

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. CXCIV.

THE hundred and ninety-first Meeting of the Club was held at Pagani's Restaurant, 42-48 Great Portland Street, W., on Wednesday, the 14th of January, 1914.

Chairman: Hon. W. ROTHSCHILD, Ph.D., F.R.S.

Members present:—E. C. STUART BAKER, G. BAYNES, E. BIDWELL, C. D. BORRER, P. F. BUNYARD, Colonel STEPHENSON R. CLARKE, H. O. FORBES, LL D., C. H. B. GRANT, Rev. J. R. HALE, Major H. H. HARRINGTON, E. HARTERT, Ph.D., G. B. HONY, Major B. R. HORSBRUGH, C. INGRAM, T. IREDALE, Rev. F. C. R. JOURDAIN, G. C. LAMBERT, G. E. LODGE, P. R. LOWE, M.D., G. M. MATHEWS, E. G. B. MEADE-WALDO, T. H. NEWMAN, W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT (*Editor*), C. OLDHAM, C. E. PEARSON, F. R. RATCLIFF, C. B. RICKETT, W. L. SCLATER, F. C. SELOUS, D. SETH-SMITH, E. F. STANFORD, C. G. TALBOT-PONSONBY, R. H. READ, Commander R. E. VAUGHAN, R.N., H. M. WALLIS, H. F. WITHERBY (*Sec. & Treas.*), A. F. R. WOLLASTON, R. O. WYNNE.

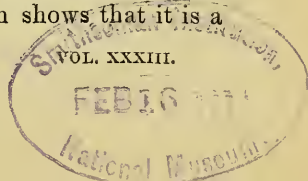
Visitors:—T. P. ALDWORTH, C. F. BELCHER, P. A. BUXTON, H. A. A. DOMBRAIN, C. E. C. STANFORD, M.D. R.N.

Dr. E. HARTERT exhibited examples of a new form of the Red Kite, which he described as follows:—

MILVUS MILVUS FASCIICAUDA, subsp. n.

Adult male. All the rectrices, the central pair included, are barred, the tail being much less forked than in *M. m. milvus*. In this respect this subspecies resembles *M. migrans*, the Black Kite, but a closer examination shows that it is a

[January 29th, 1914.]



form of the Red Kite, as is proved by the colour of the head, neck, upper-back, wing-coverts, chest, and tail, as well as by the greater length of the latter. The middle rectrices are generally crossed by 8 or 9 greyish-black bars, and the length of the fork of the tail does not exceed 40 mm. (as compared with 70–85 in *M. m. milvus*). The underside is browner than in *M. m. milvus*, but not so brown as in *M. migrans*; the bases of the primary-quills are white.

♂. Wing 445–460 mm.; tail 285–300.

♀. Wing 475–490 mm.; tail 310–320.

Hab. Cape Verde Islands.

Type in the Tring Museum: ♂. Santo Antão, Cape Verde Islands, 12. xii. 97. Boyd Alexander coll.

Obs. There are two skins of this Kite in the Tring Museum and seven in the British Museum, which I have examined. This bird is resident in the Cape Verde Islands, and nests on rocks.

Dr. E. HARTERT further pointed out that the Kites hitherto known as *Milvus ægyptius* were by no means all of the same form, but that the Egyptian race, the true *Milvus ægyptius*, was a larger bird, with much more rufous on the head, neck, rump, and upper wing-coverts; the tail more or less cinnamon-rufous; and the abdomen always rufous. On the other hand, the birds from South and Tropical Africa were smaller and much browner, the underside not always rufous, and the tail always of a greyish-brown, instead of rufous; the head, neck, and wing-coverts were also darker. For this darker form the name

MILVUS ÆGYPTIUS PARASITUS Daud.,

based on Levaillant's "Parasite" from South Africa, was available.

The true *M. ægyptius* ranged southwards, sometimes, perhaps in winter only, to South Arabia and Somaliland. A bird from Mt. Kenya appeared to be intermediate, like some of those from Somaliland.

Mr. E. BIDWELL exhibited two photographs of an egg of the Great Auk, now in the collection of the Comte de