

whereas the young of Barking Deer are spotted. My own experience reverses this entirely, and I believe, in the Malay Sambár, it is now recognised that the young are spotted, though at what age they lose their spots is uncertain.

3. Has the Brow-Antlered Deer a spotted coat at certain seasons? Have any heads been obtained with a greater antler measurement than 54 inches, the biggest given by Blanford? As regards Sambar heads, the skull of the Siamese form is as big as, or perhaps bigger than, the Indian, but the horns of the Siamese are much shorter, though the circumference at the butt or above the first tine is frequently as great as the Indian.

4. Messrs Yates and Rogers, of the Bombay Burma Trading Corporation, have reported a black species of Wild Dog. Has anyone else ever met with this animal, and have specimens ever been obtained? Where do the (red) Wild Dog (*Cyon rutilans*) go in the dry season? I have observed that they chase the Sambar down to the cultivation at the beginning of the rains in May and June; at other seasons I never see them.

5. Nothing is generally known as to whether the two species of Rhinoceros occur east of the Menam Chow Phraya, and the northern limit of the Tapir (*Tapirus indicus*, Siamese "Samset") is uncertain.

K. G. GAIRDNER.

February, 1914.

No. V.—BREEDING OF THE PAINTED SNIPE.

It is not surprising to find that the Painted Snipe (*Rostratula capensis*) or "Painter" breeds within the limits of the ordinary Bangkok shooting grounds, as it has been recorded from Calcutta and also from Burma, but as far as I am aware it has not been recorded from Siam, and more particularly from Bangkok. During the last rains I have had two clutches of eggs and two young birds brought to me. The first clutch of four eggs was found on the 6th July, and had been laid about a week. The second nest, also of four eggs, was found on the 11th August, and these eggs had been laid fully ten days. The first young bird was caught by Mr. McBeth and sent to me on the 18th September; it was nearly fully fledged and could rise about two feet from the ground but could not fly. The other young bird was caught about ten miles below Paknampho on the 3rd October, and was fully fledged.

It was interesting to note, in these young birds, the curious display by which this species seeks to terrorize an enemy, and which has been described by Finn in *How to know the Indian Waders*. When

slightly alarmed the bird would raise the wing farthest from the intruder, but when "cornered", both wings would be extended and brought forward until they reached beyond the tip of the beak, and the tail spread, so that the beautiful spotted markings were fully shown. The hissing, as described by Finn, was very noticeable in the older bird, but in the younger one it was replaced by a low plaintive whistle, so it possibly only occurs with the more fully developed birds.

The "Painter" is reported as breeding two or three times during the season, and it is likely that the breeding season in Bangkok extends over the greater part of the rains. The nest is the usual hollow, often with a pad of grass, and the eggs are four in number, slightly pyriform in shape, yellowish stone colour with large markings of very dark brown or black. The eggs measure 1.4 by 1 inches. Should anyone be so fortunate as to come across a sitting bird, it would be interesting to note whether it is a male or female, as the male is the inferior bird and there is reason to believe that it sits on the nest.

E. G. HERBERT.

October, 1913.

NO. VI. BREEDING OF PAINTED SNIPE IN SIAM.

The point as to whether the Painted Snipe breeds around Bangkok has been discussed and doubted so often that it will interest sportsmen and naturalists, I feel sure, to know that while shooting this season at Sala Yah, I came across a mother with four chicks. This was on September 22nd. My man caught one of the chicks. It was quite small and unable to fly, being covered only with down, and had therefore obviously been hatched out only a few days. I did not keep the chick or make any special note of its coloration, but the parent bird, which I saw at quite close quarters, was clearly a "Painter."

C. H. FORTY.

November, 1913.

NO. VII.—THE MOULTING OF SNIPE.

I noticed this season that the "Pintails," or, at any rate, the early arrivals, were already in moult when they reached Bangkok. In the case of four of the first birds shot (Sept. 14th), one had completed the moult of the primaries but the new feathers were not quite fully developed; the second had only the two outer primaries of the old feathers remaining and the new ones were in varying states of development; the third had lost six of the old primaries, and the fourth bird had only lost four. In the latter two instances the new