

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

No. I. The Goral in Siam.

In the "Proceedings of the Zoological Society" for 1905 (vol. ii, pp. 311-314), Major G. H. Evans, in *Notes on the Goral found in Burma*, says, "These Goral, I believe, extend into Siam and are to be found in suitable places on the Siamese side of the Thaungyin River, and also occur, but are more scarce, about the hills at the headwaters of the Me Ping river" (p. 314). The correctness of this supposition has been proved by Mr. K. G. Gairdner who, last year, sent me the skin and skull of a female Goral (No. 534) obtained at the Me Ping rapids, Lat. 17°. 30' N. — exactly where Major Evans thought the species would be found. It is probable that, before this, the Goral has been seen or shot by Europeans in Siam, but has been identified with the better-known serow owing to its general likeness to that animal; Mr. Gairdner's specimen seems, however, the first to be recorded. The present example is sub-adult, the last molars, though well up, being scarcely extruded to the full extent. It measured in the flesh, height at withers, 24 inches; length from nose to anus, 36.75 inches; length of tail, 4.75 inches; length of ear, 4.4 inches. The greatest length of the skull is 7.8 inches and the greatest breadth 3.5 inches. The horns measure, in a straight line from base to tip, 4 inches; and their diameter at base is 0.8 inches. It is thus far smaller than a Serow of the same age. The horns are very like those of the Serow, being ringed at the base and smooth elsewhere; the skull has the same general aspect, but is easily distinguished by the much less obtuse angle which the top of the brain-case forms with the profile of the face, the more sharp-edged and projecting rims to the orbits, the absence of the large shallow pits in front of the orbits, and by the shorter nasals which are nowhere in contact with the maxillary bones.

Colour. Mingled brown and pale grey producing a variable grizzled brown-effect. Front of the face distinctly rusty and a rusty wash on the upper part of the fore-legs, the rump and thighs. A dark brown dorsal stripe from between the horns to the base of the tail, rather rusty posteriorly. Tail blackish brown. Underside of body greyish or brownish white extending to the inner sides of the limbs. Throat and fore-neck buffy white, distinctly margined with buff posteriorly.

Below the knees and hocks the brown is confined to the outer and posterior sides of the legs, leaving the remaining area buffy. There is a short hairy crest extending from the horns over the nape, very different from the profuse bristly mane of the Serow.

This Siamese specimen appears to be the same as Chinese and Burmese animals which are now held to be alike; it should therefore be called:—

Nemorhaedus griseus (Milne-Edwards).

The synonymy is as follows:—

- Antilope (Naemorhedus) griseus*, A. M-Edw., Nouv. Arch. Mus. Paris, vii, Bull. p. 93 (1871), Moupin, E. Tibet. (Based on a young animal).
 ? *Antilope (Naemorhedus) cinereus*, A. M-Edw., Rech. Mamm., p. 362, pl. 71, fig 1, pl. 72, fig 2 (1874), Moupin, E. Tibet. (Based on an aged animal).
Kemas henryinus, Henry, P. Z. S. 1890, p. 93, Ichang, China.
Urotragus evansi, Lydekker, Zoologist (4) ix, p. 83 (1905) Mt. Victoria, N Arakan, Burma.

LITERATURE.

- R. Lydekker. The Game Animals of India, etc., 1907, *Urotragus cinereus* and *griseus*, pp. 155-6.
 G. H. Evans. Notes on the Goral found in Burma, P.Z.S. 1907, vol. ii, pp. 113-314.
 R. Pocock. On the Gorals (*Naemorhedus*) of the Himalayas, Burma and China, P.Z.S. 1908, pp. 190-202.
 R. Lydekker. Catalogue of the Ungulate Mammals in the British Museum, vol. i, 1913, pp. 206-8.
 R. Pocock. Genus *Nemorhaedus* (Gorals). Journal of the Bombay Nat. Hist. Society, xxii, 1913, pp. 311-317. Coloured figure and skull.

C. BODEN KLOSS, F.Z.S.

[The Goral described above was one of two seen at 11 a.m. slowly ascending a steep, stony hillside abutting on the Me Ping river. These animals apparently come down to drink at about that time. A month earlier I saw a party of 2 or 3 adults and 2 kids feeding at 10 a.m. in dry, open jungle some 80 yards above the river bank. Their colouration assimilates well with the greys and browns of deciduous tree tops and dry grasses, and unless the animals are moving they are not easily distinguished. This year, 1923, I looked for them again in their usual haunts without success, though fishermen had seen them almost daily. There had, however, been sufficient rain to bring on a fresh growth of young grass right up to the tops of the lime-stone ranges, which hereabouts are very abrupt and go to 1,000 and 1,500 feet within a short distance of the river bank. Mr. Kloss suspects that specimens previously obtained have been popularly referred to as Serow. This certainly was so in my own case, as I thought they were *rubidus*—the Red Serow of Burma.

Goral are called by the Siamese of that district "Kwang pah" (Cliff Sambhar), the Serow being called "Liang pah." Last year I saw a big Serow of the usual buffalo colour, slaty grey to black. This animal swam the river—a distance of 90 yards—in front of my cargo boats. The boatmen poled their utmost, hoping

to despatch the beast with their iron-shod boat poles, but the Serow was an easy winner and 500 yards up the cliff by the time I arrived. K. G. Gairdner.]

No. II. Breeding of the Gibbon in Captivity.

Records of the Gibbon of Siam (*Hylobates lar*) breeding in captivity, are I believe unknown and the following instance, although the animals were not in strict captivity, is interesting.

In April 1914 I bought and turned loose in my compound five gibbons, two white and three black. One of the black ones subsequently became savage and had to be shot, but the other four lived amicably together until March 1920 when one of the white ones was noticed to be pregnant and in May gave birth to a young one. A black gibbon who was obviously the father attached himself to her, and the other two were chased from their accustomed trees and never allowed in the compound.

At the time of writing the young gibbon though over two years old and quite big enough to fend for itself still clings to its mother when she moves rapidly from tree to tree, and more remarkable still, is nursed by her and has never been seen to take any of the solid food provided for the other monkeys.

Prae, N. Siam, Sept. 10. 1922.

A. W. OGILVIE.

No. III. Snipe Records for Bangkok.

The following notes of shooting seasons 1921-22-23 may be of interest as regards the two species of Snipe found around Bangkok. The notes are extracted from my shooting diary and are much the same as the records of previous seasons.

1921 - 1922.

			Fantail.	Pintail.
August	...	...	0	13
September	...	...	1	117
October	...	...	9	100
November	...	...	59	87
December	...	...	49	27
January	...	...	69	17
February	...	...	60	20
March (1st half)	...	...	23	8
March (2nd half and April)	...	...	0	21