

# Systematic notes on Asian birds. 51. Dates of avian names introduced in early volumes of the Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal

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Key words: bibliography; consistency; dates of publication; Charles Davies Sherborn; Charles Richmond. The *Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal* contains many new names of birds and other animals but accurate dating of the new names is difficult. The Society wanted it to contain a monthly meteorological report and in many, if not most, years deliberately issued the journal early in the month after that covered by this report, thus the December issue would normally have appeared in January. However, this pattern broke down due to the ill-health of the editor and periodic financial crises, resulting in backlogs of four months or more. Here, we focus solely on papers in which new birds are named and where it has been suggested that the imprint year was not the year of publication. We note the inconsistent dating of these papers in the past and recommend the year that is best used for each.

## Introduction

During the years that Edward Blyth was the Curator of the museum of the Asiatic Society of Bengal (1841-1862), he and others used its journal, the *Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal* (JASB), to publish the descriptions of many new bird taxa. One of several problems surrounding his own papers and to a lesser extent those of Brian Hodgson in its early volumes is their dating.

It is not unusual to find two dates<sup>1</sup> associated with citations of some new names from Blyth and from Hodgson in JASB, and Charles Davies Sherborn among others researched the issuing of the journal leaving MS notes behind that are inserted into the bound volumes of the set held by the Natural History Museum, London (BMNH). Charles Richmond at the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, also kept records of such matters and did his own research as well as, perhaps, hearing from Sherborn about his findings. Their results are periodically cited; Sherborn's by reference to his unpublished notes. Richmond's findings at this level are explained only on his unpublished card file, not in Richmond (1992), the microfiche form in which his main cardex is published. There seems to be no published note of the detailed evidence uncovered by these investigators.

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<sup>1</sup> One being the imprint date of the issue of the Journal and the other the actual or supposed year of publication.

Here we have drawn on the notes of Sherborn and of Richmond, and on our own examinations so far, looking only at those issues that we found to be the subject of debate on date of publication. This is a preliminary report on our work, being necessitated by accompanying papers in this volume. It is intended that a more complete report on the JASB and its dates will be published in India soon.

### **Publication policy and practices of the *Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal***

The *Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal* began with monthly issues, designated by calendar month and intended to include reports and minutes of meetings that had taken place within that month. A Preface to Vol. 1 (1832), which was probably issued with the volume title soon after the year-end, was signed by James Prinsep and reads: "The January number was not published until the middle of March. Since then exertions have been made to bring up arrears, and in future each monthly number will appear with regularity on the 10th. of the following month; the insertion of the meteorological register rendering an earlier issue date impossible." (Prinsep, 1833). From 1833 to mid 1838 this schedule seems to have been maintained. But Sherborn's MS notes, inserted in volume 8 ('1839'), record "The regularity of publication of this [Journal]. was broken by the illness of Jas. Prinsep in Nov. 38" and Sherborn went on to suggest that nine of the 12 numbers in 1839 appeared that year and three in 1840. Evidence from the volume itself, which will be presented elsewhere, supports this view. The meteorological register, included until the February issue in 1840, was thereafter suspended.

During the period 1835-1842, dated minutes of Committee meetings appear, with the dates of the meetings, in the numbered issues, but after 1842 these appear in the 'Proceedings' (separately issued and titled pages dealing with the business of the Society, with separate pagination in small Roman numerals). Thus delay becomes much less visible since one is not always sure with which issue these extra pages were published. Over the period 1840-1846 publication delays were frequent and in 1846, when the Society's finances had become very tight (O'Shaughnessy, 1847: 91), the volume for that year (Volume 15) was cut short and only five of the projected issues appeared.

In 1847 a "New Series" was begun and by the end of that year the Society had found the means to catch up. By May (on p. 94) it was said that "measures [are] now complete for its issue in the first week of each month", and the Annual Report for 1847 (Laidlay, 1848) stated that whereas in November 1846 JASB was running seven months in arrears, by the end of 1847 "all these numbers have been published and paid for, and this year's series completed". The meteorological register was reintroduced on page 738, and related to June 1847.

In this paper we examine the impact of the above, and subsequent history, on new names in ornithology, especially those not now in synonymy, and, in particular, names of birds that, as a result of issue delays, need dating to a different year. Our focus is on names that may have been delayed from one calendar year into the next.

We also discuss certain other papers where such a delay has been suggested, but for which we have not found satisfactory proof (we treat these in two sections: one deals with those thought delayed but not beyond the end of the calendar year, the other with

those thought to have extended into the next year). Names introduced in the papers in these two sections should be used with the imprint date <sup>2</sup>. We know of no evidence that any issue of JASB appeared in parts or out of numerical sequence.

**Papers by Hodgson and Blyth for which we have located satisfactory evidence  
of delay from one calendar year to the next**

1. **Hodgson, B.H., 1837. Additions to the ornithology of Nepal.— J. Asiatic Soc. Bengal V (12) <sup>3</sup> (December): 770-781 (1836).**

Names from here have been dated 1836 in Peters (1940) (*Hirundo-apus*, *Cypselus (Chaturus) nudipes*, *Cypselus Nipalensis*), Peters (1948) (*Sasia*, *Sasia ochracea*) and Greenway (1967a) (*Sitta corallina*), and 1837 in Peters (1960b) (*Hirundo Nipalensis*) and Deignan (1964) (*Cutia*, *Cutia Nipalensis*) <sup>4</sup>. These contradictions reflect inconsistencies by Baker (1930a, b); see, for example, Dec. 1836 on p. 320 for *Sasia* and 1837 on p. 366 for *Hirundapus*. Evidence for delay into 1837 comes from p. 828 in this same issue of the *Journal* where appear the minutes of a meeting of the Society held on 4<sup>th</sup> Jan. 1837.

2. **Blyth, E., 1843a. Report of the Curator [for September].— J. Asiatic Soc. Bengal, XI (129): 880-891 (1842).**

This paper introduces *Turdus wardii* and *Muscicapa hyperythra*. The former is dated 1842 by Ripley (1964: 146), and the latter '1843 (not earlier than December)' by Watson et al. (1986: 344), but is wrongly cited from volume 12 which led to a misrepresentation of the date <sup>5</sup>. There is a footnote dated 20<sup>th</sup> Jan. 1843 on p. 890-891, so both names date from 'not earlier than 20<sup>th</sup> Jan. 1843'.

3. **Blyth, E., 1843b. A monograph of the Indian and Malayan species of Cuculidae, or birds of the Cuckoo family.— J. Asiatic Soc. Bengal, XI (130): 897-928 (1842).**

We are not aware of any new name introduced in here, but since the paper is preceded by the dated footnote mentioned above we accept that this paper appeared in 1843 and feel it desirable that this be noted here.

4. **Hodgson, B.H., 1845. "On the Leiotrichane Birds of the Subhemalayas" with some additions and annotations – a Synopsis of the Indian Pari, – and of the Indian Fringillidae by E. Blyth.— J. Asiatic Soc. Bengal, XIII (156): 933-941 (1844) – with notes by Blyth on pp. 941-943 and beyond.**

Names introduced in this paper have been dated inconsistently in the volumes of Peters' Check-list. *Galloperdix* <sup>6</sup> was dated 1844 by Peters (1934: 106) and Snow (1967) used 1844 for *Parus dichrous*, *Parus aemodius* and *Parus iouschistos*. However, Deignan (1964) used 1845 for *Siva occipitalis* and *Proparus chrysotis*. Warren & Harrison (1971: 267) dated this issue April 1845, but gave no details of their evidence for this date and

<sup>2</sup> Also known as the specified date, see I.C.Z.N. (1999). I.C.Z.N. is an abbreviation for the International Commission for Zoological Nomenclature.

<sup>3</sup> In the later scheme of numbering this is No. 60.

<sup>4</sup> *Maina tristoides* is described on p. 771. Brooke (1976) considered this form separable from *Acridotheres tristis* although as regards Nepal birds this was not accepted by Ripley (1982: 281-282).

<sup>5</sup> The false impression is given that the date of publication is December 1843.

<sup>6</sup> This name appeared in a footnote in the original publication.

we have failed to find support for it, although delay at least until that year is correct as on p. 885, which is in the preceding issue (155), there is a list of meteorites dated 1<sup>st</sup> Jan. 1845. Thus that issue and, one must assume, this one will have appeared in 1845<sup>7</sup>.

5. **Blyth, E., 1845a. "Synopsis of Indian Fringillidae."**— *J. Asiatic Soc. Bengal*, XIII (156): 944-963 (1844). This follows on directly from the above 'Hodgson' paper. Dates ascribed to names in Peters' Check-list were as follows: in the Alaudidae Peters (1960a) used 1844 for *Mirafra cantillans* and *Alauda raytal*, but used 1845 for *Mirafra erythroptera* and *Mirafra affinis*; in the Emberizidae Paynter (1970) used 1844 for *Emberiza buchanani* and 1845 for *Emberiza sordida*; in the Fringillinae Howell, Paynter & Rand (1968) used 1845 for *Haematospiza*, *Loxia himalayensis*, *Pyrhospiza* and *Pyrhospiza puniceus*; and in the Ploceidae Moreau & Greenway (1962) used 1844 for *Passer pyrrhonotus* and *Passer flaveolus*. Dickinson et al. (2001: 94 footnote) explained that their use of 1845 as the date for all four of the above larks, but cited Baker (1930a) and Warren & Harrison (1971: 90), having nothing new themselves to offer at that time. Inserted in volume 13 in the General Library of The Natural History Museum, London, there is a handwritten note by Sherborn suggesting that this paper dates from 1845, but with no explanation of his evidence. However, as mentioned above, in the preceding issue, on p. 885, the date 1<sup>st</sup> January 1845 appears, so publication of the 'December' issue about March 1845 seems likely.
6. **Blyth, E., 1846a. Drafts for a Fauna Indica (Comprising the Animals of the Himalaya Mountains, those of the Valley of the Indus, of the Provinces of Assam, Sylhet, Tipperah, Arracan, and of Ceylon, with Occasional Notices of Species from the Neighbouring Countries).**— *J. Asiatic Soc. Bengal*, XIV (Part II No 168 New Series 84): 845-878 (1845).

The pigeons *Treron viridifrons*, *Treron chloroptera*, *Treron apicauda* and *Columba pulchricollis* were described herein. Peters (1937) dated each of these 1845 with 1846 in parentheses and in the case of *Treron apicauda* had "1845 (after May 1846)". These adjustments, signalling that Peters accepted 1846, no doubt relate to the postscript on p. 878 which carries the date "May 22", implying May 1846<sup>8</sup>.

7. **Blyth, E., 1851a. Conspectus of the Ornithology of India, Burma and the Malayan Peninsula, inclusive of Sindh, Asâm, Ceylon and the Nicobar islands.**— *J. Asiatic Soc. Bengal*, XIX (Part I, New Series XLII, Issue VI)<sup>9</sup>: 501-515 (1850).

From this conspectus Schulze & Kükenthal (1929: 1373) used 1851 to date Blyth's generic name *Glaux*. Richmond (1917: 582) dated Pt. 3 of this volume, which included p. 224, as 'August or later'. The third part of this paper was in the last issue in the volume, on p. 569 of which may be found the Minutes of the Society's December Meeting. At the foot of this appears 'Confirmed 8 Jan, 1851'. We conclude that the pages of the last issue at least must be dated from 1851.

<sup>7</sup> Delay into 1846 is possible but we know of no issues delayed that many months.

<sup>8</sup> There are other cases where Blyth dated a footnote which we assume he added no later than at proof stage, but in yet other cases where a date could have been expected none is present.

<sup>9</sup> At the beginning of volume 9 the Society ceased including the theoretical month of issue in the running head of each page.

**Papers by Hodgson and Blyth for which there is reasonable evidence of delay of  
over a month but not into the next calendar year**

**1. Blyth, E., 1845b. Notices and descriptions of various New or Little Known species of Birds.— J. Asiatic Soc. Bengal, XIV (159): 173-212.**

We do not list the newly named taxa because all those listed in Peters' Check-list were consistently dated 1845. In the case of *Picus canicapillus* Peters (1948: 199) added "after 12 July". This is the date that Blyth added at the end of his article but this is the March issue, due in early April, and it implies that the *Journal* was then running at least four months late. To date this July is unrealistic taking type setting and printing time into account, and would cause *Buteo aquilinus* Blyth (p. 176) to antedate *Buteo leucocephalus* Hodgson (1845) about which see Dickinson & Walters (2006, this issue). To provide some consistency, provisionally, taking into account the above, we suggest this paper be dated September 1845.

**2. Blyth, E., 1845c. Notices and descriptions of various new or little known species of birds.— J. Asiatic Soc. Bengal, XIV (164): 546-602.**

The new names in this paper that appear in Peters' Check-list are all dated 1845. This paper, which Blyth ended with the date Aug. 29, 1845 (on p. 602), would, after that date have had to be typeset, not a matter of just three or four days, and then printed, and could hardly have appeared earlier than September, probably later. In fact, given that issue 159 was some four months late, and this is five issues later, one might expect this to have appeared in early 1846, but Blyth's August signature suggests a substantial reduction in delay and other evidence, see below, suggests that 1846 might be too late. Two issues of priority have been addressed by previous authors. Baker (1930b: 616), believed that *Brachypus xantholaemus* Jerdon, 1844, antedated *Pycnonotus zantholaimus* 'Jerdon' (p. 568 in this paper). Jerdon's paper was also dated 1844 in Warren & Harrison (1971: 603), but their p. 7 said "pub. 1846". Following their statement, Dickinson et al. (2001: 94 fn) used 1846 for Jerdon's 'Second Supplement' (Jerdon, 1845). However, Dickinson et al. (2002: 124 fn) reverted to 1845 for reasons of stability relating to the above bulbul name. Dickinson et al. (2002) considered that Jerdon's Second Supplement was published after Blyth (1845a: 944-963, see above); the evidence for this appears on p. 136 of Jerdon's work where he refers to the page number on which Blyth named *Mirafraga erythroptera*. They also stated "no hard evidence, known to us, shows that he published after [issue] No. 164". To that we can now add from Blyth (1846b: 280-315) that it is clear from mention in a footnote on p. 285 that Jerdon's Second Supplement was in Blyth's hands by the time Blyth wrote his paper<sup>10</sup>. The second issue of priority that has been thought to throw light on the date of issue 164 is whether *Heterura sylvana* Hodgson, 1845, antedated *Heterurua sylvana* 'Hodgson' Blyth on p. 556. Hall (1961: 289) argued that Blyth's paper must have appeared

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<sup>10</sup> Some might argue that August 29<sup>th</sup> 1845 is the first date by which it can be said that Jerdon's Second Supplement was in existence as a published work and that we should actually date it 1846. Such a change would affect the priority of several names now credited to Jerdon (1845). Stability would be ill-served by making this change and this is addressed by Dickinson & Gregory (2006).

after Hodgson (1845) because Blyth quoted Hodgson's description. Since Duncan (1937) dated Hodgson's paper from the August issue of the *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London* Blyth's paper must have been after August 31<sup>st</sup>. This argument is mistaken. Comparison of the Hodgson description given in Blyth (1845c) with that in Hodgson (1845) shows that Hodgson rewrote the description<sup>11</sup> and that Blyth was drawing on the earlier MS description supplied him by Hodgson with the name and the specimen. That does not fundamentally change the notion that Blyth's article did not appear until after August 1845 and quite probably not till December. Moreover, at the meeting held on 3 December 1845 it was said that this number was 'forthcoming' (Sherborn, MS notes in the Natural History Museum, London). Delay into January may well have occurred but we have not found this date used, nor is it proven, and we recommend the date of 31 December 1845 (until further evidence is found)<sup>12</sup>.

3. **Blyth, E., 1850. Remarks on the modes of variation of nearly affined species or races of birds chiefly inhabitants of India.— J. Asiatic Soc. Bengal, XIX (Part I New Series XXXIX Issue III): 221-229.**

Richmond (1917: 582) listed the generic name *Cannabis* as "publ. August, or later" but did not explain his evidence.

4. **Blyth, E., 1855b ['1856']. Report on a zoological collection from the Somali country.— J. Asiatic Soc. Bengal, XXIV (Part II, New Series LXXVI, Issue IV): 291-306.** Two names from this article were dated 1856: *Eupodotis humilis* by Peters (1934) and *Spreo albicapillus* by Amadon (1962). It is quite possible that this and subsequent issues were delayed, but we have not found proof of long delay, i.e., into 1856<sup>13</sup>.
5. **Blyth, E., 1855c ['1856']. Report of Curator, Zoological Department, for July, 1855.— J. Asiatic Soc. Bengal, XXIV (Part II, New Series LXXVI, Issue V): 469-481.** This concerns us only for *Hirundo fluvicola* which Peters (1960b) dated 1855. It is unlikely that Issue V appeared before Issue IV (see above) and we have found no proof of delay into 1856.

#### Papers by Hodgson and Blyth that have been considered delayed until the next year but for which we have found insufficient evidence

1. **Hodgson, B. H., 1841. Notice of a new form of the Glaucopinae, or Rasorial Crows, inhabiting the Northern region of Nepal. – *Conostoma Aemodius*, (Nobis type).— J. Asiatic Soc. Bengal, X (119): 856-857.** This affects the date of the generic name *Conostoma* and its type species *Conostoma*

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<sup>11</sup> Indeed we know that he rewrote the description as Hodgson (1855: 572) refers to recasting his descriptions [for the PZS article].

<sup>12</sup> This, of course, is the Blyth paper that competes for priority with Jerdon's Second Supplement.

<sup>13</sup> Richmond's notes (Smithsonian Institution) record that Issue 3 reached Batavia in November 1855, which is suggestive of delays that might support early 1856 for Issue 4, but this is only speculative as the despatch to Batavia could have been long-delayed.

*oemodium*<sup>14</sup>. Dated "1841 or 1842" by Deignan (1964: 431), probably following Baker (1930a: 18) who used "1841, 1842?". However, see the next item below for reasons to accept 1841.

2. **Blyth, E., 1841. Report for the month of September by the Curator.— J. Asiatic Soc. Bengal, X (119): 917-929.**

This paper introduced the name *Phoenicophaus longicaudatus* which Peters (1940: 52) dated "1841 (1842)". Peters used this style of dating when he believed that two dates were needed and the date in brackets was when the work actually appeared<sup>15</sup>. In a footnote on p. 928 is the *nomen nudum* *Indicator xanthonotus* for which Baker (1930a: 327) accepted Dec. 1841. Had Blyth's paper appeared in the December issue (No. 120), with publication still running at twelve issues per volume, we would have been inclined to accept 1842 on the strength of Prinsep's Preface in 1833.

3. **Blyth, E., 1843c. Mr. Blyth's monthly Report for December Meeting 1842, with addenda subsequently appended.— J. Asiatic Soc. Bengal, XII (143): 925-1011.**

Many new names were proposed in this paper. With one exception all have been dated 1843 in their places in Peters' volumes III, VIII, X, XI, and XII. The exception, despite the correct usage of 1843 on p. 222 for *Anthreptes nuchalis*, occurs in Rand (1967: 275) where *Cinnyris horsfieldi* is dated '1844-45'. This was apparently copied from Baker (1930a: 286)<sup>16</sup>. Drawing on a meeting date reported on p. 1012, names from this paper may be dated "after Nov. 13, 1843". The footnote by Blyth on p. 925 seems to imply that an effort had recently been made to catch up on delayed publication.

4. **Blyth, E., 1846c. Notes on the fauna of the Nicobar Islands.— J. Asiatic Soc. Bengal, XV (173): 367-379.**

The few taxa newly named in this are all dated 1846 in Peters' Check-list. However, Schulze & Kükenthal (1926: 408) used the date 1847 for the generic name *Blagrus*, a raptorial synonym not repeated in Peters (1931). Only five regular issues of volume 15 appeared, and after issue 173 the only pages issued were the Proceedings<sup>17</sup>. This reduced output appears to have been due to financial pressures (O'Shaughnessy, 1847: 91), but on p. 94 one reads "recent changes among the officers have interfered with its regular appearance." Sherborn (MS note<sup>18</sup> at the Natural History Museum,

<sup>14</sup> Baker (1930a: 18) gave the original spelling as *aemodius* and was followed in this by Ripley (1961). Deignan (1964: 431) employed the spelling *OEmodius* and followed that with 'sic'. In fact, Hodgson used the spelling *Conostoma aemodius* in the title of his paper, *Conostama* [sic] *Oemodius* where he described the bird and *Conostoma Omodius* on the plate. It appears however that Deignan and those who have followed did not discover that Hartert (1907) exercised the powers of a First Reviser and selected the name *aemodium*. *Contra* Deignan (1964), Inskipp et al. (1996), and Dickinson (2003), this is the spelling to be used.

<sup>15</sup> Peters was consistent in this approach, but he died after working on part of volume IX, which appeared in 1960. The appearance of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (I.C.Z.N., 1961) led to the adoption of the opposite sequence of listing such dates in all of the volumes subsequent to Peters' death, although the wording of the 1961 Code was clarified in later editions.

<sup>16</sup> A good example of the accidental perpetuation of mistakes by taking 'facts' from 'authorities' without checking the evidence first hand.

<sup>17</sup> Which Richmond (unpublished notes), apparently having seen a wrapper, believed had been grouped and issued in January 1847 as a 'Special Number'.

<sup>18</sup> Inserted at the front of this volume in the BMNH General Library.

London) thought that because the last part of Volume 14 appeared after late May 1846 these five issues followed that (the delay not being caught up with). He infers that after that the Society saved money and caught up by scrapping the remaining issues and starting again in January. Sherborn's scenario does not quite justify the use of 1847 by Schulze & Kükenthal, and if they had evidence for 1847 they did not detail it; nor have we found any.

5. **Blyth, E., 1847. Notices and descriptions of various new or little known species of birds.— J. Asiatic Soc. Bengal, XVI (N.S. II): 117-157.**

This is the first article in the February issue and is invariably dated 1847. Baker (1930a: 50) dated *Rimator malacoptilus* "after February 10th. 1847".

6. **Blyth, E., 1849. A supplemental note to the Catalogue of the Birds in the Asiatic Museum.— J. Asiatic Soc. Bengal, XVIII (N.S. XXXII): 800-821.**

Suspensions of delay flow from Schulze & Kükenthal (1931: 1900) who cited Blyth, 1850, *Journ. Asiatic Soc. Bengal*, 18 (1849), p. 801 for the generic name *Loriculus* but did not explain their evidence for the delay until 1850. Perhaps following them, Peters (1934) used the date 1850 for *Arboricola rufogularis* and *Arboricola atrogularis*. Where they appear in Peters' Check-list, all of the other forms named in this 'supplement' to a Catalogue that was as yet unpublished (Dickinson, 2004) are dated 1849. In partial support of the view of Schulze & Kükenthal the date Dec. 15, 1849 appears on p. 919, strongly suggestive of delay to 1850 but not conclusive.

7. **Blyth, E., 1851b. Report on the Mammalia and more remarkable species of birds inhabiting Ceylon.— J. Asiatic Soc. Bengal, XX (Part II, New Series XLV, Issue II): 153-185.**

Nine new names are proposed in this paper, all except one of them dated 1851 in Peters' Check-list. The exception is *Caprimulgus Kelaarti* which Peters (1940: 204) dated '1851 (1852)'. Evidence in support of 1852 has not been located.

8. **Blyth, E., 1855a. Report of the Curator, Zoological Department, for April Meeting, 1855.— J. Asiatic Soc. Bengal XXIV (Part II, New Series LXXIV, Issue III): 252-281.**

About a dozen new names are introduced. Of these *Arboricola brunneopectus* and *Arboricola intermedia* were dated 1856 by Peters (1934) while Peters' Check-list dated all the others 1855. We have found no evidence in support of 1856.

9. **Blyth, E., 1862a. Report of the Curator, Zoology Dept., for February 1862.— J. Asiatic Soc. Bengal, XXXI (3): 331-345.**

This is another paper in which taxa named by Blyth are given different dates in Peters' Check-list. Peters himself (1937: 16, 1948: 147) used 1862 for *Osmotreron phayrei* and *Gecinulus viridis*, whereas Mayr (1979: 311) used 1862 for the generic name *Anthocincla* but on the following page adjusted this to 1863 for *Anthocincla Phayrei*. On page 532 in Pt. V of volume 31 of JASB there is a letter dated 'London 28 Dec. 1862'. Although this can be taken as proof that Pt. V. must have appeared by 1863 it does not, of course, provide proof that Pt. III was delayed into 1863. Hume (1878: 457 fn) stated that p. 345 was published in November 1862 and until further evidence is found we accept that date. The continuation of this, Blyth's last report as Curator, appeared in Parts I and IV of the 1863 volume.

10. **Blyth, E., 1863. Report of the Curator, Zoological Department.— J. Asiatic Soc. Bengal, XXXII (4): 451-461.**

This is the last section of Blyth's final report. Most of the names in here that one

might think new were introduced earlier either by Blyth (1862b), or perhaps by Jerdon (1863)<sup>19</sup>. The one name that does seem to date from this work is *Climacteris affinis* which Greenway (1967b: 163) dated 1864, a date followed by Schodde & Mason (1999) and by Dickinson (2003). These are the closing pages of the 1863 volume, but we have traced no evidence that demonstrates they were published in 1864.

### Acknowledgements

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<sup>19</sup> Two copies of this were purchased by the Asiatic Society of Bengal (see p. 72, the page preceding Blyth's article). Its publication can reasonably be dated as January 1863.

<sup>20</sup> It will appear to readers that there is a confused use of numbering of the volumes and parts of the *Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal*. This is understandable as the numbering method used changed several times, partly because the volume was split in two parts for separate subjects.

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<sup>21</sup> In this paper we refer to three dates: 1926 (this refers to p. 408 from Lief. 5, in Vol. 1), 1929 (this refers to p. 1373 from Lief. 11 in Vol. 3) and 1931 (this refers to p. 1900 from Lief. 14 in Vol. 3).