaphiro for W. N. McMillan of the British Legation and presented to the British Museum and described by O. Grant (3). A few birds from Addis Abeba were secured by the American Frick Expedition and described by Friedmann (2). Major R. E. Cheesman (1) also mentions a few species from the capital and his paper will be found the most useful to consult for habits, etc., of many of the common species.

During the Italian occupation, the Marquis S. Patritzi formed a collection of Ethiopian birds and they were listed privately by him up to 6th April 1941. Part of this collection is still in the capital but its condition, as might be expected, is rapidly deteriorating.

During the last war Dr. H. M. Woodman (5) (6) and (7) made a special study of the ducks, geese, and snipe of the region, and some fresh data is added in the present paper.

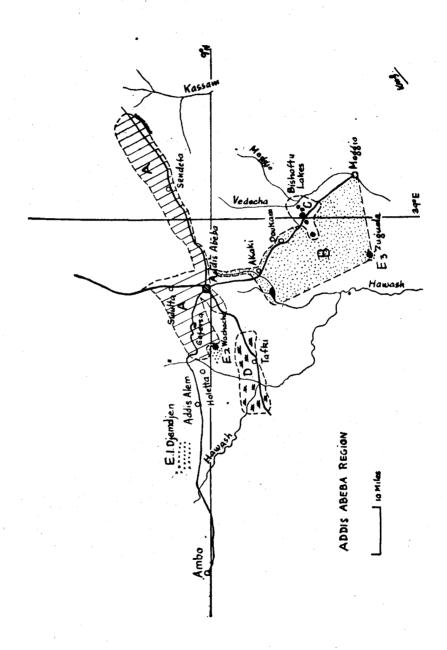
The map illustrates the extent of the different type habitats that have been visited personally, but does not show the total extent of (a) or (b) much of which remains to be explored within a fifty mile radius of Addis Abeba.

## (a) THE HIGH PLATEAU

Most of this habitat lies between 8,000 and 10,000 feet. The highest area is Wachacha, 11,038 feet. At 9,000 feet bird life di ninishes and no peculiar species are confined to above this altitude. The steep hills north of Addis Abeba form a barrier to species infiltrating from (b), and also mark the southern limit of some of the birds of the higher altitudes of the high plateau to the north.

Characteristic of much of (a) are the isolated stony-topped minor plateaux and elevations rising from the level plain. The distinctly palæartic vegetation differs from that of the lower, warmer, and drier thorn scrub in (b), and the larger elements of this flora are confined in patches to sheltered valleys and the scuthern slopes of the hills. The only trees at all common are small individuals of *Juniperus procera* and *Podocarpus excelsior*, and *Acacia abyssinica*. Much of the area is cultivated by the more homely Gallas, and barley and teff are grown extensively while cattle and horses find good pasturage.

The largest wild animals on the high plateau are the Madaqua Antelope (Sylvicapra grimii), Spotted Hyena, Serval Cat, and Jackal (Canis aureus). Bird life is most abundant where shrubs and trees occur and here one finds the Brown Tit-Flycatcher, Dusky Flycatcher, Black-headed Fly-catcher, Cinnamon Warbler, Rüppell's Robin-Chat, White-backed Black Tit, Baglafecht Weaver, Yellow-bellied Waxbill, African Citril, and Streaky Seed-eater, together with the more widely spread Olive Thrush, Ground-scraper Thrush, Stout Cisticola, Boubou, and Black-headed Bush Shrike. Typical



of the open country above 8,000 feet are the Wattled Ibis, Blue-winged Goose, Red-wing Francolin, Abyssinian Long-eared Owl, Theckla Lark, Red-capped Lark, Cloud-scraper, Hill Chat, Red-breasted Wheatear, Abyssinian Stonechat, Abyssinian Long-claw and Black-headed Siskin. During the winter many waders and duck appear on Sululta plain and at Gafersa.

One special area is found near the Dessie road along the edges of the precipitous cliffs and slopes overlooking the Cassam river valley thousands of feet below. This locality, comparable with the Blue Nile gorge, is the haunt of rare Chats, Swifts, Bearded Vultures, Lanners and Red-wing Starlings. The Klipspringer and Gelada Monkey are found here.

Thirty resident species of the high plateau never or very seldom descend below 8,000 feet and this may be due to the temperature varying little throughout the year. There is however, a pronounced wet and dry season in the whole region under discussion, the rainfall diminishing at lower altitudes. There are no noticeable vertical movements to or from the high plateau at any period. Between September and March about seventy migrants visit or pass through this part of Ethiopia, and only one, the Ortolan Bunting, seems confined to the higher altitudes.

The breeding season for the whole region coincides with the regular big rains from June to the middle of September, but there is some breeding activity in May. Practically no nesting takes place during the dry season when it happens that insect life is relatively scarce and made even scarcer by the presence of numerous palæartic migrants.

#### (b) UPPER THORN SCRUB

This habitat, lying between 6,000 and 7,500 feet, is typified by black cotton soil and the presence of Acacias other than Acacia abyssinica. Ficus sp. and Cordia abyssinica occur locally. The transition between (a) and (b) is very gradual and happens over a wide area of open cultivated land south of Addis Abeba. However, a useful boundary can be said to run through Akaki, south of which the introduced Eucalyptus becomes relatively scarce and the Acacias start to appear in goodly numbers. Akaki is noticeably warmer and drier than Addis Abeba and these conditions increase progressively towards the south where bird life becomes richer and more abundant. Sorghum and maize cultivations and the goat herds make their appearance. Near Moggio and Zuquala at about 6,000 feet there are many deep gullies fringed with impenetrable thickets. Common Bushbuck, Warthog, Leopard, Baboons, and Grivet Monkeys are found at these lower altitudes and the Reedbuck is not uncommon in the more open bush.

Ninety resident birds are confined to the upper thorn scrub and twenty of these appear only in the neighbourhood of Moggio and Zuquala. Typical of the entire habitat south of Akaki are such common species as the Spur-winged Goose, Ring-necked Dove Abyssinian Roller, Red-beaked Hornbill, Drongo, Grey-backed Fiscal and Black-headed Weaver.

The only temporary marshes created during the rains are near the Akaki river and reservoir and at Bishoftu.

#### (c) BISHOFTU LAKES

The chief features of this habitat, which is the richest of the whole region, are the four deep permanent crater lakes at Bishoftu. Until recently, a fifth crater contained a swamp three feet deep with a dense and varied flora round its edges. In November 1946, this swamp teemed with duck and water birds, but during 1947, probably due to volcanic action, the water disappeared and this promising locality is now a ploughed field.

Three of these lakes abound in fish and are fringed with bulrushes harbouring the Black Crake and Lesser Swamp Warbler. Grebes, Cormorants, duck and herons are common, and the steep sides of the craters are favourite haunts of many birds including swallows and hawks. To the east and south of Bishoftu, the Vedecha and Moggio streams wind through an attractive country of small gorges where vegetation is plentiful.

## (d) COTTON SOIL MARSHES

This habitat which is traversed by the Jimma road has about the same altitude and climate as Akaki, but only becomes interesting and specialised when it is flooded from July to October by the overflowing of the Hawash and Holetta rivers. The marshes form the chief duck breeding area of the region in localities where a tall and dense aquatic vegetation springs up. It seems to be the only habitat visited regularly by the Wattled Crane and Lesser Moorhen.

# (e) TEMPERATE RAIN FOREST

(e1) Djemdjem forest, forty-five miles west of the capital, is the largest and most interesting forest area. Despite wanton exploitation which still continues, this forest still harbours a small specialised avifauna. The principal trees exploited for their timber are funiperus procera and Podocarpus excelsior which attain to magnificent proportions in the remoter fastnesses. Thick undergrowth flourishes along the numerous streams and Leopard, Lynx, Black Bushbuck, Colobus Monkeys and Baboons are found in the forest. The rainfall and climate are similar to Addis Abeba while the lower parts of the forest harbour a richer flora and fauna than the higher and more sparsely covered slopes.

Some typical birds of this habitat are the Great Sparrow-Hawk, Abyssinian Goshawk, Harrier-Hawk, Olive Pigeon, Lemon Dove, Yellow-fronted Parrot, Narina's Trogon, Abyssinian Catbird, Grey Cuckoo-Shrike and the Black-headed Forest Oriole.

- (e<sup>2</sup>) Wachacha forest on the western slopes of that mountain is colder and less luxuriant than Djemdjem but the flora and fauna appear to be essentially the same but less varied. It has the advantage of being an hour's car drive from Addis Abeba, but clashes occur with local officials unless one carries an Amharic charm which bears a large purple seal containing if possible the likeness of an animal wearing a crown.
- $(e^3)$  represents a patch of stunted forest on the tope of Zuquala (9,900 feet) that surrounds an interesting crater lake. This perfectly shaped mountain stands isolated in a sea of thorn scrub with its summit often bathed in cloud. The Wattled Ibis, Whitecheeked Turaco, and Tacazze Sunbird live here in comparative isolation separated from their nearest typical habitat by forty miles of unsuitable terrain. The duck on the lake are very tame, as the mountain is sacred to pilgrims and the use of firearms forbidden.

# **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

The author wishes to thank Professor M. Giaquinto for allowing him to see Patritzi's notes and to copy certain records. He is also indebted to Monsieur Gajdacs, a Hungarian taxidermist resident in Addis Abeba, who has allowed him to examine a collection of local birds and has helped in the preparation of specimens that have been despatched to the British Museum. Monsieur Salim Abichacra has also secured some interesting species and has supplied useful information on the game birds. The author's sincere thanks are due to Mr. J. D. Macdonald and Captain Claude Grant of the British Museum Bird Room for their examination and identification of specimens.

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- (5) Woodman, H. M. Notes on the paleartic migrant and resident duck and geese of Abyssinia. *Ibis*, 1944, p. 151.
- (6) " Snipe in Abyssinia. Ibis, 1944, p. 253.
- (7) " European Snipe in Abyssinia. Ibis, 1945, p. 468.

#### SYSTEMATIC LIST

The nomenclature in this list follows that adopted by Mackworth-Praed and Grant in their forthcoming African Handbook of Birds.

Podiceps cristatus infuscatus Salvad.

Great Crested Grebe

Common in pairs on Bishoftu lakes where it appears to breed. Eleven pairs counted on one lake during July 1948.

Poliocephalus ruficollis capensis (Salvad.)

Little Grebe.

Common in (b) and (c); young seen in July.

Phalacrocorax carbo lugubris Rüpp.

White-necked Cormorant.

Phalacrocorax africanus africanus (Gmel.)

Long-tailed Cormorant.

Anhinga rufa rufa (Lacep. and Daud.) Widely distributed except in (a).

Darter.

Pelecanus rufescens (Gmel.)

Pink-backed Pelican.

Fairly common in pairs below 8,000 feet.

Ardea cinerea cinerea Linn.

Grey Heron.

Ardea melanocephala Vig. and Child.

Black-headed Heron.

Widely distributed.

Ardea goliath (Cretzsch.)

Goliath Heron.

One visited a lake at Bishoftu for a fortnight during November 1947. In Ethiopia I have only seen the Goliath Heron a few times near Lake Bario in the Danakil.

Pyrrherodia purpurea purpurea Linn.

Purple Heron.

One record from Bishoftu, 31st October 1945.

Casmerodius albus melanorhynchos (Wagl.)

Great White Egret.

Egretta garzetta garzetta (Linn.)

Little Egret.

Bubulcus ibis (Linn.)

Buff-backed Heron.

Widely distributed.

Ardeola ralloides ralloides (Scop.)

Squacco Heron.

Uncommon in the bulrushes of Bishoftu lakes.

Butorides striatus atricapillus (Afzelius)

Green-backed Heron.

Rare in (b).

Nycticorax nycticorax nycticorax (Linn.)

Night Heron. Several immature birds in a shady fig tree, Bishoftu lake, 12th May 1946.

Scopus umbretta bannermani C. Grant.

Hammerkop.

Widely distributed.

Ciconia ciconia ciconia (Linn.)

White Stork. Single birds on ploughed land in (b), February 1948. One near Ambo, 3rd August 1947, and one near Doukam, 28th October 1945.

Cicoma nigra (Linn.)

Black Stork.

Various singles and a flock of five between 17/10 and 3/2 in (a).

Dissoura episcopus microscelis (Gray)

Woolly-necked Stork.

One in (d), 27th October 1946.

Sphenorhynchus abdimii (Licht.)

Abdim's Stork.

Singly and in flocks of about a hundred at Bishoftu between April and August, and a flock in February. Three on Sululta plain during January.

Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis (Shaw)

Several seen during July and August at Bishoftu and Tafki on flooded land. A single was hunting round the crater lake on Mount Zuquala during November,

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Marabou.

Leptoptilos crumeniferus (Less.)

A single near Bishoftu, June 1948.

Ibis ibis (Linn.)

Widely distributed.

Threskiornis Aethiopicus Aethiopicus (Lath.)

Sacred Ibis.

Wood Ibis.

Most abundant in flocks in (a).

Comatibis eremita (Linn.)

Waldrapp.

Six seen near Sululta, 9th November 1945, and two in the same locality, 10th November 1946, and a single bird 17th November. Outside the region nine were observed near Debra Berharn on open land, 24th February 1947. Possibly these Ibis breed in cliffs in Ethiopia and migrate south over the high plateau during the dry season.

Bostrychia carı nculata (Rüpp.)

Wattled Ibis.

Common in flocks of up to twenty five in (a), but a few wander down to (b), and an isolated colony was found on the top of Zuquala.

Plegadis falcinellus falcinellus (Linn.)

Glossy Ibis.

Seen at Bishoftu in May, and at Gafersa in June Near Tafki in November a flock of several hundred dived to earth at tremendous speed scattering in all directions Platalea alba Scop.

African Spoonbill.

March and May at Gafersa, and three at Tafki in August.

Phoenicopterus ruber roseus Pallas

Greater Flamingo.

One obtained in (d), 27th October, and three seen at Gafersa, 2nd December.

Phoeniconaias minor (Geoffroy).

Lesser Flamingo.

Flocks were seen at Gafersa during January and June, and at Akaki reservoir during February.

Erismatura maccoa (Eyton.)

Maccoa Duck.

Gafersa, September 1946. Green lake, Bishoftu, September 1946. Zuquala lake, October 1945.

Thalassornis leuconotus leuconotus Eyton.

White-backed Duck

Only seen on the Bishoftu lakes.

Aythya nyroca nyroca (Guld.)

White-eved Pochard.

Woodman records one at Tafki, 6th December 1941.

Aythya erythrophthalma (Wied.)

African Pochard.

Gafersa during May, June and December. Bishoftu lakes during September, November, January and July. From July to September common in (d) in pairs and probably breeds there.

Aythya fuligula (Linn.)

Tufted Duck.

One of the latest ducks to arrive on migration and prefers the high plateau above 8,000 feet, but once abundant at Akaki reservoir, 10th February. Gafersa is a favourite locality and they have been shot there between 15th December and 22nd June, a flock of fifteen being seen on this last date.

Spatula clypeata (Linn.)

Shoveler,

Common and widely distributed, the earliest record being 11th October. A pair, the male in breeding plumage, was seen at Akaki during June.

Spatulcapensis (Eyton).

Cape Shoveler.

According to information given by Patritzi and Toschi to Woodman, a few Cape Shoveler remain in Ethiopia throughout the year but do not breed. Gajdacs has seen a Shoveler with young near Tafki many years ago but no specimens were obtained.

S. Capensis has the shafts of the primaries brown, while in S. clypeata they are white.

There are no specimens to confirm that Spatula capensis breeds in Ethiopia. The birds recorded by Patritzi and Gajdacs are almost certainly European Shovelers, a

species which is found throughout the summer months, and probably breeds, on Lake Naivasha, Kenya Colony.—Editor.

Anas undulata ruppellii (Blyth.)

Yellow-billed Duck.

This is the commonest and most widely spread resident duck in the region and occurs everywhere including Zuquala lake. It breeds extensively in the thicker swamp vegetation of (d). Pairing takes place in July, while fledglings occur in October. One was reported sitting on six eggs near Sululta on 27th August.

Anas sparsa leucostigma (Rüpp)

Black Duck.

Occurs on streams, usually in pairs, at Djemdjem, near Gafersa, and to the north of Addis Abeba, and occasionally to the south of the capital but not seen in (b), (c) or (d). A pair with four ducklings was observed on a stream 43 kms. north of Addis Abeba, 12th January 1946.

Anas strepera (Linn.)

Gadwall.

An uncommon migrant in (a). Earliest arrival, Sululta, 3rd October. Exceptionally stout build noted in flight.

Anas penelope (Linn.)

Wigeon

One of the commonest palæartic migrants. Earliest arrival, Gafersa, 28th October; a few at Bishoftu lakes, 6th May. On 8th July, a  $\circ$  in very worn plumage was shot at Gafersa.

Anas crecca (Linn.)

Common Teal.

Widely distributed. Earliest record 8th November at Gafersa, and not seen after 27th April.

Anas querquedula (Linn.)

Garganey.

Very large flocks of garganey were seen in (d), 21st September 1946. This is the first migrant duck to arrive in the region and remains widespread until the end of May. There are two records from Gafersa during June, a 3 being shot out of a party of four on the 12th.

Anas capensis (Gmel.)

Cape Wigeon.

Only seen on the green lake, Bishoftu, April and November. About forty birds were present in November, and two that were shot had dipterous larvæ adhering to their bills.

Anas punctata (Burchell.)

Hottentot Teal.

Only seen in the once marshy crater at Bishoftu, parties of six and eight in May and November. Woodman records it from Tafki in June, and from Akaki reservoir.

Anas erythrorhyncha (Gmel.)

Red-bill Duck.

Singles shot and a few seen at Gafersa during March, May, July, December and January. A single was shot near Sululta, 3rd November, and another on Akaki reservoir, 10th February. A pair was seen on a small pond between Doukam and Zuquala, 5th January. On 13th July they were fairly common in (d) where a flock of fifteen was seen, and on 31st July several pairs were noted. It appears that the Red-bill Duck is a resident and probably breeds in (d) during the rains and wanders further afield during the dry season.

Anas acuta (Linn.)

Pintail.

Common and widely distributed, 7th November to 12th May.

Dendrocygna viduata (Linn.)

White-faced Tree Duck.

Three seen on a waterlogged field in (d), 31st July. They are very common south of (b) at lower altitudes.

Dendrocygna bicolor (Vieill.)

Fulvous Tree Duck.

Between July and October common in (d) where it breeds. On 27th October two birds of the year were shot and fledglings produced by locals who said these duck nested in the swamps. A single was shot near Sululta, 3rd November. During the dry season they probably go south to lower levels,



"Lammergeyer from the High Plateau overlooking the Cassam River Gorge, June 1948."

Nettapus auritus (Bodd.)

Pigmy Goose.

Recorded by Woodman from Akaki reservoir and Bishoftu lakes.

Sarkidiornis melanotos (Pennant).

Knob-billed Goose.

Widely spread below 8,000 feet, but two 99 seen near Sululta, 10th November.

Alopochen aeygptius (Linn.)

Egyptian Goose.

Widespread and very common. On Akaki reservoir during February many were moulting their primaries and were unable to fly.

Plectropterus gambensis gambensis (Linn.)

Spur-winged Goose.

Common and widely distributed in open country, but not in (a) except once at Gafersa.

Cyanochen cyanopterus (Rüpp.)

Blue-winged Goose.

Confined to the higher altitudes of (a) where it is common. In March a nest was found beside a stream on Sululta plain with five eggs (Abichacra).

Sagittarius serpentarius (Miller.)

Secretary Bird.

During the Italian occupation twice seen during February east of Ambo (Abichacra).

Gyps ruppellu erlangeri (Salvad.)

Ruppell's Griffon.

Occasionally seen in (b), and several were flying round the summit of Zuquala.

Pseudogyps africanus (Salvad.)
Common and widespread.

White-backed Vulture.

Torgos tracheliotus nubicus (Smith).

Widespread and fairly common.

Lappet-faced Vulture.

Trigonoceps occipitalis (Burchell).

White-headed Vulture.

Widespread.

widespread.

Neophron perenopterus perenopterus (Linn.)

Egyptian Vulture.

Widespread but uncommon and only once seen above 8,000 feet. Reported as nesting in the cliffs of a Bishoftu lake.

Necrosyrtes monachus pileatus (Burch.)

Hooded Vulture.

Common in Addis Abeba.

Falco biarmicus abyssinicus (Neum.)

Abyssinian Lanner.

Common and widespread. At Bishoftu there were apparently several nesting pairs during November and December and in season they prey on the Common Teal. A dozen were observed catching and eating Desert Locust on the wing. Often seen flying in Addis Abeba.

Falco subuteo subuteo (Linn.)

Hobby.

There is a 3 labelled Addis Abeba, 22nd April 1939, collected by the Italians and Patritzi records four 33 from Addis Abeba, 7th October 1939.

Falco cuvieri Smith.

African Hobby.

Common and widely distributed. A pair observed feeding on flying white ants as noted by Cheesman.

Falco cherrug cherrug (Gray.)

Saker Falcon.

There is a  $\mathcal{P}$  collected by the Italians, Addis Abeba, 27th December 1937. A large falcon with a slow flapping flight seen at Gafersa and twice at Bishoftu probably belonged to this species.

Falco tinnunculus tinnunculus (Linn.)

Kestre

Common and widespread, kestrels arrive in the region at the beginning of October and pass northwards at the beginning of May.

Falco tinnunculus carlo (Hart. and Neum.)

Abyssinian Kestrel.

A Q is recorded by Friedmann from Addis Abeba, 2nd January 1912.

Falco neumanni (Fleischer.)

Lesser Kestrel.

A 3 obtained near Addis Abeba in January 1948 is in Gajdac's collection,

Falco ardosiaceus (Bonn. and Vieill.)

Grey Kestrel.

One seen near Addis Alem, 12th August, and a 9 shot near Tafki, 8th September.

Poliohierax semitorquatus castanonotus (Heugl.)

Pigmy Falcon.

One record near Moggio, but it becomes more frequent at lower altitudes.

Milvus migrans tenebrosus (Grant and Praed.)

Tropical African Kite.

Between September and the beginning of June common in Addis Abeba, but rare during the big rains. Three times recorded at a nest in October, December, and January but no proof of eggs or young

Elanus caeruleus (Desf.)

Black-shouldered Kite.

Widespread in (a) and (d). Reported preying on chickens.

Aquila rapax raptor (Brehm.)

Tawny Eagle.

Common and widespread.

Hiëratus pennatus (Gmel.)

Booted Eagle.

Patritzi records two of from Addis Abeba on 17th and 18th January 1938.

Lophaëtus occipitalis (Daud.)

Long-crested Hawk Eagle.

Prefers lower altitudes but is occasionally seen near Moggio and Zuquala.

Circaëtus pectoralis (Smith.)

Black-chested Harrier Eagle.

One obtained near Akaki, 19th August 1945, and another seen at Bishoftu. A pair circled high over Bishoftu during July but they may have been Martial Eagles.

Terathopius ecaudatus (Daud.)

Bateleur.

Widespread, but uncommon above 8,000 feet.

Cuncuma vocifer (Daud.)

Fish Eagle.

Nests in a large fig tree beside one of the lakes at Bishoftu where three immature birds were seen in May. One recorded in (a).

Gypaëtus barbatus meridionalis (Keyse. and Blas.)

Lammergeyer

Chiefly confined to the high altitudes of (a) where it haunts cliffs. It was regularly seen about some cliffs on the Dessie Road near Addis Abeba where it has been reported breeding. The long wedge-shaped tail distinguishes it from all other birds of prey.

Buteo vulpinus (Gloger).

Steppe Buzzard.

A 3 was obtained near Ambo, 3rd August, and another in (b) 10th August. Both these birds appeared to be immature (together with a third from Jimma, 27th January). All three were brown birds, two with underside of primaries and secondaries white, tails with four dark bars and inner webs of tail feathers, except the central pair, whitish. In the Ambo and Jimma specimens the eyes were grey-brown.

Buteo oreophilus (Hart. and Neum.)

Mountain Buzzard.

Patritzi records a of from Addis Abeba, 12th November 1937.

Buteo rufinus rufinus (Cretzsch.)

Long-legged Buzzard.

A  $\mathcal{P}$  is recorded by Patritzi from Addis Abeba, 5th November, 1937.

Buteo rofofuscus augur (Rüpp.)

Augur Buzzard.

Common and widespread above 8,000 feet in (a) but rare south of Bishoftu.

Accipiter nisus nisus (Linn.)

European Sparrow-Hawk.

A \( \text{is recorded by Patritzi from Addis Abeba, 29th December 1937.} \)

Accipiter rufiventris per picillaris (Rüpp)

Abyssinian Sparrow-Hawk.

Two 33 are recorded from Addis Abeba during November 1938 by Patritzi.

Accipiter melanoleucus melanoleucus (Smith.)

Great Sparrow-Hawk.

Only once seen in  $(e^1)$ .

Accipiter badius sphenurus (Rüpp.)

East African Shikra.

Several were obtained near the Bishoftu lakes, including an immature in July. Usually seen about cliffs.

Accipiter tachiro unduliventer (Rüpp.)

Abvssinian Goshawk.

This hawk has only been found in  $(e^1)$  and  $(e^2)$  in thickly wooded areas. In March an adult male was pursuing an immature female in Djemdjem forest and both were obtained.

Micronisus gabar (Daud.)

Gabar Goshawk.

Only seen near Moggio and Zuquala where it preys on Weaver Birds.

Melierax metabates metabates (Heugl.)

Dark Chanting-Goshawk.

Uncommon in (b).

Circus pygargus (Linn.)

Montagu's Harrier.

One of near Moggio, 27th December, and a second near Doukam, 7th January. On each occasion the streaking of the underparts and the dark wing bar were visible.

Circus macrourus (Gmel.)

Pale Harrier.

Arrives in the region during October and leaves during April. On 12th July 1947/1948, a female harrier was seen near Addis Abeba. A single female was observed near Adama on 27th August, and at Lake Metahara on 8th September.

Circus aeruginosus aeruginosus (Linn.)

Marsh Harrier.

Common and widespread from 17th October to 23nd March.

Polyboroides typicus (Smith.)

Harrier-Hawk.

Occurs in the forests of Djemdjem and Wachacha, and once seen at Bishoftu in July.

Pandion haliaëtus (Linn.)

Osprey.

Reported once, fishing in a Bishoftu lake. In Ethiopia I have seen Ospreys at the following places:—two near Abroberifaghe (Danakil), 4th February 1947; one on Lake Bario (Danakil), 7th February 1947; several times on the Baro River near Gambeila, 25th February 1948; and one fishing on Lake Auasa, 5th April, 1948.

Francolinus sephaena grantii (Hartl.)

Crested Francolin.

The Crested Francolin keeps to thick bush near gullies and watercourses below 7,000 feet in (b). It is found in parties of up to six near Moggio and Zuquala and is extremely difficult to flush although it can fly very fast. No breeding records.

Francolinus afra psilolæmus (Gray.)

Red-wing Francolin.

Only found in (a) above 8,000 feet. Coveys of up to ten birds occur on open and often stony ground and always sit very tight. During the Italian occupation they greatly decreased and appear still to be doing so. Abichacra has found four nests, all slight depressions at the foot of grass tufts in open country, and the beige coloured eggs never exceeded three.

Francolinus clappertoni sharpii (O. Grant.)

Clapperton's Francolin.

This francolin is not found to the north of a line drawn through Akaki reservoir near where it is getting very scarce, and in the environs of Doukam and Bishoftu its extermination is not far off as the natural thorn scrub cover gets cut down rapidly every year. At Zuquala it begins to get locally plentiful and keeps to patches of thick bush and overgrown gullies in some of the cultivated valleys. Nests containing four and five eggs have been found in November and December.

Francolinus erckelii erckelii (Rüpp.)

Erckel's Francolin.

Abundant everywhere above 8,000 feet where it is found in scattered coveys of up to twenty birds, and hides during the day among the undergrowth of steep hillsides. In the early morning and evening they come out to feed on cultivated fields and are fond of barley grain. Breeding appears to take place throughout the year. In (b) this francolin is found round the lake craters at Bishoftu, and in the hills to the west of Akaki reservoir where it overlaps slightly into the range of F. c. sharpii. However, it was not seen during the brief visit to Mount Zuquala. The colour of the legs irrespective of age, varies from pale yellow to deep orange-red and individuals vary greatly in size.

Coturnix coturnix coturnix (Linn.)

European Quail.

Widespread and sometimes common in teff fields and old sorghum cultivations, and has been shot between 23rd October and 3rd March. A  $\circ$  containing a complete egg shot near Addis Abeba on 18th October 1941 caused Grant and Mackworth-Praed (Bull. B.O.C. lxiv, p. 7) to place Coturnix coturnix erlangeri Zedl. as a synonym of Coturnix coturnix coturnix, and to suppose that the European Quail bred in Abyssinia. However, since specimens of breeding Coturnix c. africana have now been obtained near Addis Abeba it seems probable that the  $\circ$  containing an egg in October represen's some freak phenomenon similar to that displayed by the curlews that dropped eggs on the coast of Mauritius in the the non-breeding season, and that no European Quail breed in Ethiopia, October being the time of their arrival in these latitudes after breeding has finished. It is possible that some individuals remain throughout the year but sight records are unreliable as quail seen between April and September would normally be C. c. africana or C. delegorguei.

Coturnix coturnix africana (Temm. and Schleg.)

Cape Quail.

Two 33 and a 9 were obtained by Woodman on 5th September 1942, north of Addis Abeba, and these had blackish-brown throats, the only character given for Coturnix coturnix erlangeri Zedl., and so Grant and Mackworth-Præd (Bull. B.O.C. lxvii, p. 46) treated this race as a synonym of C. C. C africana instead of C. C coturnix.

I shot a pair about to breed, the  $\mathcal{P}$  containing yolking eggs, together in a marsh near Tafki on 18th July 1948, which agree well with Woodman's specimens. This pair may prove that the Cape Quail breeds in Ethiopia and that Woodman's birds were not really migrants from the south in the non-breeding season, but resident breeders. During the rains I have seen pairs of dark looking quail in (a) and (d), but they are rare and it is unlikely that they were Harlequin Quail. The Cape Quail is undoubtedly scarce near Addis Abeba and it may even make local migrations after breeding.

While examining a series of Cape Quail in the British Museum it became apparent that fifteen skins from Nyasaland, Tanganyika, Kenya and Ethiopia were nearly all darker on the back and more richly coloured than the darkest of forty skins from South Africa, while the five Ethiopian skins averaged darkest about the throat and face. All ten northern males had no white on the rufous of the throat, while twenty-two out of twenty-eight southern males had a variable amount of white showing. Bearing in mind the extreme variability of the species one hesitates to enrich the nomenclature further.

Coturnix delegorguei delegorguei Deleg.

Harlequin Quail.

A  $\ \$ that had apparently flown into some telegraph wires was caught in Addis Abeba 8th July 1948, and brought to Gajdacs. In September I found this quail very abundant on the grass plains between Lake Metahara and Hawash station. One was shot south of Adama and probably odd quail seen in (b) between April and September belong to this species.

Numida meleagris meleagris (Linn.)

Tufted Guinea-fowl.

Not found north of a line passing through Akaki and Tafki, except in a patch of high bush and forest east of Ambo. Once seen north of Doukam but not getting common until dense cover is reached towards Zuquala and south of Bishoftu. Pairing seems to take place chiefly in August and breeding towards the end of the rains. Two-thirds grown birds are common in January and at this time considerable damage is done to teff and "shumbura" peas. Large flocks contain fifty birds and more, and to the less blase they offer good sport and are better eating than any of the francolin.

Rougetius rougetii (Guérin).

Rouget's Rail

Frequents overgrown marshes and streams with plenty of cover in (a), near Gafersa, and in a few places near the road to Addis Alem. It does not seem to range above 8,000 feet, nor does it occur in (b) or (d).

Rallus caerulesens Gmel.

Kaffir Rail.

Patrizi records a \$\text{9}\$ from Tafki, 23rd July 1938.

Crex crex (Linn.)

Abichacra shot a ♀ near Sululta, 27th September 1947, and a second one 10th October 1948.

Crecopsis egregia (Peters).

African Crake.

À ♀ from Addis Abeba, 16th June 1938, Patrizi.

Limnocorax flavirostra (Swains.)

Black Crake.

Common in the bulrushes round the edges of the Bishoftu lakes where it probably breeds.

Porzana pusilla obscura (Neum.)

African Lesser Spotted Crake.

A  $\bigcirc$  containing a fully formed egg was caught by hand in a marsh in (d), 12th July 1947. Abichacra secured a *Porzana* on 18th September 1948 at Sululta (at 22 km. to the left of the road).

Sarothura ayresii (Gurney).

White-winged Rail.

Arrives at Gafersa and Sululta plain during July. Breeds in the Sululta marshes during August, remains at Jeast until mid-September (3 and \$\varphi\$ obtained by Abichacra 10th and 15th September 1948) prior to departure for an unknown destination. Abichacra caught a young bird unable to fly on 22nd September near Sululta and it has been given to the British Museum. (See Guichard (4))

Sarothura rufa rufa (Vieill.)

Red-chested Flufftail.

A  $\mathcal{Q}$  was shot near Gafersa, 30th July 1947.

Gallinula chloropus meridionalis (Brehm).

African Moorhen.

Occurs in the bulrushes around the Bishoftu lakes. Several pairs were observed during April along the stream below Gafersa reservoir.

Gallinula angulata (Sundervall.)

Lesser Moorhen.

During July 1947 Lesser Moorhens were common in pairs in an overgrown swamp in (d). Two 99 had the ovaries greatly enlarged, 31st July. One was seen at Bishoftu, 20th July. On the wing this bird appears grey with trailing yellow legs and a yellow bill. Porphyrio madagascariensis (Lath.)

Purple Gallinule.

K. D. Smith, *Ibis* 1944, p. 247, records the Purple Gallinule as a common resident in suitable marshy localities. I have never seen it in Ethiopia.

Fulica cristata (Gmel.)

Red-knobbed Coot.

Common on Bishoftu lakes where it breeds in May and June.

Balearica pavonina ceciliæ (Mitch.)

Crowned Crane.

Occasionally seen in threes and fours in (b), (c) and (d).

Bugeranus carunculatus (Gmel.)

Wattled Crane.

From July to October feeding in shallow flooded parts of (d), sometimes in large scattered flocks.

Grus grus grus (Linn.)

Common Crane.

Widespread and often feeding in large flocks, 19th October to 10th February.

Lissotis melanogaster melanogaster (Rüpp.)

Black-bellied Bustard.

Found most commonly in (b) south of Bishoftu and near Zuquala in long grass and acacia scrub. Several were seen during July in (d) walking about in a marsh and a 3 was displaying to a 9. A few have been shot near Akaki, but never in (a).

Oedicnemus oedicnemus (Linn.)

Thicknee

A flock of about thirty migrants obvserved on stony ground north of Sululta, 12th January 1946. Probably this species.

Charadrius pecuarius pecuarius (Temm.)

Kittlitz's Sand-Plover

Several parties running about a flooded ploughed field in (d), 18th August.

Charadrius tricollaris tricollaris (Vieill.)

Three-banded Plover.

Normally occurs near water below 6,000 feet, but a single was seen beside a stream on Sululta plain, 12th January.

A Summary of the Birds

Stephanibyx melanopterus melanopterus (Cretz.) Black-winged Plover.

Flocks of up to fifty seen on Sululta plain, August-October, January and March; four obtained from a flock in October were all immature. One flock at Bishoftu in April, and a pair with two chicks, 1st May. Near Harar, a bird was sitting on four eggs in a depression in a ploughed field on 18th April.

Hoplopterus spinosus (Linn.)

Spur-winged Plover.

Uncommon in (b) and (d), and once at Gafersa.

Tylibyx melanocephalus (Rüpp.)

Spot-breasted Plover.

One 3 collected by the Italians, Entoto, 6th February 1940.

Afribyx senegallus major (Neum.)

Wattled Plover.

Between July and October small flocks occur in (b) and (d).

Recurvirostra avosetta (Linn.)

Avocet.

From 26th to 29th March 1946, an Avocet was flying about Gafersa reservoir. Outside the region one was seen at Lake Metahara, 23rd April, and a flock of fifty and many singles and small parties at Lake Hora Abgiata, 22nd April 1948.

Rostratula benghalensis benghalensis (Linn.)

Painted Snipe.

Woodman records occasional ones on the high plateau between November and April, and Patrizi records a dead of being found in Addis Abeba, 27th September 1940. In (d) Abichacra obtained one on 20th August 1948, and on 8th September he shot three 33 and a 2 containing eggs. In his seventeen years experience he has never shot this bird before, but it almost certainly breeds in these marshes near the River Hawash.

Capella gallinago gallinago (Linn.)

Common Snipe.

Widespread in the region from 31st August to 30th March, sometimes in wisps.

Capella media (Lath.)

Great Snipe.

Arrives in the region in large numbers during the second or third week of August and some remain until the beginning of November. Most plentiful in (a) and (d).

Capella nigripennis nigripennis (Bp.)

Ethiopian Snipe.

Arrives in the region during May, June and July and breeds in the marshes of (a) and (d) during Augus. Breeding areas are deserted by the end of October.

Lymnocryptes minmia (Brunnich)

Jack Snipe.

A scarce migrant recorded from (a) and (d) during November and January.

The following migrant waders of which a few individuals remain throughout the year, are widespread in the region:—

Himantopus himantopus (Linn).

Calidris minuta (Leisl.)

Calidris temmincki (Leisl.)

Philomachus pugnax (Linn.)

Actitis hypoleucos (Linn.)

Tringa ochropus (Linn.)

Tringa glareola (Linn.)

Tringa totanus eurhinus (Oberh.)

Tringa erythropus (Pallas)

Tringa nebularia (Gunnerus)

Tringa stagnatilis (Bechst.)

Limosa limosa (Linn.)

Numenius phaeopus phaeopus (Linn.)

Race not determined.

Numenius arquatus (Linn.)

Temminck's Courser.

Cursorius temmincki temmincki Swains.

A single near Zuquala, and eight on a ploughed field near Bishoftu in June.

Hemerodromus Cinctus Cinctus (Heugl)

Henglil's Courser.

Uncommon.

A pair in low Acacia Scrub near Bishoftu, 23rd April.

Glareola pratincola (race?)

Pratincole.

During November an immature bird was shot in (a) and three more seen.

Gelcchelidon nilotica (Gmel.)

Gull-billed Tern.

A single on Gafersa reservoir, 3rd May 1946.

Chlidonias leucoptera (Temm.)

White-winged Black Tern.

In non-breeding plumage during September and November at Gafersa, and mostly in breeding plumage during May and June.

Eremialector quadricinctus lowei (Grant)

Four-banded Sandgrouse.

Patrizi records a 3 from Zuquala plain, April 1939.

Eremialector gutturalis saturation (Hart.)

Yellow-throated Sandgrouse.

This sandgrouse was seen for the first time on 23rd April 1948 near Bishoftu on open fields where it was common. On 5th May flocks were still present in the locality. A loud harsh double note is uttered in flight.

Columba albitorques (Rüpp.)

White-collared Pigeon.

Common in (a) and sometimes flocking in hundreds, this pigeon does considerable damage to newly sown wheat in June. Rare in (b).

Columba guinea guinea (Linn.)

Speckled Pigeon.

Common and widespread.

Columba arquatrix arquatrix (Temm. and Knip.)

Olive Pigeon.

Confined to  $(e^1)$  and  $(e^2)$  where it seldom descends from the highest junipers in the forest.

Streptopelia turtur (Linn.)

Turtle Dove.

Small flocks of Turtle Doves were flying about the Acacias near the Akaki river, February 1948. A specimen is in Gajdac's collection. A Turtle Dove shot in Aussa (Danakil) on 2nd February 1947 belonged to the nominotypical race.

Streptopelia lugens (Rüpp.)

Pink-breasted Dove.

Common in (a) but found as low as 6,000 feet. A nest with one egg was found in a willow overhanging a stream near Addis Abeba, 23rd February.

Streptopelia semitorquata semitorquata (Rüpp.)

Red-eyed Dove.

Common and widespread up to about 8,000 feet. Two nests, one with young, were found near Zuquala, 10th March 1946.

Streptopelia decipiens perspicillata (Fischer and Reichw.)

Mourning Dove.

Common and widespread up to about 8,000 feet. Its peculiar laughing cackle, paler colour, and pale orange-brown eye distinguish it from S. semitorquata.

Streptopelia capicola tropica (Reichw.)

Ring-necked Dove.

Very common in (b) and up to 7,500 feet. The colour of this, the smallest species, varies greatly in intensity as was noticed when flocks feeding on the road one evening near Adama rose constantly in front of the lorry.

Stigmatopelia senegalensis senegalensis (Linn.)

Laughing Dove.

Widespread in pairs below 7,500 feet. Two nests, each with two eggs, were found on 31st August.

Oena capensis capensis (Linn.)

Namaqua Dove.

An occasional visitor to (b).

Turtur chalcopsilos chalcopsilos (Wagler.)

Emerald-spotted Wood Dove.

Occasionally seen in thick bush near Zuquala and Moggio.

Aplopelia larvata bronzina (Rüpp.)

Lemon Dove.

This shy dove was only seen in the shady thickets of Djemdjem forest where it hides by day. In the early morning and evening it feeds along the forest paths.

Treron waalia (Meyer). Bruce's Green Pigeon. Found in fruiting fig trees in (b) and particularly at Bishoftu.

Cuculus canorus gularis (Stephens.)

Wanders into (b) during June and July.

African Cuckoo.

Cuculus solitarius (Stephens.) Red-chested Cuckoo. Not uncommon around Addis Abeba from May to the middle of July, when its loud triple note is frequently heard.

Clamator glandarius (Linn.)

Great Spotted Cuckoo.

Widespread, but mostly immature birds.

Clamator caffer (Licht.)

Levaillant's Cuckoo.

One Q was obtained near Ambo, 27th June 1946.

Clamator jacobinus serratus (Sparrman).

Pied Cuckoo.

Seen near Addis Abeba in June and July.

Chrysococcys caprius (Bodd.)

Didric Cuckoo.

Not uncommon in the region from June to August.

Chrysococcyx klaasi (Steph.)

Klass's Cuckoo.

Widespread from the end of June until August.

Chrysococcyx cupreus cupreus (Shaw).

Emerald Cuckoo

Widespread in the region from April to June. Parasitizes the White-vented Bulbul.

Centropus superciliosus superciliosus (Hemp. and Ehr.) Seen in thick bush near Moggio and Zuquala.

White-browed Coucal.

Tauraco leucotis leucotis (Rüpp.)

White-cheeked Turaco.

Common in  $(e^1)$  and  $(e^2)$ , and observed eating wild figs.

Corythaixoides leucogaster (Rüpp.)

White-bellied Goaway Bird.

Wanders occasionally into the south of (b).

Gymnoschizorhis personata personata (Rüpp.)

Bare-faced Goaway Bird.

Only seen in thick bush near Zuquala in parties.

Poicephalus flavifrons flavifrons (Rüpp.)

Yellow-fronted Parrot.

Restricted to  $(e^1)$  and  $(e^2)$  where it keeps to the tallest trees.

Poicephalus rufiventris rufiventris (Rüpp.)

Orange-bellied Parrot.

An occasional visitor to the south of (b).

Agapornis taranta (Stanley).

Black-winged Lovebird.

Widespread and not uncommon, usually in small travelling flocks.

Coracias abyssinica (Hermann.)

Abyssinian Roller.

Coracias caudata caudata (Linn.)

Common below 7,500 feet.

Lilac-breasted Roller.

A pair with the lilac extending over the entire breast was obtained at Bishoftu, 22nd September 1946. These are in Gajdacs' collection. A week earlier a good view was had of another in the same locality sitting on telegraph wires.

Coracias caudata lorti (Shelley.)

Common in (b), many seen on telegraph wires.

Coracias neovia noevia (Daud.)

Rufous-crowned Roller.

Widespread in (b).

Ceryle rudis rudis (Linn.)

Pied Kingfisher.

Widespread below 7,500 feet.

Megaceryle maxima maxima (Pallas.) Giant Kingfisher.

A rare wanderer into the region; one seen at a quarry pool near Addis Abeba, 8th October 1945. It is rare on the Hawash River south of Adama.

Alcedo semitorquata (Swains.)

Half-collared Kingfisher.

Several recorded from Akaki in May, and one near Addis Abeba.

Corythornis cristata cristata (Pall.)

Malachite Kingfisher.

Widespread at all altitudes.

Halcyon senegalensis senegalensis (Linn.)

Woodland Kingfisher.

One specimen was obtained near Moggio, 1st June. It is common during June on the Hawash River south of Adama but none were noted during November and December. In February it is common in Aussa (Danakil), and a movement from higher levels into the Danakil may possibly occur at the end of the rains, and it is unlikely that any of these birds are of West African origin.

Halcyon leucocephala leucocephala (Mull.)

Grey-headed Kingfisher.

Occurs in (b), and at Bishoftu one was seen entering a hole in a bank beside a stream on 13th June (similar record from River Hawash, 8th June.)

Halcyon chelicuti chelicuti (Stanley.)

Striped Kingfisher.

Uncommon near Bishoftu, Moggio and Zuquala.

Merops apiaster (Linn.)

European Bee-eater.

A common passage migrant in Addis Abeba between February and April, latest date 27th April. The autumn migration possibly takes place to the east of the high plateau where at that season heavy storms would make travel difficult. European Bee-eaters were seen on 9th September near Hawash station.

Merops nubicus (Gmel.)

Carmine Bee-eater.

Occasionally seen below 7,500 feet but becomes common at much lower altitudes. Melittophagus variegatus lafresnayii (Guér.) Blue-breasted Bee-eater.

Widespread and not uncommon, they appear to breed in banks and cliffs during March.

Bycanistes brevis (Friedmann.)

Silvery-cheeked Hornbill.

I once thought I heard this bird far away in the depths of Djemdjem forest but it must be very rare. In western Ethiopia it is the most conspicuous forest bird.

Tockus nasutus nasutus (Linn.)

Grey Hornbill.

Rare in (b).

Tockus erythrorhynchus erythrorhynchus (Temm.)

Red-beaked Hornbill.

Common below 7,500 feet. A young bird was obtained near Zuquala in January.

Tockus hemprichii (Ehr.)

Hemprich's Hornbill.

Widespread but not common.

Bucorvus abyssinicus (Bodd.)

Ground Hornbill.

A pair was reported nesting in a cliff at Bishoftu. Small parties are occasionally seen near Moggio and Zuquala.

Upupa epops senegalensis (Swains.)

Senegal Hoopoe.

Very common and widespread. A pair nested in a hole in a wall in Addis Abeba during April.

Phoeniculus somaliensis neglectus (Neum.)

Black-billed Wood Hoopoe.

Common in parties in (b) and (c).

Scoptelus aterrimus notatus (Salvin.)

Black Wood Hoopoe.

One specimen was obtained near Zuquala in January.

Rhinopomastus minor minor (Rüpp.)

Abyssinian Scimitar-bill.

Uncommon near Moggio and Zuquala.

Tyto alba affinis (Blyth.)

African Barn Owl.

Found in Addis Abeba and above 8,000 feet. On 19th February a young bird was caught in Dessie.

Asio abyssinicus abyssinicus (Guér.)

Abyssinian Long-eared Owl.

This local owl is confined to grassy rocky areas above 8,000 feet north of Addis Abeba. I have seen it about eight times and it was invariably flushed from the ground and from amongst grass and boulders on the top of small hills or from hillsides. A  $\varphi$  was obtained, 24th August 1947, and is in Gajdacs' collection.

Ciccaba woodfordi umbrina (Heugl.)

African Wood-Owl.

During July 1947, a young bird with traces of natal down on the shoulders was caught in the British Legation grounds at Addis Abeba. There is a \$\inp \text{from Addis Abeba}\$ in Gajdacs' collection.

Otus leucotis leucotis (Temm.)

White-faced Scops Owl.

Two specimens were obtained near Bishoftu.

Glaucidium perlatum (Vieill.)

Pearl-spotted Owlet.

One seen in a ravine near Zuquala. Another was observed in bright sunshine holding a frog in its talons.

Bubo capensis dillonii (Des Murs and Prévost.)

Abyssinian Eagle-Owl.

This owl is confined to the higher altitudes of the high plateau, and Zaphiro obtained specimens on Managasha. It occurs on Entoto and apparently in Addis Abeba but is seldom seen.

Bubo africanus cinarescens (Guér.)

Spotted Eagle-Owl.

Widely distributed (both grey and brown phase).

Bubo lacteus (Temm.)

Verreaux's Eagle-Owl.

A pair was seen in a deep wooded gorge near Bishoftu and they probably preyed on rock rabbits which were common in the cliffs nearby.

Caprimulgus nubicus torridus (Phil.)

Nubian Nightjar.

A Q was shot near Addis Abeba in low vegetation near a stream, 28th July. In February it is found amongst tamarisks in the Dobi valley of the Eastern Danakil.

Caprimulgus poliocephalus (Rüpp.)

Abyssinian Nightjar.

Colonies of up to twenty nightjars occur on scrubby hillsides above 7,500 feet and probably belong to this species although no specimen was obtained. One such colony was found in July on a sheltered slope near the Akaki stream to the east of the road leading to Akaki.

Macrodiptervx longipennis (Shaw.)

Standard-wing Nightjar.

A d in breeding plumage was seen on 1st May near Bishoftu in dense scrub.

Colius striatus (Gmel.)

Speckled Mousebird.

Common and widespread.

Apaloderma narina narina (Steph.)

Narina's Trogom.

Seen a few times in shady places in Djemdjem forest.

Lybius guifsobalito (Hermann.)

Black-billed Barbet.

Mostly confined to fig trees in (b) and (c).

Lybius undatus undatus (Rüpp.)

Uncommon in (b) and (c). An immature bird was obtained north of Akaki on 28th June. A cockchafer was caught and eaten by one.

Tricholaema melanocephalum melanocephalum (Cretz.) Black-throated Barbet. Friedmann gives the distribution . . . "south as far as Addis Abeba," but it appears to be a bird of the more arid regions and I have never seen it.

Pogoniulus chrysoconus xanthostictus (Blundell and Lovat). Yellow-fronted Tinker-bird. Rare in Djemdjem forest.

Indicator indicator (Sparrman.)

Black-throated Honey-Guide.

Patrizi records a 3 from Addis Abeba, 13th April 1940, but I have never seen it north of Adama.

Campethera nubica nubica (Bodd)

Nubian Woodpecker.

Not uncommon in (b) and (c).

Dendropicos fuscescens hemprichii (Ehr.)

Cardinal Woodpecker.

Rare in (b) where it hunts in pairs in the Acacias.

Tawny Pipit.

Richard's Pipit

Dendropicos abvssinicus (Stanley.) Golden-backed Woodpecker. Rare in the more wooded parts of (a). Patrizi records it from Holetta and Zaphiro collected specimens from Managasha.

Mesopicos goertae spodocephalus (Bp.) Grey Woodpecker. Occurs in (b) and (c), often tapping in fig trees. It ranges far below 6,000 feet and is found in the Eastern Danakil in Aussa.

Jynx ruficollis aequatorialis (Rüpp.) Red-breasted Wryneck. Uncommon in (a) and once seen at wild figs near Managasha, and taking nectar from Aloes.

Apus niansae (Reichw.) Nyanza Swift. Parties of Swifts appear in the region throughout the year. A 3 shot in (a) on 6th June had enlarged testes.

Apus melba africanus (Temm.) Alpine Swift. Flocks of travelling Alpine Swifts appear in (a) during July and August. A 3 from Sululta, 25th July had fine dark shaft streaks on the feathers of the gular patch and

Apus aequatorialis aequatorialis (Muller). Mottled Swift. A 3 was shot from a travelling band near Gafersa, 22nd June 1946.

Apus horus (Heugl.) Horus Swift. Has been seen at Bishoftu and Sendefa during July and August.

Apus affinis affinis (Gray.) Little Swift. Only one record, near a quarry in Addis Abeba, 8th October.

Galerida thecklae praetermissa (Blanf.) Theckla Lark. Widespread and common particularly in (a).

Eremopteryx leucotis leucotis (Stanley.) Chestnut-backed Sparrow-Lark. Widespread in (b), (c) and (d).

Calandrella cinerea erlangeri (Neum.) Red-capped Lark. Occurs as far south as Akaki and Tafki but more typically a bird of (a).

Motacilla clara clara (Sharpe.) Mountain Wagtail. Widespread and found on streams.

The following migrant wagtails are present in the region between September and March:

Monacilla alba alba (Linn.)

M. cinerea cinerea (Tunstall)

Budytes thunbergi feldegg (Mich.)

B flavus flavus and races (?)

Anthus campestris campestris (Linn.) A rare passage migrant

Anthus similis hararensis (Neum.) Long-billed Pipit.

Common in (b) and frequently perches on bushes.

Anthus richardi cinnamomeus (Rüpp.) Common and widely distributed.

Anthus trivialis trivialis (Linn.) Tree Pipit.

Several times at Bishoftu during March.

Anthus cervinus (Pallas) Red-throated Pipit. A common passage migrant.

Macronyx flavicollid. (Rüpp.) Abyssinian Long-claw Common in (a). A nest, similar to that described by Cheesman, was found near Addis Abeba on 10th August and contained two young.

Turdoides leucopygia (Rüpp.)

White-rumped Babbler.

Common and widespread in chattering parties.

Alseonax adustus minimus (Heugl.)

Dusky Flycatcher.

Confined to (a) and common in Addis Abeba.

Parisoma lugens lugens (Rüpp.)

Brown Tit-Flycatcher.

Confined to the sheltered parts of (a) where parties hunt for insects in the larger Acacias. It is rare and I have only seen it to the west of Addis Abeba.

Parophasma galinieri (Guér.)

Abyssinian Catbird.

Typically found in parties of up to eight in fringing forest and high scrub at Djemdjem. Single birds have been seen at Managasha, and in Addis Abeba gardens where it used to be not uncommon.

Bradornis pallidus neumanni (Hilg.)

Pale Flycatcher.

A specimen was obtained amongst Acacias near Bishoftu in June.

Dioptrornis chocolatinus chocolatinus (Rüpp.)

Slaty Flycatcher.

A common resident in (a), and in Addis Abeba gardens where it is sometimes seen in parties.

Melaenornis edolioides schistacea (Sharpe.)

Black Flycatcher.

Occurs in (b) and sometimes in parties.

Tchitrea viridis ferreti (Guér.)

Paradise Flycatcher.

Widespread and usually in pairs. Nested in a Eucalyptus in Addis Abeba in June, both birds taking turns on the nest.

Batis minor erlangeri (Neum.)

Black-headed Flycatcher.

Occasionally seen in Acacias in sheltered areas in (a). At lower altitudes in (b) similar looking birds are probably *Batis orientalis orientalis* and the mournful six or seven notes on a descending scale something like the revolutions of a squeaky cart wheel, I attribute to this last species and have never heard the song of *B. minor*.

Turdus olivaceus abyssinicus (Gmel.)

Olive Thrush.

Common above 7,500 feet and in Addis Abeba gardens. Nesting occurs in May and June.

Psophocichla litsitsirupa simensis (Rüpp.)

Ground-scraper Thrush.

Common and widespread and breeds in May and June.

Monticola saxatilis (Linn.)

Rock-Thrush.

During November it is a not uncommon passage migrant in Addis Abeba (seen at Hawash in October).

Monticola solitaria longirostris (Blyth.)

Blue Rock-Thrush.

A rare passage migrant. Zaphiro obtained two in Managasha during October and November.

Monticola rufocinerea rufocinerea (Rüpp.)

Little Rock-Thrush.

Seen a few times near Bishoftu in a rocky ravine. Young out of the nest were being fed by parents near Adama on 21st June.

Oenanthe lugubris lugubris (Rüpp.)

Abyssinian Black Wheatear.

Always about cliffs and ravines in several localities near Bishoftu, and near the edge of the Cassam River gorge. Not uncommon where it occurs.

Oenanthe bottae frenata (Heugl.)

Red-breasted Wheatear.

Common and widespread above 7,000 feet.

The following passage migrants are found in the region between September and March:

Oenanthe oenanthe (Linn.)

O. isabellina (Temm.)

O. deserti deserti (Temm.)

O. hispanica melanoleuca (Guld.)

O. leucomela (Pal!.)

Pinarochroa sordida sordida (Rüpp.)

Common in (a) but not seen below 7,500 feet.

Hill Chat.

Pentholæa melaena (Rüpp.)

Rüppell's Chat.

This chat is very local and I have only seen it in small parties a little way down the Cassam River gorge near the Dessie road. It shows a distinct preference for the vicinity of waterfalls, and outside the region such localities occur below Fiché and along the Blue Nile gorge where the chat is equally local.

Cossypha semirufa semirufa (Rüpp.)

Rüppell's Robin-Chat.

Common in gardens in Addis Abeba where it sings sweetly at dusk. It breeds during June and is also found at lower altitudes.

Thamnolæa cinnamomeiventris albiscapulata (Rüpp.)

Cliff-Chat.

This is a more sprightly and elegant chat than T. semirufa and is always seen about cliffs near water. It is common in a ravine east of the road leading to Akaki and young birds were present there on 28th June. Also seen about the cliffs at Bishoftu and Zuquala.

Thamnolæa semirufa (Rüpp.)

White-winged Cliff-Chat.

In (a), often in small parties near Gafersa but not seen below 7,500 feet.

Saxicola torquata albifasciata Rüpp.

Abyssinian Stonechat.

Common in (a) above 8,000 feet. Near Sululta on 13th August spotted young were attended by their parents on a scrubby hillside.

Saxicola torquata (Linn.)

Stonechat

Migrant Stonechats are common in the region during the dry season and they are referable to S. t. armenica Steg., and S. t. variegata (Gmel.)

Saxicola rubetra (Linn.)

Whinchat.

A few Whinchats were noted during April between Moggio and Bishoftu.

Cyanosylvia svecica (Linn.)

Bluethroat.

A 3 is recorded by Patritzi from Holetta, 7th February 1941.

Pyconotus barbatus schoanus (Neum.)

White-vented Bulbul.

Common and widespread.

Sylvia atricapilla (Linn.)

Blackcap

During December several Bl ckcaps were seen in the denser parts of Djemdjem.

Phylloscopus trochilus (Linn.)

Willow Warbler.

Phylloscopus collybita (Vieill.)

Chiffchaff.

Not uncommon migrants and seen in Addis Abeba gardens.

Sathrocercus cinnamoneus cinnamoneus (Rüpp.)

Cinnamon Warbler.

This warbler is local in (a) and confined usually to thick bush near streams on the lower slopes of the hills to the west of Addis Abeba.

Calamoecetor leptorhyncha macrorhyncha (Jackson)

Lesser Swamp Warbler.

Restricted in the region to the edges of the Bishoftu lakes amongst the bulrushes, where they hunt for insects practically at water level and are very tame.

Sylvietta brachyura leucopsis (Reichw.)

Crombec.

Small parties of Crombecs are occasionally seen hunting in Acacias in (b).

Eremomela griseoflava griseoflava (Heugl.)

Yellow-bellied Eremomela.

Not uncommon in (b) and (c) hunting for food in Acacias. A cup-shaped papery nest lined with white feathers containing two white brown-spotted eggs was found on a bare Acacia twig on 30th June near Zuquala.

Camaroptera brevicaudata abessinica (Zedl.) Grey-backed Camaroptera. Widespread but not very common it shows a preference for Acacias.

Cisticola brunnescens brunnescens (Heugl.) Cloud-scraper. Common on open grassland above 7,000 feet and breeds during the rains.

Cisticola erythrops pyrrhomita (Reichw.) Red-faced Cisticola. A pair was seen in thick undergrowth near Bishoftu lake, but it must be rare.

Cisticola galactotes lugubris (Rüpp.) Winding Cisticola. Common and widespread in the neighbourhood of water.

Stout Cistico<sup>1</sup>a. Cisticola robusta (Rüpp.) Common and widely distributed. Nests with white eggs and blue eggs found in August.

Cisticola natalensis inexpecta (Neum.) Croaking Cisticola. Recorded from near Addis Abeba (Yeka), O. Grant (3).

Prinia subflava subflava (Gmel.) Tawny-flanked Prinia. Common and widespread, also in Addis Abeba gardens. It breeds during the rains. Hirundo rustica rustica (Linn.) Swallow.

A passage migrant, September-October and March - April.

Hirundo rustica rothschildi (Neum.)

A common and widespread resident, breeds near Akaki and Bishoftu in May and June. Hirundo smithii smithii (Leach.) Wire-tailed Swallow.

Widespread but never common.

Hirundo daurica melanocrissa (Rüpp.) Red-rumped Swallow. Occurs near Addis Abeba and at Bishoftu and breeding appears to take place during the rains. The song is a characteristic rattling twitter.

Hirundo senegalensis senegalensis (Linn.)

Mosque Swallow.

Common at Bishoftu and near Addis Abeba.

Hirundo abyssinica abyssinica (Guér.) Smaller Striped Swallow. Only seen at Bishoftu where several were building nests on a cliff face on 13th June. On 20th April a pair were frequenting a retort-shaped mud nest under a road culvert near Harar.

Hirundo griseopyga griseopyga (Sund.) Grey-rumped Swallow. Common at Bishoftu, 20th July 1947, where they were flying about slowly in parties and some were prospecting some bare ground and settling.

Riparia paludicola schoensis (Reichw.) African Sand-Martin. Common and widespread and breeds in holes in the banks of the Akaki River and at Bishoftu in July and August.

Riparia cincta erlangeri (Reichw.) Banded Martin. Widespread and breeding in the banks of the Akaki River during August.

Ptyonoprogne fuligula pusilla (Zedl.) African Rock Martin. Frequently seen in Addis Abeba and widespread elsewhere about cliffs. There are three records outside the region of this martin making cup-shaped nests, on 20th October

below Fiché on a cliff face, on 20th May at Lekempti on wall of building with three young in nest, and on 20th July at Dessie under eaves of a building.

Blue Rough-wing Swallow. Psalidoprocne pristoptera pristoptera (Rüpp.) Widespread in the region, small parties are usually found flying to and fro with a rather slow undulating flight over streams and in wooded ravines. Sometimes mixed parties of swallows contain a single Rough-wing. They rarely settle and when they do it is upon trees and bushes. Erlanger records a nest with nestlings at Addis Abeba on 26th July. Elsewhere they have been seen entering holes in banks during June. The dark blue sheen (bottle green in P. p. blanfordi) is sometimes visible in flight,

Psalidoprocne antinorii (Salvad.)

Brown Rough-wing Swallow.

Apparently rare but on occasions may have been mistaken for the Blue Roughwing. Degen collected two \$\varphi\$ from Addis Abeba in March 1902.

Campephaga flava (Vieill.)

Black Cuckoo-Shrike.

A  $\mathcal{P}$  was shot in open country near Djemdjem on 3rd March.

Graucalus caesia pura (Sharpe).

Grey Cuckoo-Shrike.

Found in Diemdiem forest, sometimes in parties in the taller trees.

Dicrurus adsimilis adsimilis (Bechst.)

Drongo.

Common in (b) but not seen above 7,500 feet.

Lanius excubitor buryi Lor. and (Hellm.)

Great Grey Shrike.

One was obtained from a party of three near Akaki on 19th August, and had a faint greyish wash on the breast and wing 110.

Lanius excubitorius bohmi (Reichw)

Grey-backed Fiscal.

Abundant in Acacias usually in parties in (b) and (c) and local in (d).

Lanius collaris humeralis (Stan.)

Fiscal.

Common and widespread and breeds from late May to August.

Laniarius ferrugineus Aethiopicus (Gmel.)

Boubou.

Widespread and common in pairs in thick bush.

Tchagra senegala habessinica (Hemp. and Ehr.)

Black-headed Bush-Shrike.

Widespread where suitable cover exists from 6,000 to 10,000 feet.

Parus leuconotus (Guér.)

White-backed Black Tit.

Rare and local in (a) above 8,000 feet and usually in Acacias.

Oriolus oriolus oriolus (Linn.)

Golden Oriole.

Gajdacs shot one near Holetta on 5th October 1928.

Oriolus monacha monacha (Gmel.)

Black-headed Forest Oriole.

Common and pleasantly vocal in  $(e^1)$  and  $(e^2)$ .

Corvus albus (Muller.) Widespread.

Pied Crow.

Corvus capensis kordofanensis (Laub.)

Common and widespread.

Cape Rook,

Corvultur crassirostris (Rüpp.)

Thick-billed Raven.

Rare in Addis Abeba and not seen elsewhere.

Rhinocorax rhipidurus (Hart.)

Fan-tailed Raven.

Common and widespread, and probably breeds at Bishoftu.

Creatophora carunculata (Gmel.)

Wattled Starling.

Common in (b) from June to August. In 1946 many near Doukam were visiting large stick nests in old Acacias.

Lamprocolius chalybaeus chalybaeus (Hemp and Ehr.) Blue-eared Glossy Starling. Common and widespread.

Lamprotornis purpuropterus purpuropterus (Rüpp.) Rüppel's Long-tailed Glossy Starling. Occasionally seen in (b).

Onychognathus morio ruppellii (Verr.)

Red-wing Starling.

Widespread but local, occurring in flocks about cliffs and ravines including Managasha and the rocky summit of Wachacha. It is difficult to distinguish in the field from O. tenuirostris but is larger and possibly more gregarious.

Onychognathus tenuirostris (Rüpp.)

Slender-billed Chestnut-wing Starling.

Apparently uncommon in (a) and only identified from a pair obtained near Gafersa. In the hand easily distinguished from the Red-wing Starling by the bottle green gloss of the head in both sexes (flecked with grey in the  $\mathcal{P}$ ) strongly contrasting with the bluishpurple of the back. In O. morio ruppellii there is no contrast in the  $\beta$ , and the  $\varphi$  has the top of the head ashy grey, the grey colour extending onto the nape.

Cinnyricinclus leucogaster arabicus (Grant and Praed.) Violet-backed Starling.
Two ♂♂ were obtained on Managasha by Zaphiro during November 1904.

Spreo pulcher rufiventris (Rüpp.) Chestnut-bellied Starling. Cheesman records this starling frequently in Addis Abeba, but in Ethiopia I have

only seen it near the Mareb River on the Eritrean border.

Spreo superbus (Rüpp.)

Superb Starling.

Common and widespread. Breeding activity has been noted in March and August.

Buphagus erythrorhynchus erythrorhynchus (Stan.) Red-billed Oxpecker.

Common and widespread On 25th April a pair was seen visiting a hole in an old Acacia

Zosterops virens kaffensis (Neum.)

Green White-eye.

Not uncommon in (a). On 8th July parents were feeding two young with termites in an Addis Abeba garden.

Zosterops pallidus poliogastra (Heugl.)

Pale White-eye.

Recorded by Patritzi from Addis Abeba.

Nectarinia tacazze (Stan.)

Tacazze Sunbird.

Common above 7,500 feet, and plentiful near the top of Wachacha visiting the flowers of the Giant Lobelia in July. Also occurs on Mount Zuquala. Breeding takes place during the rains.

Cinnyris mariquensis osiris (Finsch.)

Mariqua Sunbird.

Found at Bishoftu and south to Moggio and Zuquala.

Cinnyris venustus fazoqlensis (Heugl.)

Variable Yellow-bellied Sunbird.

Common above 7,500 feet and occurs on Mount Zuquala. Breeds during the rains.

Salpornis spilonota Franklin.

Spotted Creeper.

Patritzi records three specimens from Holetta collected in 1941.

Bubalornis albirostris intermedius (Cab.)

Buffalo Weaver.

Common towards Moggio and Zuquala.

Dinemellia dinemelli dinemelli (Rüpp.)

White-headed Buffalo Weaver.

Occurs near Moggio and Zuquala.

Plocepasser mahali melanorhynchus (Bp.)

Stripe-breasted Sparrow Weaver.

Nests in Acacias in the south of (b).

Passer swainsonii (Rüpp.)

Swainson's Sparrow.

Common and widespread. Nests in Addis Abeba from June to September, in buildings under eaves and in rafters. Young are fed with green caterpillars.

Sorella eminibey (Hartl.)

Chestnut Sparrow.

During November 1946 there was a colony containing about thirty weaver type nests in an Acacia beside a native store in Moggio village. This bird was not seen elsewhere in the region, but occurs near Lake Metahara.

Ploceus cucullatus abyssinicus (Gmel.)

Black-headed Weaver.

Occurs everywhere in (b), and breeding colonies are found in August and September, usually over water. One colony was feeding young with grasshoppers.

Ploceus spekei (Heugl.)

Speke's Weaver.

Only found in (d) and breeds in small colonies in bamboo grass of native gardens and in small solitary Acacias from July to September.

Ploceus baglafecht baglafecht (Daud.)

Baglafecht Weaver.

Common in (a) and nesting singly in June and July.

Ploceus galvula (Rüpp.)

Rüppell's Weaver.

A few pairs were nesting in dense vegetation near one of the Bishoftu lakes in August, Not seen above 7,000 feet and never in flocks,

Quelea quelea Aethiopica (Sund.)

Red-billed Quelea.

Small flocks at Bishoftu in June.

Euplectes orix pusilla (Hart.)

Red Bishop.

Scattered over the region below 8,000 feet between July and September but not identified in non-breeding plumage.

Euplectes capensis xanthomelas (Rüpp.)

Yellow Bishop.

Local and breeding in marshes above 7,500 feet between July and September.

Euplectes afra stricta (Hartl.)

Breeding in the same areas and at the same time as the Yellow Bishop but more abundant.

Yellow-crowned Bishop.

Coliupasser axillaris traversii (Salvad.)

Fan-tailed Widow.

Common between June and September and breeding in marshes above 7,000 feet.

Coliupasser macrocercus (Licht.)

Yellow-shouldered Widow.

Only seen in (b), where a flock of thirty, some dd in partial breeding dress, were feeding in tall grass of a dry crater at Bishoftu on 20th July. On 19th August a d in full breeding dress was observed in a marsh near Akaki.

Coliupasser laticauda laticauda (Licht.)

Red-naped Widow.

A few males in breeding dress seen during August near Addis Alem. A number of males were displaying to females as late as 20th October.

Amadina fasciata alexanderi (Neum.)

Cut-throat.

Only seen a few times near Bishoftu in open bush country.

Ortygospiza atricollis fuscocrissa (Heugl.)

Quail Finch.

Common and widespread in small flocks on open grassland.

Anomalospiza imberbis imberbis (Cab.)

Parasitic Weaver.

At Bishoftu on 20th July a scattered flock was feeding on thistles in a dry crater. The males resemble a bright coloured Citril Finch.

Lagonosticta senegala brunneiceps (Sharpe.)

Red-billed Fire Finch.

Common everywhere near human habitations. Breeds in Addis Abeba during the ains.

Coccopygia melanotis quartina (Bp.)

Yellow-bellied Waxbill.

Not uncommon in (a) and in Addis Abeba gardens. On 17th August a pair were making a grass nest in a thistle, the male bringing grass bents to the female in the nest at two minute intervals.

Estrilda astrild peasei (Shelley.)

Waxbill.

Occasional flocks were seen in a marsh at Gafersa in July and September.

Estrilda subflava subflava (Vieill)

Zebra Waxbill.

On 3rd August large flocks of this waxbill were in a marsh east of Ambo. Patritzi records specimens from Holetta in February.

Uraeginthus bengalus schoanus (Neum.)

Red-cheeked Cordon-Bleu.

Common and widespread.

Hypochera ultramarina ultramarina (Gmel.)

Indigo Finch.

Widespread but rare.

Vidua macroura (Pallas).

Pin-tailed Whydah.

Common and widespread and assumes breeding dress in June.

Serinus flavivertex flavivertex (Blanf.)

Yellow-crowned Canary.

Specimens were obtained from a large flock near Managasha on 23rd July and a flock was seen near Sululta in August. Liable to be confused with the Citril Finch which, however, does not flock in large numbers.

Serinus tristriatus tristriatus (Rüpp.)

Brown-rumped Seed-eater.

Common in (a) and in Addis Abeba. A linnet-like nest with three bluish-white eggs streaked purple-brown was found in a thistle on 8th October.

Serinus leucopygius (eucopygius (Sund.)

Rare in (b), a small flock was seen in light thorn scrub near Doukam in August.

Serinus atrogularis reichenowi (Rüpp.)

White-rumped Seed-eater.

Yellow-rumped Seed-eater.

Occasional parties in (b).

Serinus striolatus striolatus (Rüpp.)

Common in (a) and in Addis Abeba gardens. A nest with four eggs was found in a wild rose on 16th September.

Carduelis citrinelloides citrinelloides (Rüpp.)

African Citril.

Common and widespread above 7,500 feet.

Carduelis nigriceps (Rüpp.)

Black-headed Siskin.

Abundant in open country between 8,000 and 10,000 feet. A linnet-like nest with two young was found at 9,000 feet in a low bush on 8th June.

Emberiza hortulana (Linn.)

Ortolan Bunting.

This migrant only occurs in (a), noted between 13th December and 29th March.

Fringillaria tahapisi tahapisi (Smith.)

Cinnamon-breasted Rock Bunting.

Widespread in rocky localities below 8,000 feet.

Species found south-east of Moggio (Adama, River Hawash at Bukuru Bridge and the Hot Springs) which probably occur in the south of Area (b).

Oedicnemus senegalensis inornatus Salvad.

Stephanibyx coronatus coronatus (Bodd.)

Turnix sylvatica lepurana (Smith), rare.

Centropus senegalensis senegalensis (Linn.)

Cuculus clamosus Stephens.

September only.

Aerops albicollis Vieill.

Melittophagus pusillis cyanostictus (Cab.)

Tockus deckeni (Cab.)

Otus scops senegalensis (Swains).

Pogoniulus pusillus uropygialis (Heugl.)

Prionops cristata cristata Rüpp.

Malaconotus blanchoti perspicillatus (Reichw.)

Chlorophoneus sulfureopectus similis (Smith)

Lanius senator niloticus (Bp.)

Parus leucomelas leucomelas Rüpp.

Nectarinia pulchella lucidipectus Hart.

Chalcomitra senegalensis cruentata (Rüpp.)

Campephaga phoenicea (Lath.)