Systematic notes on Asian birds. 27.

On the dates of publication of John Gould’s
“A Century of Birds from the Himalaya Mountains”

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John Gould’s “A Century of Birds from the Himalaya Mountains” (1830-1833), one of the first works to illustrate birds from the Indian subcontinent, has had a confused publication history. New information in Gould’s correspondence and contemporary reviews has enabled the timing of publication of the separate parts to be determined. Gould’s work was intended to illustrate new birds described in a series of six papers by Nicholas Vigors in the “Proceedings of the Committee of Science and Correspondence of the Zoological Society of London” (1831-1832). Although Vigors’s papers are usually accepted as the source of the 73 new names, 26 were first published in Gould’s work.

Introduction

In 1830 the celebrated ornithologist John Gould was only at the start of his long career (Sharpe, 1893). Two years earlier he had been appointed “Curator and Preserver” at the Museum of the Zoological Society of London, the Society itself only being formed in 1826 (Scherren, 1905). Gould’s wife Elizabeth was an accomplished artist and by 1 September 1830 she was already drawing bird specimens for him at the Zoological Society Museum (letter from Gould to Sir William Jardine: in Sauer, 1998). Some time in September or October 1830 a large shipment of bird specimens came into “the fortunate possession” of Gould (see advertisement in Gould 1830-33). According to Vigors (1831a), these specimens were apparently obtained during a recent expedition to India. Earlier the same year, Edward Lear began publishing in imperial folio the first parts of a work on parrots using the recent improvements in lithography (Jackson, 1975). Gould realised the potential for a similar publication based on this Indian collection, with a few specimens included from other sources to make up the ‘century’ of species (see Vigors in his preface to the letterpress in Gould 1830-33; Sharpe, 1893; and below). After failing to secure any interest from a commercial publisher, Gould decided to be his own publisher for what became the first of his famous imperial folios, “A Century of Birds from the Himalaya Mountains” [hereinafter “Century”]. Elizabeth Gould agreed to prepare the illustrations of the birds, based on his sketches (Sharpe, 1893). Although uncredited, Edward Lear assisted Mrs Gould with foreground and background detail in the illustrations (Reade, 1949). Accordingly, on 1 November 1830 Gould released a prospectus (Sauer, 1982; reproduced in Sauer, 1988).
When Gould published the “Century” he entrusted the description of the species and writing of the letterpress to Nicholas Aylward Vigors, the Secretary of the Zoological Society. In an advertisement issued with the bound work, Gould noted that he owed Vigors a great debt and that “By that gentleman the originals of these illustrations were laid before the Scientific Meetings of the Zoological Society; and by him not only the nomenclature, but also the accompanying letter-press descriptions were liberally contributed” (see Gould, 1830-1833). It is unclear as to whether Gould did this willingly or whether there was pressure from Vigors, who at that time was a well-known ornithologist and senior to Gould at the Society. Gould had never described a species before and had published little on birds (Sharpe, 1893).

Vigors exhibited and described most of the species found in Gould’s “Century” at meetings of the Zoological Society. However in many instances there is evidence that the plates of the “Century”, with scientific names attached as captions, were distributed before the publication of the Society’s scientific publication, the “Proceedings of the Committee of Science and Correspondence of the Zoological Society of London” [hereinafter “Proceedings”]. There is also evidence that Gould sometimes had the plates produced before the meeting at which Vigors described the birds in question. The publication of the plates before the new names appeared in the “Proceedings” meant that in such cases the names in the “Century” have priority over those in the “Proceedings” and these new names should be cited from the “Century”.

In Gould’s prospectus he noted that “The Series will consist of Twenty Numbers, one of which will be published on the first day of every month, until the whole is completed. Each Number will contain Four and frequently as many as Five Plates, but will invariably comprise Five Birds ...” (Sauer, 1988). Wood (1832) also noted that there were meant to be four plates per number.

During the production of the work, Vigors (1832) referred to some errors in the captions under the plates, and attributed this to “the hurry in which some of the numbers of the work were obliged to be printed off in order to answer the demand that was made for them on the day of the monthly publication”. Additional errors were noted on the contents page published with the letterpress (Sauer, 1982). Although the prospectus suggested that the publication of the numbers was supposed to be monthly, it was not always the case.

In several instances the number was published before the designated month (see below) and indeed Sauer found that some numbers appear to have been published simultaneously. Sauer could only find one unbound set of the “Century”, in the Ellis Collection of the Spencer Library, University of Kansas. This unbound set has wrappers on most individual numbers, but the first three numbers were loosely stitched in a single wrapper. This is not how they were distributed to the first subscribers of 1830. A hitherto overlooked review of the first number appeared in “The Athenæum” for 1 January 1831 where the author of the “Century” was given as John Gould (Anon., 1831). This review is arguably the first for any of Gould’s folios. The review noted that the “Century” contained “five examples of undescribed birds from India” and, significantly, that the second plate was of a “new pheasant”. The contents of only four plates were discussed. This review confirms the order of publication of the plates as found in the unbound set in Kansas (Sauer, 1982) where the second plate was of *Tragopan hastingsii* (a junior synonym of *Tragopan melanocapillus*). Although the review did not
record the presence of a wrapper with this first number, we assume there would have been one to provide the title and authorship listed by the reviewer. It is probable that the unbound set in Kansas used a format for issue to late subscribers, rather than the actual format of release of the early numbers. The evidence of the unbound set also indicates that numbers subsequent to the third were issued with four plates each until numbers 13 and 14, and numbers 15 to 20, which were again loosely stitched together with single sets of wrappers.

The letterpress for the “Century” was published on or shortly before 5 November 1833 and is not the source of any new names (letter from Gould to Jardine: in Sauer, 1982, 1998). Gould was later inconsistent as to the authorship of the letterpress. Gould (1856, 1867) wrote that he had personally written the accounts of *Ibidorhyncha struther-sii* and *Nectarinia gouldiae* in the “Century”. This could be true. When Gould sent the letterpress to Jardine, he noted “I regret it has been so long in hand which must be attributed to Mr Vigors’ [sic] political career, which I am sorry to say has taken him almost entirely from the pursuit of Natural History” (letter from Gould to Jardine 5 November 1833: in Sauer, 1982, 1998). Gould never again invited another author to write for his folios.

As noted by Vigors (1832) there are a few differences in nomenclature between the plates and the letterpress. The author of the names has generally been thought to be Vigors. Yet the differences in themselves indicate Vigors was not responsible for all the names on the plates. Despite the fact that Gould noted that the names were contributed by Vigors, under the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN, 1999) the author of any name can only be determined from the work itself and not any outside source (Art. 50). The only names of people associated with the “Century” when it was first issued were ‘John Gould’ on the wrappers, assuming there were any, and on the plates “Drawn from Nature & on Stone by E. Gould” and “Printed by C. Hullmandel”. Elizabeth Gould is not known to have published any paper or description of a bird, while Hullmandel was merely the printer. Consequently if one were to blindly follow the Code, the author of the names on the plates would be Gould. However such a move would overturn the authorship of over 20 species and is contrary to statements by both Gould and Vigors that Vigors alone was the author of the names. This fact Gould repeated, even when he claimed to have written the letterpress (Gould, 1856, 1867). However, as it is unclear whether there were original wrappers on each number, under the Code the author would have to be deemed ‘Anonymous’ and thus able to be determined from some other source (see Recommendation 51D of ICZN, 1999). We here follow most previous authors by accepting Vigors as the author of all names first described in the “Century”, with the sole exception of *Picus brunifrons* (see below).

In the literature we know of two instances of recognition of Gould as the author of names in the “Century”. Sharpe (1875) credited *Noctua (= Glaucidium cuculoideus* to Gould’s “Century”, but with no date given and no mention of Vigors’s paper. Hume (1877) remarked in a note on Sharpe’s credit of this name to Gould, that while the “Century” plate may have been published before Vigors’s paper, the name should be credited to Vigors, as indicated by Gould in the advertisement in the “Century”. Baker (1930a, b) compiled a thorough synonymy of the birds covered in the second edition of the “Fauna of British India” including a comprehensive corrigenda and
addenda. From a systematic check of all names first described in the “Century” and Vigors’s papers in the “Proceedings” we found that Baker attributed several names to Gould in the “Century”, but he did not attribute *Glaucidium cuculoides* to him. The most unusual case involved the use of the genus *Haematornis*; Baker advising authors to use *Haematornis* instead of *Spilornis*. However, this has not been accepted, and Baker’s determination of the dates of publication of the “Century” and “Proceedings” are not corroborated by our own findings and he detailed no source for these changes. We suspect that his source was Tom Iredale. In the Introduction to his volume 7, Baker (1930a) noted “to Mr. Tom Iredale credit is due for the vast majority of the corrections now made, and the help of this gentleman has been simply invaluable”. It comes as no surprise to note that one of the two replacement names coined by Baker for preoccupied names of Vigors was *Aegithaliscus concinna iredalei* (see Baker, 1920).

**Sequence of publication**

The publication details of the numbers of the “Century” and the papers in the “Proceedings” are listed below. First, the “Century”, followed by the “Proceedings”, with both listings in chronological order. Dates of publication of the “Proceedings” are taken from Sclater (1893). The numbers preceding the new names in the “Century” are the plate numbers in the bound volume. The order of the publication of the plates in the wrappers is as verified by Sauer (1982) from the unbound set in Kansas. The plates and the letterpress of the “Century” give the scientific names in capital letters of even height. Consequently we here list the new names from the “Century” in standard format, with upper case for the initial letter of the genus-group name and lower case for the species-group name. Diacritic marks and diphthongs are as given in the original publications. Unless otherwise indicated the current nomenclature shown is based on Ripley (1982), the most recent comprehensive checklist covering Indian birds. The authorship and dates of publication are amended where appropriate, as are necessary corrections to misspellings. The combined chronology of the “Century” and the “Proceedings”, with a complete listing of all species, is provided separately (see Table 1).

**Gould’s “Century”**

“Century” number 1

Published on or before 20 December 1830. Letter from Gould to Jardine dated 20 December 1830 – “I have this day forwarded ... the first no. of my new work on the birds of the Himalaya Mountains which I hope will meet with your approbation and support.” (Sauer, 1982, 1998).

| 40 *Garrulus lanceolatus* | = *Garrulus lanceolatus* Vigors, 1830 |
| 64 *Tragopan hastingsii* | = *Tragopan melanocephalus* (J.E. Gray, 1829) |
| 45 *Coccothraustes icterioides* | = *Coccothraustes icterioides* Vigors, 1830 |
| 4 *Noctua cuculoides* | = *Glaucidium c. cuculoides* (Vigors, 1830) |

In the final bound version of the “Century” there were two plates of *Garrulus lanceolatus* and three of *Tragopan hastingsii*. Those produced for the first number were a female of *Garrulus lanceolatus* and a plate of *Tragopan hastingsii*, later identified by
the letterpress as a young male. All these names were published in the “Century” prior to Vigors’s announcement of the names at the meeting of 6 January 1831 (Vigors, 1831a).

“Century” number 2
Scheduled date of publication determined by Sauer (1982, 1998) as 1 February 1831. *Lanius erythropterus* was published in this number, but is here considered not new (see below).

“Century” number 3
Scheduled date of publication determined by Sauer (1982, 1998) as 1 March 1831. No birds were described as new in this number.

“Century” number 4
Scheduled date of publication determined by Sauer (1982, 1998) as 1 April 1831. No birds were described as new in this number.

“Century” number 5
As noted by Sauer (1998) this part was not published on 1 May 1831, as scheduled, but before 25 April 1831. In a letter written on 26 April 1831, Selby noted “Have you got Goulds [sic] nos 4 & 5 of Himalayan Birds, they contain some good things & are very well done upon the whole (they came to me yesterday direct).” (letter from Selby to Jardine: in Sauer, 1998). There are no birds described as new in this number despite the earlier date of publication.

“Century” number 6
26 *Phoenicura frontalis* = *Phoenicurus frontalis* (Vigors, 1831)
This name was published in the “Century” prior to Vigors’s announcement of the name at the meeting of 27 December 1831 (Vigors, 1832).

“Century” number 7
19 *Phoenicula cinclorhyncha* = *Monticola cinclorhyncha* (Vigors, 1831)
This name was published in the “Century” prior to Vigors’s announcement of the name at the meeting of 27 December 1831 (Vigors, 1832). Vigors noted that the caption for this plate was erroneous and should have read *Petrocincla cinclorhyncha* (Vigors, 1832: 172).

“Century” number 8
Scheduled date of publication determined by Sauer (1982, 1998) as 1 August 1831.
21 *Myophonus temmenkii* = *Myophonus caeruleus temminckii* (Vigors, 1831)
The above name as written on the plate is an incorrect original spelling, later emended to *Myophonus Temminckii* by Vigors (1832: 171). This name was published in the “Century” prior to Vigors’s announcement of the name at the meeting of 27 December 1831 (Vigors, 1832).
“Century” number 9


55 Pomatorhinus erythrogenys = Pomatorhinus e. erythrogenys Vigors, 1831

This name was published in the “Century” prior to Vigors’s announcement of the name at the meeting of 27 December 1831 (Vigors, 1832).

“Century” number 10


49 Picus shorii = Dinopium s. shorii (Vigors, 1831)
13 Turdus erythrogaster = Monticola rufiventris (Jardine & Selby, 1833). Turdus erythrogaster Vigors, 1831, is preoccupied by Turdus erythrogaster Boddaert, 1783. Both names were published in the “Century” prior to Vigors’s announcement of the names at the meeting of 27 December 1831 (Vigors, 1832).

The publication of numbers 11 to 20 of the “Century” cannot be dated precisely. Sauer (1982) noted that in the unbound set of the “Century” in the University of Kansas, numbers 11 and 12 were in separate wrappers but numbers 13 and 14 were loosely bound together in the same wrapper. Numbers 15 to 20 were also loosely bound in a single wrapper. In any case all were published before the final part of Vigors’s last paper. Selby wrote to Jardine on 25 February 1831 and noted “Have you got the last 10 numbers of Gould’s Himalayan Birds? Wm Clark brought them down for me the other day, they contain some beautiful Birds, & among them some curious forms, particularly one named generically Ibidoryncha [sic] with a bill greatly resembling the curlew or Ibis, and the feet and legs of Haematopus” (letter from Selby to Jardine: in Sauer, 1998). Given that Ibidorhyncha was pictured in number 18, and that parts 15-20 were evidently sent in the same wrapper, it is very likely that Selby was referring to the final ten numbers of the “Century”. In addition, numbers 14 to 18 must have been published after 17 December 1831. Dr John Scouler, of the Andersonian Museum in Glasgow, forwarded four specimens to Gould on this date and asked that the three requested by Gould be described under the names Numenius Struthersii, Pyrrhula erythrocephala and Enicurus platycercus (= Ibidorhyncha struthersii and Pyrrhula erythrocephala of number 18 of the “Century”, and Enicurus scouleri of number 14) (letter from Scouler to Gould: in Sauer, 1998). Sauer surmised that numbers 11 and 12 were scheduled to be published on 1 November and 1 December respectively, and this appears to be correct. In Vigors’s paper given at the meeting of 27 December 1831 reference is made to the use of the name ‘Picus brunifrons’ on a plate in number 12 of the “Century” (it was actually titled Picus brunifrons). Even though Vigors had already named the species Picus auriceps he requested that the name used on the plate be the name retained. However, as the name is not an emendation, it must remain as P. auriceps. Indeed the authorship of the name Picus brunifrons (or the emended P. brunifrons) must be ascribed to Gould as Vigors’s name did not appear on the plates or the wrappers of the “Century” when it was published and P. brunifrons was obviously not Vigors’s intended name for the species.

The case of Picus brunifrons (as P. brunifrons) illustrates the discrepancies with the publication dates of the “Century” as determined by Baker (1930a, b). Baker (1930a) gave priority to “Picus brunifrons Gould”, stating it was published before Vigors’s
name, *P. auriceps*. Peters (1948) recognised *P. auriceps* as the oldest name and credited *P. brunnifrons* to Vigors, in the “Century”, noting that the plate had *P. brunnifrons*. Just before Peters appeared, Voous (1947), following Baker, used *P. brunnifrons* Gould. Although Peters’s usage has gained currency, Voous’s paper retained some influence (e.g., Blume, 1963). This example suggests that as Baker gave priority to the name in Vigors’s text, he may have incorrectly assumed the letterpress and the corresponding plates were published on the same dates.

“Century” number 11


54 *Cuculus himalayanus* = *Cuculus p. poliocephalus* Latham, 1790

This name was published in the “Century” prior to Vigors’s announcement of the name at the meeting of 27 December 1831 (Vigors, 1832).

“Century” number 12

Scheduled date of publication determined by Sauer (1982, 1998) as 1 December 1831. It was definitely published on or before 27 December 1831 (see above).

52 *Picus brunifrons* = *Picoides auriceps* Vigors, 1831

The author of *Picus brunifrons* is Gould. Even though Vigors emended the name to *Picus brunnifrons*, his own *Picus auriceps* has priority.

“Century” numbers 13 and 14


number 13 35 *Pastor traillii* = *Oriolus t. traillii* (Vigors, 1832)

number 14 28 *Enicurus scouleri* = *Enicurus s. scouleri* Vigors, 1832

Both names were published in the “Century” prior to Vigors’s announcement of the names at the meeting of 27 December 1831 (Vigors, 1832).

“Century” numbers 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 and 20

Scheduled date of publication was to be around 1 March 1832 (Sauer 1982, 1998), but it occurred some time before 25 February 1832 (see above).

number 15 1 *Haematornis* = *Spilornis* G.R. Gray, 1840

1 *Haematornis undulatus* = *Spilornis c. cheela* (Latham, 1790)

57 *Vinago sphenura* = *Treron s. sphenura* (Vigors, 1832)

number 16 22 *Zoothera* = *Zoothera* Vigors, 1832

22 *Zoothera monticola* = *Zoothera m. monticola* Vigors, 1832

number 17 53 *Cuculus sparverioides* = *Cuculus s. sparverioides* Vigors, 1832

17 *Cinclosoma erythrocephala* = *Garrulax e. erythrocephalus* (Vigors, 1832)

number 18 79 *Ibidorhyncha* = *Ibidorhyncha* Vigors, 1832

79 *Ibidorhyncha struthersii* = *Ibidorhyncha struthersii* Vigors, 1832

32 *Pyrrhula erythrocephala* = *Pyrrhula erythrocephala* Vigors, 1832

number 19 6 *Musciapa melanops* = *Musciapa t. thalassina* Swainson, 1838

76 *Totanus glottoïdes* = *Tringa nebularia* (Gunnerus, 1767)

number 20 No birds were described as new in this number.

*Haematornis* Vigors, 1832, which was published before 25 February, is here considered junior to *Haematornis* Swainson (in Swainson & Richardson, 1832), published...
around 4 February 1832 (see Browning & Monroe, 1991). All names were published in the “Century” prior to Vigors’s announcement of the names at the meeting of 27 December 1831 (Vigors, 1832). The name written on the plate as *Cinclosoma erythrocephala* is an incorrect original spelling, later emended to *Cinclosoma erythrocephalum* by Vigors (1832: 171).

**Vigors’s “Proceedings”**


Paper read at the meeting of 23 November 1830 and published 6 January 1831.

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<th>Page</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<td>7</td>
<td><em>Garrulus bispecularis</em></td>
<td>= <em>Garrulus glandarius bispecularis</em> Vigors, 1831</td>
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<td>= <em>Nucifraga caryocatactes hemisipila</em> Vigors, 1831</td>
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<td>= <em>Picus canus sanguineiceps</em> E.C.S. Baker, 1918</td>
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<td><em>Picus squamatus</em></td>
<td>= <em>Picus</em> s. <em>squamatus</em> Vigors, 1831</td>
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<td><em>Phasianus albo-cristatus</em></td>
<td>= <em>Lophura leucomelana hamiltonii</em> (J.E. Gray, 1829)</td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>Enicurus maculatus</em></td>
<td>= <em>Enicurus</em> m. <em>maculatus</em> Vigors, 1831</td>
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<td><em>Picus occipitalis</em> Vigors, 1831, is preoccupied by <em>Picus occipitalis</em> Valenciennes, 1824.</td>
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Vigors 1831b; “Proceedings” 1830-1831: 22-23.

Paper read at the meeting of 11 January 1831 and published 1 February 1831. Note that if Sauer’s (1982) chronology is followed then this paper was published on the same day as the second number of the “Century”. One name is identical in these two publications, *Lanius erythropterus*. We here act as first revisers and select Vigors’s paper in the “Proceedings” as the first publication of the name. The “Century” may have been published earlier but at present its publication date is only an inference, unlike Vigors’s paper which can be dated precisely.

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<th>Page</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<td><em>Alcedo guttatus</em></td>
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<td><em>Musciceta princeps</em></td>
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<td><em>Lanius erythropterus</em></td>
<td>= <em>Pteruthius flaviscapis validirostris</em> Koelz, 1951</td>
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<td>= <em>Parus</em> x. <em>xanthogenys</em> Vigors, 1831</td>
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<td>= <em>Parus melanolophus</em> Vigors, 1831</td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>Parus erythrocephalus</em></td>
<td>= <em>Aegithalos concinnus iredatai</em> (E.C.S. Baker, 1920)</td>
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<td><em>Fringilla rodopepla</em></td>
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<td><em>Fringilla rodochroa</em></td>
<td>= <em>Carpodacus rodochroa</em> (Vigors, 1831)</td>
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<td><em>Carduelis caniceps</em></td>
<td>= <em>Carduelis carduelis caniceps</em> Vigors, 1831</td>
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<td><em>Picus hyperythrus</em></td>
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<td><em>Columba leuconota</em></td>
<td>= <em>Columba l. leuconota</em> Vigors, 1831</td>
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<tr>
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<td><em>Otis himalayatus</em></td>
<td>= <em>Eupodotis b. bengalensis</em> (Gmelin, 1789)</td>
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</table>

*Alcedo guttatus* Vigors, 1831, is preoccupied by *Alcedo guttata* Boddaert, 1783. *Lanius erythropterus* Vigors, 1831, is preoccupied by *Lanius erythropterus* Shaw, 1809. *Parus erythrocephalus* Vigors, 1831, is preoccupied by *Parus erythrocephalus* Linnaeus, 1758. The spelling of the name *Carpodacus rodochroa* here follows David & Gosselin

(2002) and Carpodacus rodopeplus follows Sibley & Monroe (1990). The name rodochroa in an original combination with Fringilla has a transliterated Greek noun -chroa as its final component, while rodopepla is a latinised Greek adjective.

Vigors 1831c; “Proceedings” 1830-1831: 35.

Paper read at the meeting of 8 February 1831 and published 2 March 1831.

*Phoenicura caeruleocephala* = *Phoenicus caeruleocephalus* (Vigors, 1831)
*Phoenicura leucocephala* = *Chaimarrornis leucocephalus* (Vigors, 1831)
*Phoenicura rubeculoïdes* = *Muscicapa r. rubeculoïdes* (Vigors, 1831)
*Phoenicura fuliginosa* = *Rhyacornis f. fuliginosus* (Vigors, 1831)
*Emberiza cristata* = *Melopus lathami* (J.E. Gray, 1831)
*Lamprotornis spilopterus* = *Saroglossa spiloptera* (Vigors, 1831)
*Myophonus Horsfieldii* = *Myophonus horsfieldii* (Vigors, 1831)
*Phasianus Staceii* = *Catreus wallichii* (Hardwicke, 1827)
*Otis nigriceps* = *Choriolis nigriceps* (Vigors, 1831)

*Phoenicurus caeruleocephalus*, an emendation of Vigors’s intended *P. caeruleocephalus*, has been in use for well over a century and is now the widely accepted name for this species. In fact, the earliest use of *caeruleocephalus* that we have been able to trace is in Hodgson (1844: 83; see also Gray, 1846: 68). Blyth (1842) had earlier used the name as intended by Vigors and credited it to “Vigors and Gould”. Blyth, perhaps influenced by the Hodgson catalogues, later adopted *caeruleocephalus*, even noting *coeruleocephalus* as a synonym (1849: 168). On this basis, Blyth explicitly made the emendation of the name, which was duly followed by Bonaparte (1850: 296). Bonaparte credited Blyth with the emendation, and it has remained in wide use ever since. *Emberiza cristata* was not illustrated in the “Century”. It was published on 2 March 1831 while J.E. Gray’s name *Emberiza lathami* for the same species was published before 19 February 1831 (Mathews, 1925). For use of *Myophonus* (not *Myiophoneus* or *Myiophonus*) see Deignan (1965), Inskipp et al. (1996) and Dickinson (2001).

Vigors 1831d; “Proceedings” 1830-1831: 41-44.

Paper read at the meeting of 22 February 1831 and published 6 April 1831.

**Page 42**  
*Collurio* = *Lanius Linnaeus, 1758*
*Collurio Hardwickii* = *Lanius v. vitatus* (Valenciennes, 1826)
*Collurio erythronotus* = *Lanius schach erythronotus* (Vigors, 1831)

**Page 43**  
*Collurio tephronotus* = *Lanius t. tephronotus* (Vigors, 1831)
*Hypsipetes* = *Hypsipetes Vigors, 1831*
*Hypsipetes Psaroïdes* = *Hypsipetes madagascariensis psaroïdes* Vigors, 1831

**Page 44**  
*Muscipeta brevirostris* = *Pericrocotus b. brevirostris* (Vigors, 1831)
*Carduelis spinoides* = *Carduelis s. spinoides* Vigors, 1831
*Picus auriceps* = *Picoïdes a. auriceps* (Vigors, 1831)
*Picus pygmaeus* = *Picoïdes canicapillus mitchelli* (Malherbe, 1849)
*Cinnyris Gouldiæ* = *Aethopyga g. gouldiae* (Vigors, 1831)

*Collurio tephronotus* and *Picus pygmaeus* were not illustrated in the “Century”. *Picus pygmaeus* Vigors, 1831, is preoccupied by *Picus pygmaeus* Lichtenstein, 1823.
Vigors 1831e; “Proceedings” 1830-1831: 54-56.

Paper read at the meeting of 22 March 1831 and published 6 May 1831.

Page 54  Turdus pocilopterus = Turdus boulboul (Latham, 1790)
Page 55  Cinclosoma ocellatum = Garrulax o. ocellatus (Vigors, 1831)
Page 56  Cinclosoma capistratum = Heterophasia c. capistrata (Vigors, 1831)
   Cinclosoma variegatum = Garrulax v. variegatus (Vigors, 1831)
   Cinclosoma lineatum = Garrulax l. lineatus (Vigors, 1831)


Paper read at the meeting of 27 December 1831 and published 2 March 1832.

Page 172  Picus nanus = Picoïdes n. nanus (Vigors, 1832)
Page 174  Certhia Himalayana = Certhia h. himalayana Vigors, 1832
Page 176  Picus brunifrons = Picoïdes auriceps (Vigors, 1831)

Neither Picus nanus nor Certhia himalayana were illustrated in the “Century”. Picus brunifrons is a nomen emendatum for P. brunifrons in the “Century”.

Conclusion

Our findings represent the first attempt to correctly establish the publication sources and dates of all new taxa described by Vigors in association with Gould’s “Century”. A significant result of our findings is that contrary to standard works that include the Indian avifauna (except Baker, 1930a, b), not all scientific names described by Vigors can be cited to the “Proceedings”. Of a total of 73 new names, 26 actually first appeared in the “Century”. In spite of the earlier publication of these names, their author must remain as Vigors as acknowledged by Gould himself. However, there is one exception. Picus brunifrons (emended to Picus brunifrons), a junior synonym of Vigors’s Picus auriceps, was not described in the “Proceedings” and therefore must be attributed to Gould. This becomes Gould’s first name for any Asian bird. It is important to note that our findings only affect the citation of the names and not the nomenclature of these birds.

Acknowledgements

Help was received from the staff of the Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW, the Australian Museum and Fisher Library, University of Sydney. We are indebted to Edward Dickinson and René Dekker for much useful discussion and editorial input on this paper. We also thank Alan Peterson for taking the time to review this paper.

References

The wrappers in the unbound copy in the Ellis Collection of the Spencer Library, University of Kansas, give the title as ‘A Century of Birds hitherto unfigured from the Himalaya Mountains’. There is an undated facsimile edition of the “Century” published in New Delhi, India, in the early 1990s but lacking the captions inasmuch as the plates appear to have been printed in reverse.

Swainson, W. & J. Richardson, 1831 [=1832]. Fauna Boreali-Americana; or the Zoology of the northern parts of British America: containing descriptions of the objects of natural history collected on the late northern land expeditions under command of Captain Sir John Franklin, R.N. Part 2. The Birds. i-ixv, 1-532, [1].— London.


Vigors, N.A., 1832. Untitled [= ‘Mr. Vigors exhibited the sixth and last portion of the species comprising the ‘Century of Birds from the Himalayan Mountains,’ drawn and lithographed by Mr. and Mrs. Gould, the publication of which was now drawing to a close. ...’ ].— Proc. Comm. Science Corresp. Zool. Soc. 1830-1831: 170-176. [Published 2 March 1832].


Wood, W., 1832. Catalogue of an extensive and valuable collection of the best works on Natural History.— London.

Received: 16.ix.2002
Accepted: 4.x.2002
Edited: C. van van Achterberg
Table 1. The sequence of names as published on the plates of the “Century” and of names described as new in the “Proceedings”. Names where actually new are highlighted in bold.

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Sequence of Publication</th>
<th>Name in “Century”</th>
<th>Plate number in bound version</th>
<th>Name in “Proceedings”</th>
<th>Page number in “Proceedings”</th>
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<td><em>Picus occipitalis</em></td>
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<td><em>Tragopan Hastingsii</em></td>
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<td><em>Phasianus albo-cristatus</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>Enicurus maculatus</em></td>
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<td><em>Parus melanolophus</em></td>
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<td><em>Fringilla rodopepla</em></td>
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<td><em>Columba leuconota</em></td>
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1 Coccothraustes icterioides in the accompanying text.
“Century” Number 4
Scheduled to be published 1 April 1831

13 Myophonus horsfieldii 20
14 Phasianus staceii 68
15 Parus xanthogenys, 29
    Parus monticolus
16 Alcedo guttatus 5

“Century” Number 5
Published before 25 April 1831

17 Columba leuconota 59
18 Pica erythrorhyncha 41
19 Muscipeta brevirostris2 8
    (male and female)
20 Picus squamatus 48

“Century” Number 6
Scheduled to be published 1 June 1831

21 Cinclosoma ocellatum 15
22 Perdix chukar 71

2 Phænicornis brevirostris in the accompanying text.
23 Phœnicura frontalis, Phœnicura leucocephala
24 Nucifraga hemispila

"Century" Number 7
Scheduled to be published 1 July 1831
25 Pica cagabanda 42
26 Phasianus pucrasia (male) 69
27 Lamprotornis spliwyterus 34
(male and female)
28 Phœnicura cinclorhyncha\(^3\) 19

"Century" Number 8
Scheduled to be published 1 August 1831
29 Garrulus leucolophus\(^4\) 18
30 Phasianus pucrasia (female) 70
31 Fringilla rodopepla, Fringilla rodochroa
32 Myophonus temmenckii\(^6\) 21

"Century" Number 9
Scheduled to be published 1 September 1831
33 Garrulus lanceolatus (male) 39
34 Otis nigriceps 72
35 Cinnyris gouldiæ 56
36 Pomatorhinus erythrogenys 55

"Century" Number 10
Scheduled to be published 1 October 1831
37 Picus shorii 49
38 Phœnicura rubeculoides, [Phœnicura] caeruleocephala 25
39 Phasianus albo-cristatus (female) 67
40 Turdus erythrogaster (male and female) 13

"Century" Number 11
Scheduled to be published 1 November 1831
41 Picus occipitalis 47
42 Otis himalayanus (female) 75
43 Parus erythrocephalus, [Parus] melanolophus 30
44 Cuculus himalayanus 54

"Century" Number 12
Scheduled to be published 1 December 1831; and was published by 27 December 1831
45 Tragopan hastingsii (male) 63
46 Tragopan hastingsii (female) 65
47 Picus brunifrons\(^6\) (male and female) 52
48 Cinclosoma variegatum 16

\(^3\) Petrocincla cinclorhyncha in the accompanying text.
\(^4\) Cinclosoma leucolophum in the accompanying text.
\(^5\) Myophonus temminckii in the accompanying text.
\(^6\) Picus brunifrons in the accompanying text.
“Century” Number 13
Scheduled to be published 1 January 1832
49 Muscipeta princeps7 7
50 Otus bengalensis 3
51 Pastor traillii (male and female) 35
52 Cinclus pallasi 24

“Century” Number 14
Scheduled to be published 1 January 1832
53 Falco chiquera 2
54 Lophophorus impeyanus (male) 60
55 Carduelis caniceps, 33
   [Carduelis] spinoides8
56 Enicurus scouleri 28

“Century” Number 15
Scheduled to be published 1 March 1832, but was published before 25 February 1832
57 Bucerotus caratus 44
58 Haematornis 1
58 Haematornis undulatus 1
59 Parra sinensis 77
60 Vinago sphenura 57

“Century” Number 16
Scheduled to be published 1 March 1832, but was published before 25 February 1832
61 Hypsipetes 10
61 Hypsipetes psaroides9 10
62 Zoothera 22
62 Zoothera monticola 22
63 Muscipeta peregrina10 (male and female) 9
64 Vanellus gosensis 78

“Century” Number 17
Scheduled to be published 1 March 1832, but was published before 25 February 1832
65 Cuculus sparverioïdes 53
66 Pitta brachyura 23
67 Pica sinensis 43
68 Cinclosoma erythrocephala11 17

“Century” Number 18
Scheduled to be published 1 March 1832, but was published before 25 February 1832
69 Collurio 12
69 Collurio hardwickii, 12
   [Collurio] erythrognathus
70 Ibidorhyncha 79
70 Ibidorhyncha struthersii 79
71 Pyrrhula erythrocephala 32
72 Vinago militaris (male and female) 58

7 Phaenicornis princeps in the accompanying text.
8 Carduelis spinoides in the accompanying text.
9 Hypsipetes psaroides in the accompanying text.
10 Phaenicornis peregrina in the accompanying text.
11 Cinclosoma erythrocephala in the accompanying text.

"Century” Number 19
Scheduled to be published 1 March 1832, but was published before 25 February 1832

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<td>74</td>
<td>Muscicapa melanops</td>
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<td>75</td>
<td>Totanus glottoïdes</td>
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<td>Otis himalayanus (young male)</td>
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"Century” Number 20
Scheduled to be published 1 March 1832, but was published before 25 February 1832

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"Proceedings" for 27 December 1831
Published 2 March 1832

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12 Anser indicus in the accompanying text.