

TESTUDO INDICA.

Sphenoid bone deeply concave beneath, under the condyle.
Lower jaw narrowed and rounded in front, not more than half as high as behind.

TESTUDO PLANICEPS.

Sphenoid bone flat beneath, under the condyle.
Lower jaw convex and erect in front, and as high as behind.

These descriptions are taken from skulls of nearly the same size, as proved by the following measurements:—

	<i>Testudo Indica.</i>	<i>Testudo planiceps.</i>
Length from condyle to front of lip	$5\frac{3}{8}$	$5\frac{1}{8}$
—— from occipital crest to nose-cavity ...	$5\frac{2}{8}$	$5\frac{6}{8}$
—— of palate concavity	$3\frac{3}{8}$	$2\frac{5}{8}$
Width at condyles	4	$4\frac{1}{2}$
—— at ends of temporal bones	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$3\frac{7}{8}$
—— of palate concavity in middle	$1\frac{3}{8}$	1
—— between orbits	2	$1\frac{2}{8}$
Height from back of upper lip to top of head	$2\frac{5}{8}$	$1\frac{6}{8}$
—— of front of lower jaw	$2\frac{5}{8}$	1
Length of nasal opening	2	$1\frac{1}{16}$

January 25, 1853.

Dr. Gray, F.R.S., Vice-President, in the Chair.

A portion of a letter from Mr. Louis Fraser, H.M. Consul at Whidah, was read, in which the writer mentioned that he had received accounts of the occurrence of a large Ape in the vicinity of Fernando Po. He says it has only been brought down to the colony on two or three occasions. The natives call it *Tap-par-po-har*, and suppose it to be a Chimpanzee; but from the description they give of it, he thinks it must be a *Cynocephalus*. The people say it is as large as a man, that it has a long head and a *very* short tail, and that it barks like a dog. He adds that there are curious tales current about the animal, which he will endeavour to collect.

The following papers were also read:—

1. DESCRIPTIONS OF TWO NEW BIRDS, FROM FERNANDO PO.
BY LOUIS FRASER.

BUBO POENSIS, Fraser.

Brownish yellow, each feather barred with brown, the brown predominating on the crown, shoulders and middle of the back; tail

above barred with brown and greyish brown alternately ; twelve bars of each colour.

Total length 16 inches ; gape, $1\frac{3}{8}$; wing, 12 ; tail, 7 ; tarsi, $1\frac{3}{4}$.

Hab. Fernando Po.

Killed in June. The specimen from which the above description was taken is the only one that has been seen by the town's-people ; consequently I presume it is very scarce, at least in this part (Clarence) of the island. The natives say it destroys fowls, which here roost in the trees.

Native name 'Okó.' This is evidently a generic term, as the same name is applied to my *Strix Poensis*.

BUCEROS POENSIS, Fraser.

Female by dissection. Head and neck maroon, the feathers of the head standing out in apparent disorder, as in *Buceros comatus* ; the rest of the plumage black, the back and tail having bronze reflections ; the four outer tail-feathers terminated with white.

Cere cærulean-blue ; upper part of throat-sac French-white, middle a blending of French-white and blue, terminated with cærulean-blue ; these fleshy parts are much wrinkled ; legs and feet deep blue.

Total length 30 inches ; gape, 6 ; wing, $14\frac{1}{2}$; tail, 13 ; tarsi, $1\frac{3}{4}$.

Hab. Fernando Po.

Killed in the month of July, in deep moult.

Native name, 'Oon-cot-to.' The natives say it cries, as it flies, 'How-oo-ar, how-oo-ar, how-oo-ar.' Very shy. Makes its nest in holes of very large trees, in the dry season ; lays two eggs. These birds used to be common in the neighbourhood of Clarence, but since the introduction of guns they have been much shot, and have retired to the mountain.

Palm oil nuts, only, were found in the gizzard, which was soft, almost like a stomach ; skin very thin and difficult to prepare. Between the skin and body appeared to be air-cells.

The male is said to differ materially, but I have not been fortunate enough to procure a specimen.

2. DESCRIPTIONS OF FOURTEEN NEW SPECIES OF MACTRA, IN THE COLLECTION OF MR. CUMING. BY G. P. DESHAYES.

1. *MACTRA COMPLANATA*, Desh. *M. testa transversim trigona, depressa, æquilaterali, securiformi, lævigata, alba, utroque latere æqualiter obtusa ; latere antico posticali æquante ; margine inferiore acuto, regulariter arcuato ; lunula magna, elongato-lanceolata, sulco impresso circumdata, in medio prominente ; area elongata, ovato-lanceolata, impressa, plana, angulo duplici circumscripta ; umbonibus parvis, recurvis, acuminatis ; valvis tenuibus, intus candidissimis ; lamina cardinali lata, tenui ; dentibus lateralibus brevibus, lamellosis, triangularibus, abrupte truncatis ; sinu pallii brevi, semielliptico, descendente.*

Hab. Indian Ocean. Coll. Cuming and Deshayes.