

## MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

## No. I. Note on Siamese Pheasants

The British Museum has recently received from Mr. K. G. Gairdner four most interesting skins from Siam.

The first of these is a beautiful specimen of *Phasianus humiae burmanicus* from the hills of northern Siam, shot at an elevation of about 6000 feet. This is a great extension of this fine pheasant's hitherto recorded range and adds yet another Game Bird to the Siamese list.

The other three skins are those of *Gennaeus lineatus* and must I think for the present be retained under typical *Gennaeus l. lineatus* until we get further skins to endorse or refute the value of the differences shown by these specimens.

Of the three skins two are those of males, one fine old bird, the other a male just having attained adult plumage; they were both shot on the Me Ping rapids half way between Chiengmai and Raheng; the third, which is a female, was shot near Raheng at a height of 1500 feet.

Raheng is a good long way north and east of the nearest point at which true *lineatus* has yet been found and it is not surprising to find that the skins show some remarkable points not wholly consistent with their being this bird.

The young male might be a typical *lineatus* from Pegu, except that its central tail feathers somewhat approach the more northern forms. The old bird however is very big with a much fuller bigger crest than *lineatus* usually indulges in, and with a tail of no less than 390 mm., which also approaches *sharpei* in general appearance.

The female is like that of *lineatus* but approaching somewhat to that of *rufipes* and not that of *sharpei*, the which, as far as we know at present, has always a dark under-surface with the feathers streaked not barred as in this specimen.

It will be very interesting to obtain more specimens, for it seems as if we might have here a new race combining features of *G. l. lineatus*, *G. l. rufipes* and *G. l. sharpei*.

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## No. II. Notes on Early Snipe.

I am indebted to Mr. E. Chapple for most of the birds upon which the following notes are based.

The first snipe of the season (1919) was shot by Major Forty on the 29th August.