

BIRDS.—By R. Bowdler Sharpe, F.L.S., F.Z.S., etc., Assistant in the Zoological Department, British Museum.

Our knowledge of the recent Avifauna of the island of Rodriguez has hitherto been confined to a few memoirs published by Mr. Edward Newton, and Professor Alfred Newton of Cambridge. The former has given us an account of a hurried trip of a few days duration made by him in 1864 (*Ibis*, 1865, pp. 146–154), and it says much for his zealous collecting that the collections now received add very little to his account of the ornithology of the island, and confirm in nearly every instance the correctness of his identifications. Two indigenous species were then discovered by him, both of them proving new to science, and these were described by Professor Newton as *Foudia flavicans* and *Drymæca? rodericana*. More recently he has described a *Palæornis* from this island as *Palæornis exsul* (*Ibis*, 1872, p. 33), and in 1875 a figure of this interesting bird was published (*Ibis*, 1875, pl. vii.). The naturalists attached to the present expedition did not procure a specimen, but Mr. Henry Slater saw one on one occasion only :—“ This was on the 30th of September, “ towards the south-western end of the island, where there is a good deal of wood, “ and he could have shot the bird if he had had a gun with him ; but neither of his “ companions was favoured with a sight of this expiring species, and no further “ information about it could be obtained from the Creoles.” (Newton, *Ibis*, 1875, p. 343.) Of the collections brought home by the naturalists to the Expedition, that of Mr. Slater is the largest, as he procured not only several specimens of the *Foudia* and *Drymæca*, but also a number of waders and sea-birds which are found on the island. Mr. Gulliver’s specimens of the two indigenous species were very well preserved, and he also succeeded in obtaining their eggs.

Among Mr. Slater’s series were examples of the following introduced species, *Psittacula cana*, *Acridotheres tristis*, *Francolinus ponticerianus*, and *Numida coronata*.

1. *Bradypterus rodericanus*.

Drymæca (?) *rodericana*, Newton, P. Z. S. 1865, p. 47, pl. 1, fig. 3.

Drymoica rodericana, Gray, Handl. B. i. p. 199, No. 2771.

Adult male. General colour above olivaceous brown, very little paler on the upper tail-coverts ; lores pale yellow, extending above the eye but not forming a distinct eyebrow ; round the eye a ring of pale yellow feathers ; cheeks and sides of face pale yellow, the ear-coverts olivaceous ; under surface of body pale yellow from chin to vent, the sides of the neck and sides of breast olivaceous brown ; under wing-coverts light yellow ; wing-coverts above brown washed with olivaceous like the

back; quills dark brown, the secondaries edged with olivaceous, inclining to yellowish white on the outer margin of the primaries; tail-feathers brown, narrowly margined with olivaceous, the outer ones slightly tipped with white; bill horn-brown in skin, the lower mandible yellow; feet fleshy brown in skin.

The following are the measurements of the specimens sent, seven in number:—

				Total Length.	Culmen.	Wing.	Tail.	Tarsus.
a.	♂	ad.	Rodriguez, Nov. 1874 (Gulliver)	6.3	0.65	2.45	3.0	0.95
b.	♀	ad.	" " "	6.3	0.6	2.35	2.95	0.85
c.	♂	ad.	" " (Slater)	6.2	0.65	2.45	2.85	0.95
d.	♂	ad.	" " "	5.8	0.65	2.45	2.9	0.95
e.	♂	ad.	" " "	6.2	0.65	2.45	2.95	0.9
f.	♀	ad.	" " "	6.0	—	2.35	2.9	0.85
g.	ad.	"	" " "	6.0	0.65	2.25	2.8	0.85

As is usual among the Warblers the female is smaller than the male. The difference in coloration is not very great, ranging from a dark olive-brown to a clear olive or greyish brown; the shade of yellow also varies in individuals.

The present bird is a difficult one to place in the natural system. In general plumage it is unlike a *Drymæca*, but, as Professor Newton observes (*l.c.*), it cannot be associated with the *Cisticola*, which have ten tail-feathers. Its affinities must, therefore, be with *Drymæca*, *Orthotomus*, *Prinia*, &c., or with the Reed-Warblers, *Acrocephalus*, *Bradypterus*, &c. It cannot be referred to *Orthotomus*, as all the members of the latter genus have the tail shorter than the wing, or about equal to it in length. In true *Drymæca* the tail is always longer than the wing, and so it is in *Prinia*, but in *Apalis* the wings and tail are about equal, so that I can hardly understand Mr. G. R. Gray's suggestion that *D. rodericana* resembled *Apalis*. The shorter and broader bill, the minuteness of the rictal bristles, and the fact of the first primary being equal to the inner secondaries in length, all show that *Apalis* is not the genus to which the present bird could be referred, though in the "Handlist" a clean sweep is made of all the Grass-Warblers and their allies, which are sunk into one enormous genus *Drymoica*. It remains therefore clear that the Rodriguez Warbler must be referred either to *Prinia*, to *Drymæca*, or to the immediate vicinity of the Reed-Warblers. After comparing them I have come to the conclusion that it should be referred to the last-mentioned group of Warblers, as its abnormally long bill and strong rictal bristles separate it off from *Drymæca* and *Prinia*. In the two latter genera the bill, though long, never exceeds in length the hind toe and claw, and is only equal to about half the tarsus. The well developed first primary prevents the admission of *D. rodericana* into *Acrocephalus*, and it therefore must be referred to the genus *Bradypterus*, of which it exhibits the generic characters, but of which genus it is rather an aberrant member, on account of its long bill and yellow coloration.

The nests of this species, obtained by both naturalists, are very similar in structure, but one is rather larger than the others. They are both cup-shaped and neatly constructed, but firmly built, and the walls of the nest decidedly thick. The principal material used in their construction appears to be fibre with a few grasses interwoven; some leaves and shreds of cotton are also added.

Mr. Gulliver brought an egg of this Warbler. It is something of a White-throat type, being white, thickly spotted, more particularly at the obtuse end. All over the surface of the egg are small underlying spots of pale purple, and towards the thicker end of the egg are larger clay-brown spots, and also good-sized spots of reddish brown. Length 0·7; diam. 0·5.

2. *Foudia flavicans*.

Foudia flavicans, Newton, P.Z.S., 1865, p. 47, pl. 1, figs. 1, 2.

Ploceus flavicans, Gray, Handl. B. ii., p. 45, No. 6624.

Adult Male. Above brown, slightly washed with olivaceous, the back broadly streaked with dark brown, the lower back uniform, the rump yellow, forming a band across it; upper tail-coverts light olivaceous brown; wing-coverts blackish brown, with greyish olive edgings to the lesser series, the greater and median coverts broadly-edged with whitish: quills dark brown, the primaries narrowly edged with yellowish, the secondaries more broadly margined with whity brown, lighter on the innermost; tail-feathers ashy brown, all edged with olive yellow; head and neck all round bright yellow, as also the breast; the forehead, lores, sides of face, and cheeks orange scarlet, the throat also washed with the latter colour; feathers in front of and round the eye black; rest of under surface of body light yellow, the flanks brownish; under wing-coverts light ashy-brown. Total length 5·2 inches; culmen 0·6; wing 2·7; tail 2·1; tarsus 0·8.

The series of male specimens is very complete, showing gradual transitional changes from the time when the back is like that of the female without any trace of the yellow band on the rump, the orange colouring on the head and neck being apparently gained by a moult. The yellow band across the rump appears to be assumed after the yellow head and neck are fully coloured. Of two males killed by Mr. Gulliver in November 1874, one has the band tolerably well defined, the other only shows its approach by the presence of a single yellow feather.

Adult Female. General colour above brown, the head washed with olive, all the feathers mesially centred with dark brown, more distinct on the back and scapulars; rump uniform brown; wing-coverts blackish brown, with greyish edgings to the least series, the median and greater coverts rather broadly edged with white; quills dark brown, narrowly margined with olive yellow, the secondaries with lighter brown; tail-feathers dark brown with narrow olive-yellow margins; lores yellowish; ear-coverts olivaceous brown with paler shaft-streaks; cheeks and

under surface of body light yellow, the sides of the neck ashy, the sides of the body light brown; under wing-coverts light ashy brown; bill brown. Total length, 5 inches; culmen, 0·55; wing, 2·65; tail, 2·1; tarsus, 0·85.

The size of the bill in this species varies very much in length and also in stoutness. In some examples of the brown plumaged birds the beak is black, and these I take to be young males, as the black bill is accompanied by a certain bright yellow shade about the face and throat, and the under surface is rather brighter yellow.

Three nests collected are very interesting. That obtained by Mr. Slater is a large domed structure, composed entirely of fibre, with a few leaves and a little moss. The two obtained by Mr. Gulliver are firmly fixed in the small twigs of a tree, and in addition to the domed structure which is exemplified in Mr. Slater's specimen, these two have a doorway leading into the nest, and the probability is, therefore, that the nest which Mr. Slater found is not finished. With the exception of a few shreds of cotton and scraps of lichens the nest is entirely constructed of fibres.

Two eggs taken by Mr. Gulliver in December 1874, were of a clear pale blue. Length, 0·75 inch; diam. 0·55.

3. *Ægialitis geoffroyi*.

Ægialitis geoffroyi (Wagl.); Harting, Ibis, 1870, p. 378, pl. xi.

Mr. Slater obtained a single female of this Plover, in winter plumage. It measures as follows:—Total length, 8·3 inches; culmen, 0·9; wing, 5·55; tail, 2·2; tarsus, 1·35.

4. *Strepsilas interpres*.

Strepsilas interpres (L.); Finsch. & Hartl. Vög. Ostaf. p. 662.

Six specimens collected by Mr. Slater. They are all in winter plumage, with here and there an appearance of the summer dress being donned.

5. *Numenius phæopus*.

Numenius phæopus (L.); Finsch. & Hartl. Vög. Ostaf. p. 739.

The vernacular name of this bird in Rodriguez is "Corbiseau," according to Mr. Slater, who obtained one specimen in full winter plumage.

6. *Butorides atricapilla*.

Ardea atricapilla (Afzel.); Finsch. & Hartl. Vög. Ostaf. p. 701.

Two specimens were collected by Mr. Slater, an old female and a young bird, the latter in the usual mottled plumage peculiar to these Herons. The old bird agrees with the African *B. atricapilla*, and I must say that it surprises me to see that

some authors would unite this African species to the Indian *B. javanica*. The latter is much darker, and is ashy-brownish where the African species is light grey, while the green shade of the upper plumage is always more bronzy.

Mr. Slater also procured an egg of this Heron. It is light greenish blue, and is not quite so brightly coloured as one procured by Mr. Monteiro from Angola. Length, 1·7 in. ; diam. 1·2.

7. *Sterna bernsteini*.

Sterna bernsteini, Schl. Mus. P. B. *Sterna*, p. 9 ; Gray, *Handl. B.* iii. p. 120, No. 11,060 ; Saunders, *P. Z. S.* 1876, p. 657.

Thalasseus bernsteini, Blasius, *J. f. O.* 1866, p. 81.

Adult in winter plumage. General colour above bright silvery grey, the upper tail-coverts white ; forehead, sides of face, sides of neck, and hinder neck pure white, forming an indication of a collar on the latter ; crown of head mixed black and white, the plumes of the nape long and pointed, forming a crest ; the ground colour of the feathers of the crown white, with a greater or less amount of black on them, sometimes forming only a dusky black streak, sometimes occupying nearly the entire feather, evidently indicating a change of plumage ; wing-coverts light silvery grey like the back ; quills slightly darker, silvery grey, white along the inner web, this colour more extended on the secondaries, occupying nearly the whole of the inner web of the innermost, and extending round the outer web of the shorter secondaries ; primaries with the shafts pure white, the first quill blackish grey on the *outer* web near the base, shading gradually off into lighter grey towards the end of the feather, the other long primaries with a broad line of dark grey extending alongside of the shaft on the inner web, and widening out towards the apex of the same web ; edge of the wing pure white, as are also the outer webs and tips of the thumb-coverts (bastard wing) ; tail light silvery grey, rather whiter on the inner webs of the feathers, the centre rectrices whitish ; entire under surface of body, including the thighs and under wing and tail-coverts and axillaries pure white ; bill (in skin) yellow, lead coloured towards the base of both mandibles ; feet blackish brown in skin. Total length, 16·8 inches ; culmen, 2·3 ; wing, 13·5 ; tail, 3·5, to outermost feathers, 5·5 ; tarsus, 1·0.

The description is taken from a bird obtained by Mr. Slater.

Another specimen obtained by the same gentleman is not quite in such good condition. It is marked a male, and has the following measurements :—Total length, 17·5 inches ; culmen, 2·4 ; wing, 13·0 ; tail, 4·0, to tip of outermost feathers, 6·0 ; tarsus, 1·05. Probably the dimensions of the tail-feathers may be a shade wrong, as both the birds are moulting. A misprint has evidently occurred in the dimensions of the bill (1·8 inch) given by Mr. Howard Saunders (*l.c.*).

The species seems to be a very distinct one and apparently finds its nearest ally in *Sterna bergii*. From this, however, it differs in many important particulars:—

***Sterna bergii*.**

Upper surface dark slaty grey.

Upper tail-coverts and *tail* uniform with back.

Plumes of the bastard wing uniform with the other coverts.

Primaries externally blackish, but with a broad grey line intervening between the shaft and the black outer web.

***Sterna bernsteini*.**

Upper surface light silvery grey.

Upper tail-coverts and *tail* much lighter than the back, and nearly white.

Plumes of the bastard wing tipped with white.

Primaries externally blackish or grey, perfectly uniform, without any lighter shade intervening between the outer web and the shaft.

Mr. Slater says that the vernacular name for this species in Rodriguez is "Goilon."

8. *Sterna dougalli*.

Sterna dougalli (Mont.) ; Saunders, P. Z. S., 1876, p. 653.

Two specimens obtained by Mr. Slater have the bill perfectly black, and measure as follows:—

—	Total Length.	Culmen.	Wing.	Tail.	Outer Tail-feathers.	Tarsus.
<i>a. Rodriguez (Slater)</i> - - -	15·0	1·5	8·05	3·0	6·0	0·7
<i>b. " "</i> - - -	15·0	1·55	8·9	2·9	6·5	0·7

9. *Sterna fuliginosa*.

Sterna fuliginosa (Gm.) ; Saunders, P. Z. S., 1876, p. 666.

A pair of the large Sooty Tern were collected by Mr. Slater, and agree with the other skins from West Africa and other parts of the Southern Ocean. The measurements are as follows:—

—	Total Length.	Culmen.	Wing.	Tail.	Long Tail-feathers.	Tarsus.
<i>a. Rodriguez (Slater)</i> - - -	16·8	1·65	11·6	3·4	6·1	0·85
<i>b. " "</i> - - -	16·7	1·7	11·6	4·1	6·8	0·8

10. *Gygis candida*.

Gygis candida (Gm.) ; Saunders, P. Z. S., 1876, p. 667.

A pair of birds were collected by Mr. Slater, who gives the vernacular name as "Goilette blanche." The following are the measurements of these birds:—

———				Total Length.	Culmen.	Wing.	Tail.	Tarsus.
a. ♂	Rodriguez	(Slater)	- - - -	12·2	1·75	9·2	4·3	0·45
b. ♀	"	"	- - - -	12·3	1·6	9·25	4·3	0·45

It will be seen from the above that the sexes in this Tern are very similar in size, but the female has a slightly smaller bill. They do not, however, show any approach to the slender-billed species *G. microrhyncha* of Mr. Saunders, of which the Museum has a specimen presented by Admiral Sir E. Belcher, and collected somewhere in the eastern seas. The white shafts to the quills and tail feathers in addition to the small size of the bird seem to be adequate distinctions for *G. microrhyncha*.

Four eggs of *Gygis* were obtained by Mr. Slater, but the dates of capture are not recorded, nor the circumstances of nesting. Mr. Saunders writes (*l. c.* p. 669):—"The nesting of *Gygis* is peculiar, the single egg of clay-white mottled with brown being placed on the cavity of the branch of a tree, or in a fork of two branches, and on the points of the coral reefs—anywhere, in fact, where it will lie." The fact of there being but one egg laid by these birds will account partly for the difference in type exhibited by the four specimens obtained by Mr. Slater.

No. 1. Ground colour clay-white, sparsely spotted all over, the underlying spots and blotches being of a pale purple, the overlying marks being larger and of a dark brown colour, deepening on some to blackish brown; the larger blotches seem to be congregated more about the larger end and centre of the egg. Length, 1·55; diam. 1·2.

No. 2. Very different from the foregoing, being of a dull clay colour, the underlying purple blotches being very large, and distributed nearly equally over the whole egg, the brown mottlings taking the form of scribblings and wavy lines, confluent and forming blotches near the top and centre of the egg. Length, 1·5 inch; diam. 1·05.

No. 3. The ground colour of this egg is dull clay-colour like the preceding, but the whole surface is covered with small underlying spots of purple, with surface scribblings of dark brown all over the egg; in no place are there any large confluent blotches. Length, 1·65 inch; diam. 1·2.

No. 4. The ground colour in this specimen is clay-white as in the first described, but the markings are most like those of the last mentioned, being a collection of innumerable small spots and blotches of pale purple as the underlying markings,

with an equally confused mass of dark brown spots and scribbled lines on the upper surface. There are a few broad blackish scribblings near the upper end of the egg. Length, 1.55 inch; diam. 1.2.

11. *Anous tenuirostris*.

Anous tenuirostris (Temm.); Saunders, P.Z.S., 1876, p. 670.

Adult Female. General colour above sooty-brown, rather darker on the rump and upper tail-coverts; wing-coverts sooty brown like the back, the least series blacker, as also those near the edge of the wings; quills black with an obscure gloss of sooty-brown on the outer webs, the inner secondaries sooty-brown like the back; tail uniform dark sooty-brown; crown of head light grey, gradually shading off into the ashy chocolate colour of the entire hinder part and sides of neck; feathers between the bill and the eye light grey; in front of the eye a black spot; above the hinder part of the eyes and below the same a narrow line of whitish feathers on the eyelid; sides of face chocolate brown, shaded with grey as they approach the sides of the neck; entire under surface of body sooty-brown; lower surface of quills ashy chocolate brown. Total length, 13.4 inches; culmen, 1.4; wing, 8.7; tail, 4.4; tarsus, 0.75.

The name of this species at Rodriguez is "Malanne" according to Mr. Slater, who collected a single specimen of this small Noddy. It bears out the distinctions of Mr. Saunders' paper (*l.c.*), but as in the latter essay the characters do not seem very easily made out, I have described the present species in detail from Mr. Slater's Rodriguez example.

12. *Anous stolidus*.

Anous stolidus (L.); Saunders, P. Z. S. 1876, p. 669.

One specimen collected by Mr. Slater (*vide infra*). Like the *A. tenuirostris* it is called "Malanne." Mr. Slater has also sent six eggs of this species.

No. 1 is white, with faint purple spots and blotches distributed over its surface, but only distinct at the larger end, which is further slightly clouded by large blotches and spots of chesnut, with a few spots of black intermixed.

No. 2 is very similar, but the chesnut spots are not distributed so thickly round the thicker end of the egg, but there is a large blotch of dark chesnut at the apex.

No. 3. Very like No. 1, but more yellowish white, and having the upper end thickly clouded with chesnut and black spots, the underlying purplish blotches being rather more distinct.

No. 4. Creamy white, the blotches large but sparingly distributed round the larger end of the egg in a ring, leaving the apex unspotted.

No. 5. White with the blotches extremely large and confluent round the larger end of the egg, the chesnut colour being rather pale and blending with the underlying purple colour.

No. 6. White with very few markings, the underlying purple spots as well as the larger chesnut marks being distributed all over the egg.

13. *Puffinus chlororhynchus*.

Puffinus chlororhynchus (Less.) ; Gray, Handl. B. iii., p. 103, No. 10,844.

♀. Total length, 17; culmen, 1·4; wing, 10·1; tail, 5·4; tarsus, 1·7.

♂. „ 16; „ 1·45; „ 11·2; „ 5·2; „ 1·8.

14. *Phaeton flavirostris*, Brandt; Gray, *t. c.* p. 124, No. 11,096.

An adult female procured by Mr. Slater.

15. *Sula piscator*, (L.); Gray, *t. c.* p. 126, No. 11,109.

An adult female procured by Mr. Slater. “Booby.”

Note on Anous.—The following would seem to be the differences between the members of the genus *Anous*, of which the British Museum has a good series. I give herewith a list of the specimens at present in the national collection, with the dimensions of the wings in each case :—

KEY TO THE SPECIES.

a. Crown of the head grey or whitish, not uniform with the back.

*a*¹. Lores and feathers in front of the eye sooty-brown or blackish like the sides of the face.

*a*¹¹. Forehead and crown grey, gradually shading off into ashy-brown or chocolate on the neck.

*a*¹¹¹. Very much larger; wing, 10·2–11·5 inches.

*a*⁴. Crown of head rather clear grey, whiter on the forehead and over the eye; lores and sides of face greyish chocolate *stolidus*.

*b*⁴. Similar to *A. stolidus*, the crown greyish brown, with a narrow superciliary line of white in strong contrast; lores and sides of face dull chocolate brown *superciliosus*.

*b*¹¹¹. Very much smaller; feathers in front of the eye black; wing not exceeding 9·5 inches.

*c*⁴. Cheeks and throat all blackish chocolate, darker than the head and sides of the face *melanogenys*.

*d*⁴. Cheeks and throat sooty-grey, like the neck *plumbeigularis*.

*b*¹¹. Crown and nape pure white, forming a cap *leucocapillus*.

*b*¹. Lores and feathers in front of the eye grey like the crown.

*c*¹¹. Underneath sooty-brown, as also the sides of the face *tenuirostris*.

*d*¹¹. Underneath silvery grey or greyish white $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{caeruleus.} \\ \text{cinereus.} \end{array} \right.$

b. Crown of the head uniform brown like the rest of the upper surface *galapagensis*.

1. *Anous stolidus*, L.; Saunders, P.Z.S., 1876, p. 669.

a. ad. Africa. Lieut. Friend, R.N. Wing, 10·2.

b. ad. Gold Coast. R. B. Sharpe, Esq. Wing, 10·7.

c. ad. Cameroons. Capt. R. Burton. Wing, 10·9.

- d. e.* ad. Cape Seas. Capt. Thomas Row Harry.
f. ad Reunion. Herr. J. C. Van Dam. Wing, 10·9.
g. ad. " " " Wing, 11·2.
h. ♂ ad. Rodriguez. H. H. Slater, Esq. Wing, 11·15.
i. ad. S. Paul's Rock. Antarctic Expedition. Wing, 11·5
k. ad. Morty Island. A. R. Wallace, Esq. Wing, 11·2.
l. ad. Raines' Islet. J. B. Jukes, Esq. Wing, 11·2.
m. ad. At sea between New Zealand and Australia. E. Newman, Esq. Wing, 11·25.
n. ad. Huaheine. J. H. Gurney, Esq. Wing, 11·0.
o. ad. Navigator's Islands. Rev. J. B. Stair. Wing, 10·85.
p. q. ad. Ellice Islands. Rev. S. J. Whitmee.
r. ad. North America. H.R.H. The Duke of Sussex. Wing, 10·6.
s. ad. North America. Purchased. Wing, 10·2.
t. ad. Western Coast of America. Sir W. Burnett and Admiral Fitzroy. Wing, 11·3.

2. *Anous superciliosus*, sp. n.

A. similis A. stolido sed pileo summo cinerascenti-brunneo, lineâ superciliari albâ distinctâ distinguendus. Long. tot., 12·2; culm., 1·6; alæ, 10·7; caudæ, 5·3; tarsi, 0·95.

Hab.—Coast of Central America and the Antilles.

- a.* ad. Coast of Mexico. G. Barclay, Esq. Wing, 10·75.
b. ad. S. Nevis. W. Cottle, Esq. Wing, 9·7.
c. ad. Jamaica. Purchased. Wing, 10·7.
d. ad. " Caught at sea in long. 91 E., lat. 8 N." R. B. Sharpe, Esq. Wing, 9·7.

3. *Anous melanogenys*, Gray; Saunders, *t. c.*, p. 670.

- a.* Locality unknown. Captain Lord Byron. Wing, 8·9.
b. ♀. Moreton Bay. J. Macgillivray, Esq. Wing, 8·95.

4. *Anous plumbeigularis*, sp. n.

A. ubique cinerascenti-chocolatinus; capite summo canescente; maculâ supra-et infraoculari albidâ; plumis anteocularibus nigris; loris, facie laterali totâ clarè cinerascenti-chocolatinis, corpore reliquo subtus chocolatino-brunneo; subalaribus cinerascenti-chocolatinis; tectricibus alarum superioribus chocolatinis, remigibus rectricibusque nigricantibus. Long. tot., 14·4; culm., 1·55; alæ, 9·8; caudæ, 5·8; tarsi, 0·9.

Hab.—Red Sea.

Mr. Saunders hints that the Noddy of the Red Sea is probably incorrectly determined, and I have therefore examined a specimen which we have in the Museum from that locality. I find that the bird is apparently distinct from *A. melanogenys*, differing in its clearer grey face and throat, which are not so black; the wing is also an inch longer, the back rather lighter brown, and the tail chocolate brown without any grey shade. The size of the bird is not nearly large enough to allow of its being confounded with *A. stolidus*.

- a.* ad. Red Sea. J. Middleton, Esq.

5. *Anous leucocapillus*, Gould; Saunders, *t. c.* p. 670, pl. LXI., fig. 3.

- a.* Off Bristow Island, S. coast of New Guinea. J. Macgillivray. Wing, 8·5.
b. Off Barnard Islands. J. Macgillivray. Wing, 8·6.

- c. Locality unknown. Wing, 9·3.
 d. „ R. B. Sharpe, Esq.*
 e. Off Western coast of South America. R. B. Sharpe, Esq.
 f. Ellice Islands. Rev. S. J. Whitmee.

6. *Anous tenuirostris* (Temm); Saunders, t. c. p. 670, pl. LXI., fig. 1.

- a. ad. Mauritius. R. B. Sharpe, Esq. Wing, 8·15.
 b. ad. Rodriguez. H. H. Slater, Esq. Wing, 8·7.
 c. ♂ ad. South Island, Houtmann's Abrolhos. J. Gould, Esq. Wing, 8·7.

7. *Anous cinereus*, Gould; Sharpe, P.Z.S. 1878, p. 271.

- a. b. ad. Australia. Sir T. Mitchell. Wing, 8·45.

8. *Anous cæruleus* (Bennett); Sharpe, P.Z.S. 1878, p. 272.

- a. b. ad. Ellice Islands. Rev. S. J. Whitmee.

9. *Anous galapagensis*, sp. n.

A. similis *A. stolidus*, sed rostro minore et capite summo fuliginoso unicolori distinguendus
 Long. tot. 13·4; culmen, 1·4; alæ, 10·65; caudæ, 5·5; tarsi, 0·85.

Hab.—Galapagos Archipelago.

a. ad. Dalrymple Rock, Chatham Island.

Mr. Saunders thinks that this may be a young *A. stolidus*. I believe the bird to be quite adult, and to constitute a distinct species.

* Said to have been procured off the Gold Coast, but the locality is probably erroneous.