



 *Helm Dictionary of*
**SCIENTIFIC
BIRD NAMES**

James A. Jobling



THE HELM DICTIONARY OF SCIENTIFIC BIRD NAMES

FROM *AALGE* TO *ZUSII*

James A. Jobling



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Introduction

*“What’s in a name? that which we call a rose
By any other name would smell as sweet.”*

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (1595)
Romeo and Juliet, act II, sc. ii, 1.43.

This new Dictionary owes much to R. D. Macleod’s *Key to the Names of British Birds* (1954) and to my well-received *A Dictionary of Scientific Bird Names* (1991). After the latter was published I began work on an encyclopaedia of English and scientific bird names (in effect, an annotated sequence and etymology of the birds of the world). From that labour of love, encouraged by family and friends, the current Dictionary has been developed as a new and comprehensive work of reference.

Thanks to the generous input of correspondents worldwide, I have been able to enlarge on many of the scientific entries and correct any errors contained in my first book. New genera and species described or separated between June 1990 and October 2009 are included, together with those specific and subspecific names indexed in Paynter (1987) and Dickinson (2003). For reasons of space, I have excluded many subspecific eponyms and toponyms. The former can be found in the pages of Wynne (1969), and the latter, for the most part, are usually self-explanatory and easily deduced. However, generalised non-specific toponyms, such as *alticola*, *americana* or *centralis*, together with those geographical epithets known to the Greeks and Romans, are included. I have also attempted to include all those forms named on the basis of substantives given by non-binominal authors such as the Comte de Buffon and Brigadier Félix de Azara, and to give a full synonymy of those species first described by Linnaeus (1758). Numerous synonymised generic and specific names are listed, including those which were formerly widely used or reflect some literary or historical interest (e.g., to provide basic information on an author, naturalist or collector who is no longer celebrated in modern nomenclature, or to highlight synonyms which formed the bases of current or former English modifiers). The choice of scientific taxa included in the Dictionary may appear eclectic, but my aims have been to illustrate the diversity of languages both old and new and to cultivate a wider interest in them.

In 1758 the tenth edition of Linnaeus’s *Systema Naturae* was published in Stockholm. It described and diagnosed the natural world as then known to him, including six orders, 63 genera and 556 species of birds. This edition of Linnaeus is now accepted as the beginning of scientific nomenclature in zoology, including ornithology. Since then, more than 50,000 scientific bird names, of genera, species and subspecies, have been proposed, arranged and rearranged in a hierarchy of taxa far more complex than that envisaged by Linnaeus.

Latin had been the language of scientific publications and correspondence for hundreds of years. Birds were named in lengthy diagnoses, often including foreign names, to ensure that the reader knew what species was being dealt with. Ray (1678), in describing the Common Pochard, wrote, “Poker, or Pochard, or Great Red-headed Wigeon: *Anas fera fusca* of Gesner and Aldrovandus; *Penelops veterum* & *Rothalss* of Gesner and

Aldrovandus; Cane a la teste rouge of Belon.” Linnaeus’s aims were to describe relationships and systematise the natural world, by providing simple two-part names for each species, using words taken directly from classical Latin or transliterated from Greek or other, mainly European, languages. For the Common Pochard he coined *Anas ferina*.

The importance of a system which identifies a species in any tongue is apparent when one considers the various species worldwide sharing the substantive names robin, black-bird, warbler, sparrow and finch, the confusing variety and limitations of vernacular names, and the debates of English-speakers over the preferred names of even common birds. When the BOURC (1988) suggested replacing Dunnock and Bearded Tit with Hedge Accentor and Bearded Parrotbill there was uproar, and in more than fifty years of birdwatching I have yet to hear a British birdwatcher call *Gavia arctica* the Arctic Loon. Although Gill & Wright (2006) are to be congratulated on taking the first tentative steps in the right direction, in this book I have tried to follow Dickinson (2003) where English names are given in the text. The object of this Dictionary is to explain the meaning of the zoological esperanto created by Linnaeus and his successors, in so far as it applies to the genera and species of birds of the world.

PARTS OF SCIENTIFIC NAMES

The basic scientific name of a bird species consists of four parts. For example, *Parus major* Linnaeus, 1758, is the full scientific name of the Great Tit. The first two parts, the binomen *Parus major*, are written in a Latin or neo-Latin form and traditionally printed in italics. Note, however, that for the sake of clarity and impact, and following the precedents of Macleod (1954), Choate (1985) and Jobling (1991), this convention is not adhered to in the headers of the Dictionary (e.g. **aalge** instead of *aalge*, **Aaptus** instead of *Aaptus*).

The first part of the name denotes the genus, distinguishing a group of related species or an isolated, distinctive species. It must be in the form of a noun or a substantivised adjective treated as a noun, it must be unique in the zoological world, and it must begin with an upper-case letter. If the same genus is subsequently referred to but in different specific combinations, the convention is to use the initial abbreviation for the generic term, provided it does not cause confusion (e.g. *Dendroica petechia*, *D. castanea*, *D. fusca*, *D. virens*, which are all in *Dendroica*; but not *Thalassarche melanophrys*, *T. impavida*, *T. chlororhynchos*, since *T. chlororhynchos* refers to *Thalassogeron chlororhynchos*). The second part of the binomen, beginning with a lower-case letter, is the specific or trivial name, distinguishing the species within the genus, and, although taking many forms, is commonly an adjective or a noun in the genitive case. Only in combination with a generic name does it have any validity or make any sense, but it can be used in more than one genus; thus *Parus major* Linnaeus, 1758, *Dendrocopos major* (Linnaeus, 1758), *Podiceps major* (Boddaert, 1783), *Crotophaga major* (J. Gmelin, 1788), *Tinamus major* (J. Gmelin, 1789), *Taraba major* (Vieillot, 1816), *Xiphocolaptes major* (Vieillot, 1818), *Quiscalus major* Vieillot, 1819, *Brachypteryx major* (Jerdon, 1844), *Pachyramphus major* (Cabanis, 1847), *Diglossa major* Cabanis, 1849, *Cettia major* (Moore, 1854), *Schiffornis major* des Murs, 1856, *Bradypterus major* (Brooks, 1872), and *Zoothera major* (Ogawa, 1905) are all valid names in zoology. Within the genus, however, no two species, subspecies or forms may bear the same specific name. In 1843 the American explorer William Gambel described a chickadee he had collected in the mountains of Santa Fé, New Mexico, as *Parus montanus*. That name was preoccupied by *Parus montanus* Conrad von Baldenstein, 1827, the familiar Willow Tit of Europe, and

Gambel's later name was no longer valid by reason of homonymy. In the absence of a junior synonym the Mountain Chickadee was renamed *Parus gambeli* Ridgway, 1886, in Gambel's honour.

The third and fourth parts of the Great Tit's scientific name – Linnaeus, 1758 – reveal the author of the specific name and the year in which that name was first validly published as a binomen. The author's name placed in parentheses after a specific name indicates that the current generic classification differs from that assigned by the original author. As examples, the Great Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos major* (Linnaeus, 1758) was originally described by him in the genus *Picus*, and both the Willow Tit *Poecile montanus* (Conrad von Balenstein, 1827) and the Mountain Chickadee *Poecile gambeli* (Ridgway, 1886) were first treated by their respective authors in the genus *Parus*.

Systematic publications, such as checklists, handbooks and synopses, generally give a full citation of both generic and specific names, including original publication details, identification of the type species of the genus, type locality of species, and synonyms. Non-systematic scientific works, popular books, field guides and magazines usually give only the binomen; only these two parts of the name are considered further in the Dictionary.

Many species are divided by systematists into subspecies or races, which are populations of the species occupying a distinct geographic range and distinguished by recognisable morphological characters from other populations of the species. Species subdivided into subspecies are termed polytypic; those for which no subspecies are recognised are monotypic. Because of the continuity of the evolutionary process, some subspecies are so diverse that they are considered by ornithologists to have crossed the specific threshold and become species in their own right. In nomenclature, subspecies are designated by adding a third name to the binomen, creating a trinomen. The subspecies of the Great Tit breeding in continental Europe and western Siberia is known as *Parus major major*, the nominate subspecies, whose trinomen, created by repeating the specific epithet, reflects history or an accident of geography rather than precedence or relationship. It can be morphologically distinguished from populations breeding in the British Isles *Parus major newtoni*, the Holy Land *Parus major terraesanctae*, and others found elsewhere in the species' large Palaearctic and Indomalayan range. At least two of these forms, *Parus major minor* of Japan and China, and *Parus major bokharensis* of Turkestan, are considered by some as distinct species, *Parus minor* and *Parus bokharensis*. Extreme cases of polytypism include the Collared Kingfisher *Todiramphus chloris* of the Old World tropics, for which more than fifty distinct and usually easily separable forms have been described, and the Bananaquit *Coereba flaveola* of the Neotropics, which has more than forty subspecies. If the same genus and species names are referred to in subsequent but different subspecific combinations, the convention is to use the initial abbreviations for both the generic and specific terms, e.g. *Parus major corsus*, *P. m. mallorcae*, *P. m. aphrodite*, with the latter two names showing abbreviations for *Parus major mallorcae* and *Parus major aphrodite* respectively. However, to follow these with *P. m. rhenanus*, a trinomen that refers to a different genus and species, *Poecile montanus rhenanus*, would be confusing and incorrect.

Neither generic nor specific names need to be descriptive, accurate or relevant, and they cannot be rejected merely for being erroneous in these respects, although some earlier authors sought to do so. Many names coined in the early years of systematic zoology are now known to be inappropriate, having been based on inaccurate plates or drawings, specimens affected by poor storage conditions, lay descriptions, mistaken provenance or mixed-up specimens, fraud or human error.

CODES OF NOMENCLATURE

Although Linnaeus sought to lay down guidelines in his *Philosophica Botanica* (1751), there were no generally accepted rules governing the formation, use, and priorities of names in zoology for nearly one hundred years afterwards. Many naturalists rushed to embrace Linnaeus's simple binominal system, but they did so in an uncoordinated and chaotic fashion. Men of independent spirit such as François Levaillant and the Comte de Buffon refused to recognise the order heralded by the Swedish botanist, but their works were eagerly scanned and used as bases for catalogues, classificatory systems, or nomenclators by subsequent cabinet authors. The names of Levaillant, de Buffon and de Azara will not be found amongst the ranks of Linnaean descriptive authors, but their works are vital sources for the etymologist.

As the number of new species swelled to a flood, the Linnaean binominal system was threatened with collapse as authors independently described the same species under different names, unaware of, or perhaps without regard for, the works of others. Often males, females, immatures and colour morphs of the same species were described as different species. Moreover, authors differed in their approaches to the Linnaean nomenclatural system, disagreeing as to whether inappropriate names, original mis-spellings, autochthonyms, and so on, should be corrected and changed or allowed to stand. As species became better known, the earlier errors were gradually sorted out and amended. The result, however, was a plethora of names, disagreement on availability and usage of names for individual species, and differences on the starting date for binominal nomenclature (whether it should be pre-Linnaean, Linnaeus's tenth edition of 1758, or Linnaeus's twelfth edition of 1766). Great instability in the use of names and a collapse of binominal nomenclature loomed less than 100 years after Linnaeus introduced his concept of an efficient international system of biological names essential for communication between all biologists.

The most successful of the early attempts to bring uniformity to zoological nomenclature was the Strickland Code, conceived in 1835 by the British zoologist Hugh Strickland, and presented to the British Association for the Advancement of Science in 1842. It was adopted by the Scientific Congress in Padua in 1843, by the American Society of Geologists and Naturalists in 1845, and by the British Association for the Advancement of Science in 1846. The Strickland Code was the basis of subsequent codes, including the American Ornithologists' Union Code and eventually the Règles Internationales. The Strickland Code adopted the twelfth (1766) edition of the *Systema Naturae* as the starting date for zoological nomenclature, a decision broadly accepted at the time in Britain and parts of continental Europe. However, many workers in North America and Europe argued that the tenth (1758) edition of Linnaeus should be so used. The nomenclatural code adopted by the American Ornithologists' Union in 1886 accepted the tenth edition of *Systema Naturae* as the start of zoological nomenclature, and this was enthusiastically embraced by most workers except the British, who remained isolated until 1901. In that year the Fifth International Congress of Zoology at Berlin adopted the tenth edition of *Systema Naturae* and promulgated the first set of rules of zoological nomenclature to be recognised internationally, the Règles Internationales de la Nomenclature Zoologique (published in 1905). These rules have been modified and clarified over the years, and underwent a major revision in the 1950s, resulting in publication of the new International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN) in 1961 (4th edition, 1999).

“The objects of the Code are to promote stability and universality in the scientific names of animals and to ensure that the name of each taxon is unique and distinct” (ICZN 1999).

To those ends the three basic principles of priority, preservation of well-established names, and homonymy, are key to understanding the usage of names in this book and elsewhere in the literature.

PRIORITY

The principle of priority states simply that the earliest name applied properly to a taxon of animals is the correct scientific name, with the date of publication determined by the stated date on the publication or by other means if that information is not reliable. Priority now dates from 1 January 1758, the date fixed for the publication of the tenth edition of Linnaeus's *Systema Naturae*. If two species or two genera are merged for whatever reason, the correct name is the earliest one proposed. If investigation indicates that a species or a genus should be divided into two, then the former name remains with the type and a new name must be proposed for the other taxon if a name does not already exist for it. Many changes in zoological nomenclature resulted from the application of priority, especially when sorting out the work of the early taxonomists, and major changes stemmed from the decision to change the beginning date for zoological nomenclature from the twelfth edition (1766) of Linnaeus to the earlier tenth edition (1758).

PRESERVATION OF WELL-ESTABLISHED NAMES

This principle, dealt with in the ICZN as a sub-article of the Principle of Priority, is concerned with the preservation of stability and universality in zoological nomenclature. It operates to protect well-established names from being replaced by long-forgotten and hence unused senior synonyms, but can be modified by prevailing usage and the actions of the first author (or First Reviser). When the precedence of two names cannot be determined, that precedence can be fixed by the actions of the First Reviser citing those names in a published work and selecting from them. Prevailing usage concerns the identification and possible valid publication of unused senior synonyms after 1899, and the variable conditions in which a junior synonym or homonym may take precedence, subject to a ruling of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature. Formerly, prevailing usage was not clearly articulated within the Code, and was not without its opponents.

HOMONYMY

This principle states that a particular name can be used only once in zoological nomenclature. Hence a generic name or a family-group name can only be used once in the animal kingdom – it must be unique. Thus when the generic name *Atrichia* Gould, 1844, which had been applied to the scrub-birds, was shown to be a junior homonym of *Atrichia* von Paula Schrank, 1803, it had to be replaced – by *Atrichornis* Stejneger, 1885. The rules for generic homonyms have changed over the years. Formerly genera differing only in their gender terminations, such as the feminine genus *Polysticta* Eyton, 1836, and the masculine genus *Polystictus* Reichenbach, 1850, were regarded as homonyms, and the junior name was replaced. This interpretation of homonymy is no longer valid, and both *Polysticta* Eyton, 1836, and *Polystictus* Reichenbach, 1850, are currently recognised.

Similarly, under this principle, a specific and subspecific name can be used only once within a genus. If, through error or omission, two species or subspecies within a genus bear

the same name, or if taxonomic research results in the submergence of one genus into another resulting in two species taxa bearing the same name, the name proposed later becomes the junior homonym and that taxon must take the next available name by precedence of the date of publication or be given a new name.

Despite more than two hundred and fifty years of scientific study, the family limits and relationships of birds, and to a lesser extent, generic and specific limits and relationships, are still the subject of considerable investigation. Most attempts to achieve some degree of consensus have foundered on conservatism, individual interpretation of the scientific evidence, the emergence of new methodologies, or, especially in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, just plain perversity! Subspecies are incipient species, and hence may be evolving intrinsic isolating mechanisms and other attributes which separate fully distinct species. These geographic races range from poorly differentiated forms to well-marked or isolated geographic entities, often considered to be allospecies – members of a super-species. While one ornithologist considers a geographic form to be only a subspecies, another ornithologist may consider the same taxon to be a full species. Such differences of opinion are based on individual interpretation of the same evidence, although all workers now agree that science is not well served by disputing the subjective minutiae of generic and specific limits.

GRAMMAR AND GENDER

The full details of classical grammars are beyond the scope of this Dictionary, the interested reader being referred to Stearn (1983) or a standard primer for further clarification, but the following basic remarks will prove useful.

All scientific names, regardless of their origin, are treated grammatically as Latin. Most are derived from Latin and its successors or from Ancient Greek. Greek words are transliterated in accordance with generally accepted rules, except that upsilon (υ) is transliterated as u rather than y.

Latin nouns are declined and verbs are conjugated, that is, their terminations change according to their case, tense, person and number, or, more simply, the manner in which they are used. In the Dictionary nouns are indicated in the nominative singular (*ager* field) and, where the derivation is from the stem of the noun, in the genitive or possessive case also (*agri* of the field). The genitive is shown only once in the first of a series of epithets sharing the initial combining form. Latin verbs are shown in the present infinitive (*clamare* to shout), rather than the present indicative (*clamo* I shout). Greek verbs are treated slightly differently here, being shown in the present indicative form (*trekhō* I run), but basically translated in the present infinitive form (*trekhō* to run).

Adjectival epithets or trivial names have to agree in gender with that of the genus to which they are assigned. If a species is transferred from a masculine genus to a feminine one, or vice versa, the specific termination must be changed accordingly. Some species names that may look like adjectives (e.g. *Emberiza circlus*, based on an autochthonym) are, in fact, nouns in apposition given an adjectival function, and their terminations do not change to agree with the gender of the generic name.

The commonest Latin terminations are:

- (1) *-us* (masculine), *-a* (feminine), *-um* (neuter).
- (2) *-is* (masculine), *-is* (feminine), *-e* (neuter).
- (3) *-er* (masculine), *-era* (feminine), *-erum* (neuter).

General Recommendation 5 of the ICZN (1999) states that “an author establishing a new genus- or species-group name should state its derivation (etymology), and in the case of a genus-group name its gender.” When the *Systema Naturae* was published, classical Latin was still the medium of learning and international communication between savants, and it was considered unnecessary to elaborate further on the scientific names published by Linnaeus and his adherents. Although authors such as Jean Cabanis and Harry Oberholser took pains to provide etymologies for their newly created genera, those of the stamp of Prince Bonaparte and Gregory Mathews seldom threw light on the origins of the names they coined. In an age when the classical languages are being allowed to slip into disuse and much linguistic carelessness passes unquestioned, it was suggested that this Dictionary should include critiques on poorly formed scientific names. Unhappily, the tortuous deeds perpetrated upon the classical tongues by naturalists and ornithologists over the last two and a half centuries proved the rule, and to join the ranks of critics and classicists like Carl Illiger, Carl Sundevall and Jean Cabanis would have resulted in much repetition and an unacceptable increase in the length of the book.

The Andean Condor *Vultur gryphus* was the first species of bird described by Carl Linnaeus, on page 86 of volume I of the cornerstone tenth edition (1758) of his *Systema Naturae*. The Bare-faced Bulbul *Pycnonotus hualon* was described by Woxvold, Duckworth & Timmins in 2009. The intervening years have seen a welter of generic, subgeneric, specific and subspecific names proposed for birds, usually by single authors (although many new eponyms have been coined by multiple authors). Linnaeus’s unillustrated description of *Vultur gryphus* totalled twenty-seven words and abbreviations, including two references and an indication of range. *Pycnonotus hualon* was dealt with in twelve pages, including one map, six colour photographs, four sonograms, and nearly two pages of acknowledgements and references, together with a colour painting. The striking differences between the two descriptions highlight the tightening procedures that have accompanied the development of nomenclature over the intervening two and a half centuries. Linnaeus had been an innovator, a free agent whose system, simpler yet superior to all that had gone before, was eagerly adopted by the scientific community. Even so, many early names, especially those of the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, are considered unidentifiable. If the ornithologists of the twenty-first century wish to ensure that their new names are enshrined for posterity they must closely follow the articles and principles of the current International Code of Zoological Nomenclature.

ANALYSIS OF NAMES

The scientific names of birds can be conveniently divided into categories according to their meaning and derivation, as follows: (1) morphonym, (2) eponym, (3) autochthonym, (4) toponym, (5) taxonym, (6) bionym, (7) ergonym, (8) phagonym, (9) phononym. These are analysed briefly below, with a few examples of each category.

1. Morphonym (Gr. *morphē* form: *onuma* name). Naturally the plumage, colours and physical characteristics of birds form the largest category, accounting for over half of all specific names and nearly half of all generic names. Genera are more obvious candidates for names highlighting physical features (*Balaeniceps*, *Gymnoglaux*, *Ochetorhynchus*, *Oxyura*), whilst specific epithets incline more towards colour or pattern (*pallidus* occurs in 108 genera, *saturatus* in 67), although there are many exceptions to these generalisations (*minor* occurs in 100 genera). Specific names of this type, carried by more than a

few species, may apply to only parts of the plumage or solely to the female or male bird. For example, of those species sharing the epithets *albonotata* / *albonotatus* white-marked, *Buteo* and *Trochocercus* have white spots or marks on the tail, *Meliphaga* and *Poecilodryas* have white spots on the head, *Crocius* has white spots on the mantle and tail-tips, *Coliuspasser* has white marks on the wing-coverts, and *Todirhamphus* has white marks on the back, rump and lores. Considerations of space prevent such detailed analysis under every entry in the main text.

2. Eponym (Gr. *epōnumos* named after). A popular form in nomenclature, representing nearly one-fifth of all specific names, an eponym commemorates a real person or a mythical or fictional character. Most perpetuate the name of the collector or discoverer of the species (*Microgoura meeki* after the intrepid and far from eponymous Albert Meek who braved disease, cannibals and hurricanes in the quest for specimens; *Cettia cetti* after the Jesuit priest Francesco Cetti who wrote authoritatively on the natural history of Sardinia), or a fellow ornithologist specialising in the appropriate group or area (*Atlapetes paynteri* after Raymond A. Paynter, Jr., for his work on the biology of the genus *Atlapetes*; *Pyrrhura orcesi* for Gustavo Orcés V., in recognition of his many contributions to Ecuadorean ornithology). Of nearly sixty ornithologists and collectors who have had more than five birds named after them Ernst Hartert, with 54 specific and subspecific dedications and one genus, heads the list; luminaries ranged after him include Philip Sclater (50 dedications; one genus), Richard Bowdler Sharpe (40 dedications; one genus), Graf von Berlepsch (39 dedications; one genus), Carl Hellmayr (37 dedications; one genus), Robert Ridgway (36 dedications; one genus), Erwin Stresemann (33 dedications; one genus), Conte Salvadori (32 dedications; one genus), Anton Reichenow (30 dedications), Baron Rothschild (29 dedications), Osbert Salvin (28 dedications), Alfred Everett (26 dedications), Albert Meek (24 dedications), Ernst Mayr (23 dedications; one genus), Freiherr von Erlanger and Edward Nelson (23 dedications each), and Friedrich Finsch (22 dedications; one genus); these figures are calculations based on the index of Dickinson (2003). Recent trends incline again towards the use of the unhelpful eponym. In 1994 it was proposed that a new species of vireo, discovered in the Chocó rainforests of Colombia, be named after the company or individual donating the most money for its conservation (Green 1994). After a suitable delay, reinforcing the fact that even modern market forces do not impact on the juggernaut pace of advance in scientific nomenclature, and the subsequent auction, which apparently reached \$75,000, the bird was duly christened *Vireo masteri* (Salaman & Stiles 1996). Whether ornithology should use this strange alliance of worthy cause and commercial enterprise as a precedent for the twenty-first century is a matter best pursued elsewhere. A small group of eponyms honour the collector or a colleague by reference to their title, relationship, or other indication, rather than by name (*Actenoides princeps* for Prince Bonaparte; *Batis fratrum* for the Woodward brothers; *Coracornis* for Henry Raven; *Monarcha sacerdotum* for the missionaries Fr. Jilis Verheijen and Fr. Erwin Schmutz).

Generally, Latin genitives are formed from personal names by adding *-i* to a man's name if it ends in a vowel or *-er* (the vowel itself often being changed to *i*, e.g. *graeffii* for Eduard Graeffe; *przewalskii* for General Nikolai Przhhevsky; *forsteri* for Johann Forster), *-ii* if it ends in a consonant, has been Latinised, or has a Latin form (e.g. *sloetii* for Baron Sloet van der Beele; *blasii* for Wilhelm Blasius), and by adding *-ae* to a woman's name (e.g. *solangiae* for Princesse Solange Murat). Plural forms are given the terminations *-orum* (masculine) (*sarsinorum* for the cousins Sarasin) or *-arum* (feminine). Personal

names also take the form of adjectives agreeing in gender with the generic name (e.g. *baudinianus* for Capt. Nicholas Baudin), but this is no longer recommended. Rules for the formation of eponyms have changed and been flouted over the years, hence the hotch-potch of the genitive terminations *-i* and *-ii* commemorating the same person which can be found throughout the Dictionary (*schlegeli* and *schlegelii* for Hermann Schlegel). These apparent orthographic discrepancies have been compounded by the transliteration or spellings of, especially, Russian and Polish surnames which have never been treated consistently, and current disagreements on the Scandinavian ö (see *loennbergi*).

Nineteenth-century authors frequently named birds after members of their own family (*Acestrura heliodor*), or for royal patrons (*Prionops alberti*), but just as often gave no further details of the person commemorated, believing explanation unnecessary within their own closeted world. Over one hundred and fifty years ago Prince Bonaparte could afford to deride the fashion of naming birds after kings and princes in the hope of patronage. As a most prolific author of genera and species he cast his net wide in search of new names, sometimes being inspired by bouts of republicanism (*Diphylloides respublica*) or caprice (*Starnoenas*, *Chettusia*), yet he succumbed to the unimaginative eponym in the genitive (*Ptilinopus greyii*) or adjectival (*Macropygia emiliana*) forms. The use of personal names in the formation of compound genus group names has long been objectionable, but Bonaparte revelled in such as *Blythipicus*, *Bruchigavia*, *Graydidascalus*, *Reinwardtoena*, *Smithiglaux*, and *Thouarsitronon*, to the disgust of more conservative workers.

Linnaeus supported the use of classical and mythical eponyms, regardless of their relevance, and authors such as Reichenbach expressed relationships between groups or types of birds by this means (*Archilochus*, *Atthis*, *Damophila*, *Doricha*, *Klais*, *Myrtis*, *Rhodopis*, *Sappho*). Similarly, groups of names after related characters in mythology or places in the ancient world have come to be associated with different types of bird (the characters in the Picus myth for woodpeckers; Attic place names and persons for swallows). With regretably few, but notable, exceptions including the paradise kingfishers *Tanysiptera nympa*, *T. galatea*, and *T. danae*, classical eponyms have been used in an arbitrary fashion since the middle of the nineteenth century.

In the text I have given the barest details of the person or character commemorated, relying heavily upon the essential Wynne (1969), where further sources may be found, or the important series of books by Mearns & Mearns (1988, 1992, 1997).

3. Autochthonym (Gr. *autokhthōn* indigenous, native; *onuma* name). More frequently used generically than specifically. As well as those names adopted from over twenty modern languages, including Nepalese, Malay, Tupi, Arabic, Zulu, Japanese, Russian, and Italian, I also include classical epithets such as *Aquila*, *Asio*, *Gyps* and *Oenanthe* taken or modified directly from Latin and ancient Greek. The principal classical and late classical sources (Aristotle, Pliny, Aristophanes, Dionysius, Cyranides, Hesychius) are referred to by name only. Their works may be found in the Bibliography (p. 415). The identification of many birds mentioned in the classics has never been fully resolved because the details given in the original passages are often obscured by fantasy or myth, or are insufficient for accurate identification. Even such obviously common birds as *spiza* and *turannos* cannot be satisfactorily identified, and mediaeval and later writers allotted names in a haphazard way to the birds they knew. The use of *triccus*, *thraupis*, *thlypis*, *illas*, *ciris*, and *ibyx*, all based on obscure classical names, for tyrant flycatchers, tanagers, parulid warblers, bulbuls, flowerpeckers, and lapwings respectively is now well

established in ornithology. The origin of some names, lost or unrecorded, is undoubtedly indigenous because authors like Thomas Horsfield, Andrew Smith, William Sykes and Brian Hodgson frequently made use of such names without supplying an etymology. Early Linnaean authors reaped rich harvests of autochthonyms from the works of Marcgrave, de Buffon, Levaillant and de Azara, and although names such as *Aratinga*, *cheriway*, *chimango*, *Bhringa* and *Bhuchanga* were deplored as barbarisms by classicists they have well served their purpose as the labels of nomenclature.

4. Toponym (Gr. *topos* place; *onuma* name). These have proved more popular as specific names than generic names, there being over 1,100 specific toponyms or geographical epithets. In the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries much use was made of classical names for those parts of the Old World known to the Greeks and Romans (*Buphagus africanus*, *Sitta europaea*, *Vanellus indicus*). As exploration and collecting proceeded, a spate of new toponyms was created to reflect the origins of the new avifaunas and discoveries. Some were created imaginatively (*Cleptornis*), but most often the addition of adjectival suffixes such as *-ensis*, *-anus*, or *-icus*, to the type locality sufficed (*Dendrocopos himalayensis*, *Syrnhaptes tibetanus*, *Tetraogallus caucasicus*). Certain epithets were used in the broadest sense, designating a continent or part of a continent for species of otherwise then unknown provenance. Specifically *cayennensis* was used for the Neotropics, *americanus* for both of the Americas, *ludovicianus* for the interior of North America, *capensis* for the southern Afrotropics, *senegalensis* for Senegambia or the western Afrotropics, *abyssinicus* for the eastern and north-eastern Afrotropics, *orientalis* for Asia (especially India and the East Indies), and *novaehollandiae* for Australia (*australis* does not always refer to the island continent). These aside, the most numerous and accurate toponyms refer to the countries of Mexico (forty-six specific and subspecific names), Nepal (twenty-six names) and Madagascar (twenty names). Some toponyms allude to the type locality without direct reference to the actual place or habitat (*Lanius meridionalis*, *Nesasio*, *Pterodroma externa*). One country, Chile, and one region, Patagonia, are still commemorated in current generic names. Geographical epithets prove more useful and memorable as descriptive tags than eponyms, although the early years of scientific ornithology succeeded in littering nomenclature with unsuitable and erroneous toponyms (*Turnagra capensis*), and suffered from printers misreading an author's original manuscript notes or shorthand (*Numenius madagascariensis*). Such names, however, are not invalidated merely because they are geographically incorrect.

5. Taxonym (Gr. *taxis* arrangement; *onuma* name). A variety of names is included here, all suggestive of relationship or resemblance: anagrams (*Delichon*, *Nilaus*, *Taraba*) and partial anagrams (*Cryptigata*, *Laterallus*), diminutives (*Tanagrella*, *Coturniculus*, *Laniellus*), generic combinations (*Larosterna*, *Philepitta*, *Pyrrhuphonia*), combinations of generic and substantive names (beloved of the old French authors) (*Jacamaralcyon*, *Phylidonyris*, *Talegalla*), and names indicating resemblance (*Psarisomus*, *Siptornopsis*, *Sublegatus*), comparison (*Turdus assimilis*), affiliation (*Hemiphaga*, *Neothraupis*, *Propyrrhula*), or questionable affinities (*Lybius dubius*, *Pitohui incertus*, *Sapayoa aenigma*). The use of the Greek combining forms *-oidēs* resembling, *pseudo-* false, and *opsis* appearance, and Latin *sub* near to, are especially common. Epithets such as *aberrans*, *affinis*, and *similis*, imply a comparative or relative degree (i.e. the species so designated are considered different from or similar to another species or group of species). Where such names are held by numerous species, it has not always been

possible to list all of the allied or different birds referred to, and the reader should try to consult original descriptions at an ornithology library for specific details.

6. Bionym (Gr. *bios* life; *onuma* name). Birds, being the most mobile of animals, occur in every type of habitat and environmental condition. The popularity of habitat names reflects this diversity. At first epithets relating to environment were confined to those current in classical times (*Limosa*, *Parus palustris*, *Thalasseus*, *Thamnomanes*). Exploration brought about the use of other, mainly local, names for specific habitats (*Acrocephalus arundinaceus*, *Acrocephalus avicenniae*, *Phragmacia*, *Picumnus varzeae*) and plants (*Pycnonotus goiavier*), and more generalised terms (*Drymophila*, *Thamnornis*), some being far from accurate (*Ortyxelos*). Various suffixes indicate inhabiting or occurring: *-manes* passionately fond of, *-bates* walker, *-philus* loving, and *-cola* dweller, to mention a few.

7. Ergonym (Gr. *ergon* work, occupation; *onuma* name). Most names in this category refer to display and breeding behaviour (*Ploceus*, *Scenopooetes*, *Tyrannus*), typical habits (*Agelaius*, *Andropadus importunus*, *Indicator indicator*, *Monticola explorator*, *Sigelus*), or temperament (*Agriornis*, *Aprosmictus*). Others refer to mode of flight (*Ocyalus*, *Oestrelata*, *Terathopius*), parasitism (*Hypochoera raricola*, *Nicoclarius*, *Stercorarius parasiticus*), or more tranquil pursuits (*Agapornis*, *Hypnelus*).

8. Phagonym (Gr. *phagein* to eat; *onuma* name). The names in this category reveal the variety of food items or prey of birds, including spiders (*Arachnothera*), bananas (*Musophaga*), carrion (*Gyps coprotheres*), fish (*Ichthyoborus*), crabs (*Carcineutes*), lizards (*Saurothera*), and monkeys (*Pithecophaga*). Some, such as *Sphecotheses* and *Aerodramus fuciphagus*, mirror fancy rather than fact, and it is now known that, despite their generic appellations (*Myrmeciza*, *Myrmoborus*), most antbirds follow ant armies to feast on the insects flushed by the advancing swarms rather than on the ants themselves. Most names here can be identified by the use of the suffixes *-phagus* -eating, *-thēras* hunter, and *-vorus* -eating.

9. Phononym (Gr. *phōnē* voice, sound; *onuma* name). Despite the fact that the songs and calls of birds have elicited admiration, imitation and comment throughout the ages, they have yielded few names in nomenclature, although autochthonyms tend to be based on onomatopoeia. Many epithets describe the sound of the voice or call itself (*Upupa*, *Coccyzus*), whilst others are more general or obscure in nature (*Batis molitor*, *Brotogeris*, *Cichladusa*, *Cisticola bulliens*, *Sirystes*, *Phylloscopus collybita*).

Standard abbreviations and symbols

| | | | |
|--------|--|---------------|--|
| ? | doubtful, unidentifiable, tentative | auct. | of (other or subsequent) authors (L. <i>auctorum</i>) (i.e. name not used in the designated sense of the original author) |
| ... | text omitted from original quotation | b. | born |
| [] | square brackets enclose present author's clarification or remarks within original quotation | BOC | British Ornithologists' Club |
| ♂ | male | BOU | British Ornithologists' Union |
| ♀ | female | Brig. | Brigadier |
| * | juvenile, immature, non-adult | Bt. | Baronet |
| = | equals, modern equivalent | Bull. | Bulletin |
| ● | standard illustration of usage, or further/different usage | c. | about (L. <i>circa</i>) |
| ▶ | based on, based mainly on (as an illustration of usage refers to names based on substantives given by non-binominal authors) | Capt. | Captain |
| > | derived from (in philology and etymology this symbol conventionally signifies "gives", but for familiarity, ease of use and clarity it is used here in a reverse role) | cf. | compare, consult (L. <i>confer</i>) |
| & | and | Col. | Colonel |
| adj. | adjective, adjectival | comm. | communicated in personal conversation (Latin <i>communicavit</i> he communicated) |
| Adm. | Admiral | comp. | comparative degree or form |
| Amend. | Amendment(s) to genus name (including now invalid purist corrections whether warranted or not, subsequent spellings, printers' errors and erroneous spellings) | d. | died |
| anon. | anonymous author, undiscovered author | dim. | diminutive degree or form |
| AMNH | American Museum of Natural History | Dr | Doctor |
| AOU | American Ornithologists' Union | e.g. | example (L. <i>exempli gratia</i>) |
| | | ed. | editor, editors, edition |
| | | <i>et al.</i> | and others (L. <i>et alii</i>) (used of three or more authors) |
| | | <i>etc.</i> | etcetera, and the like (L. <i>et cetera</i>) |
| | | fl. | flourished, lived (L. <i>floruit</i>) |
| | | Fr. | Father |
| | | Gen. | General |
| | | Gr. | Greek (ancient and classical; approx. 1000 BC to 300 BC) (transliterated) |
| | | I. | Island |
| | | ICZN | International Code of Zoological Nomenclature that is (L. <i>id est</i>) |
| | | i.e. | in composition (cf. comp.) |
| | | in comp. | |

| | | | |
|-----------------|---|------------|--|
| <i>in litt.</i> | in correspondence, by personal correspondence (L. <i>in litteris</i>) | RAOU | Royal Australasian Ornithologists' Union / Birds Australia |
| Is. | Islands | rev. | revised (edition) |
| Journ. | Journal | Rev'd | Reverend |
| Jr. | Junior | Rom. | Roman |
| L. | Latin (classical; approx. 200 BC to 180 AD) | <i>sic</i> | thus, so (L.); to call attention to an original spelling or error |
| Late L. | Late Latin (approx. 180 AD to 600 AD) | SOED | <i>Shorter Oxford English Dictionary</i> . |
| Lt. | Lieutenant | sp. | species (singular) |
| Maj. | Major | spp. | species (plural) |
| Med. L. | Mediaeval Latin (approx. 600 AD to 1500 AD) | Sr. | Senior |
| Mod. L. | Modern Latin (approx. 1500 AD to the present) | subsp. | subspecies (singular), race, subspecies of |
| MS / ms | manuscript (L. <i>manuscriptum</i>) | sub spp. | subspecies (plural), races |
| Mt. | Mount, Mountain | super. | superlative degree or form |
| Mts | Mountains | syn. | synonym of, synonymous with (L. <i>synonymum</i>). In the text synonym is used in the very broadest sense, referring not only to true synonyms but also to variants, corrected spellings, amendments, purisms, lapses, misspellings, errors, <i>nomina oblita</i> and <i>nomina nuda</i> (see Glossary) |
| MYTH. | mythology, mythological, mythical | TL | Type locality (appears as <i>Hab.</i> , <i>Habitat</i> or <i>Habitatio</i> in the older literature) |
| no. | number, part | unident. | unidentifiable, indeterminable |
| No expl. | No explanation or etymology given by the author in the original citation or description | UP | University Press |
| nos | numbers, parts | v. | see (L. <i>vide</i>) |
| orn. | ornithology, ornithological | var. | variant, variety (L. <i>varietas</i>) |
| p. | page number (L. <i>pagina</i>) | x | hybrid form, hybrid between |
| <i>pace</i> | with due respect to, despite another opinion (L. <i>pace tua</i> by your leave) | | |
| pp. | page numbers | | |
| pl. | plate number | | |
| Proc. | Proceedings | | |
| Prof. | Professor | | |
| pt. | part, partly, for the most part | | |
| <i>q.v.</i> | which see (L. <i>quod vide</i>) | | |

Conventions

To avoid repetition and to save space in the main text, the following suffixes and grammatical standards referring to dedication, location, comparison, inception, relation and possession should be taken as read where necessary.

- aceus*, -*acea*, -*aceum*, pertaining to, having the nature of (L.)
- acus*, -*aca*, -*acum*, belonging to, pertaining to (L./Gr.)
- ae*, -*arum*, commemorating (dedication); geographic (location, toponym) (L.)
- alis*, -*ale*, pertaining to, having the nature of (L.)
- anus*, -*ana*, -*anum*, geographic (location, toponym); belonging to, pertaining to (L.)
- arius*, -*aria*, -*arium*, pertaining to, having the nature of; one who (L.)
- atus*, -*ata*, -*atum*, provided with, pertaining to (L.)
- ellus*, -*ella*, -*ellum*, diminutive (comparison); somewhat (adj.) (L.)
- ensis*, -*ense*, geographic, occurrence in (location, toponym) (L.)
- enus*, -*ena*, -*enum*, relating to, formation from (L.)
- escens*, becoming, somewhat (L.)
- eus*, -*ea*, -*eum*, made of, having the quality of (L.)
- i*, commemorating (dedication, eponym) (L.)
- icus*, -*ica*, -*icum* belonging to, pertaining to (L./Gr.)
- idion*, diminutive (comparison) (Gr.)
- idius*, -*idia*, -*idium*, diminutive (comparison) (L. (from Gr.))
- ii*, commemorating (dedication, eponym) (L.)
- illus*, -*illa*, -*illum*, diminutive (comparison); somewhat (adj.) (L.)
- inus*, -*ina*, -*inum*, belonging to, pertaining to; one who (L.)
- iscus*, -*isca*, -*iscum*, diminutive (comparison) (L./Gr.)
- ister*, -*istes*, -*istis*, -*istor*, -*istria*, agent, one who (Gr.)
- ites*, agent, one who (Gr.)
- ius*, -*ia*, -*ium*, diminutive (comparison); having the nature of; commemorating (dedication, eponym) (L./Gr.)
- olus*, -*ola*, -*olum*, diminutive (comparison); somewhat (adj.) (L.)
- oma*, formation from, relating to (Gr.)
- orius*, -*oria*, -*orium*, pertaining to, having the nature of (L.)
- osus*, abundance, fullness, quality of (L.)
- otes*, agent, one who (Gr.)
- ter*, -*tes*, -*tis*, -*tor*, -*tria*, agent, one who (Gr.)
- ulus*, -*ula*, -*ulum*, diminutive (comparison); somewhat (adj.) (L.)
- unus*, -*una*, -*unum*, belonging to, pertaining to (L.)

How to use this dictionary

Over 20,000 names are treated in the Dictionary and, for clarity and consistency, free use has been made of standardised phraseology and abbreviations (see also Standard abbreviations and symbols, pp. 16–17, Conventions p. 18, and Glossary on pp. 26–28). To assist the reader, avoid confusion and render the text more accessible, many entries incorporating derivations from an existing or synonymous generic or specific name are preceded by ‘From’. Elsewhere this may be taken as read, all other entries being derived or modified from the etymologies given, with brackets and the symbol > being freely used to indicate origins and earlier sources. Many Greek and Latin words have a variety of shades of meaning. For example, the Greek word *leptos* can mean narrow, thin, slender, fine, delicate, light, subtle, slight, refined, insignificant, small, meagre or cleansed, according to context. Obviously such a catalogue could not be repeated after each entry. The etymology given, therefore, identifies only the shade of meaning relevant to each name, and readers should consult Liddell & Scott (1961) or Lewis & Short (1962) for the fullest range. Excepting amendments listed following the abbreviation ‘Amend.’ under the appropriate genus, the arrangement of entries is alphabetical, with generic and specific names in one sequence.

Most of the entries fall into a number of well-defined categories, and their interpretation is best made using the following examples (see also Parts of scientific names on p. 6, Analysis of names on pp. 11–16, and Glossary on pp. 26–28 for full definitions).

STANDARD SPECIFIC AND GENERIC NAMES

Standard specific (initial lower-case letter) and generic (initial upper-case letter) entries are illustrated in the examples below, showing current names with their derivations. All are based on classical words (the abbreviations Gr. = Greek, and L. = Latin, are the most commonly used). No subsequent, synonymous or atypical usages are noted in these entries.

basileus Gr. *basileus* king.

Basileuterus Gr. *basileuterus* more kingly (comp. from *basileus* king, but also applied by Aristotle to a small bird usually identified as the wren *Troglodytes*, but sometimes conjectured to be a warbler *Phylloscopus* or a goldcrest *Regulus*).

basilica / basilicus L. *basilicus* magnificent, splendid (> Gr. *basilikos* royal).

Basilinna Gr. *basilinna* queen.

GENERIC NAMES BASED ON EARLIER SPECIFIC NAMES

In the first pair of examples below, the specific name *cetti* is an eponym, named after Fr. Francesco Cetti, and the species currently resides in the genus *Cettia* (given in parentheses at the end of the entry). The generic name *Cettia* was coined later, and was based on the specific name *cetti* (q.v.). Note that Temminck originally described the species in the genus *Sylvia*.

cetti Fr. Francesco Cetti (1726–1778) Italian mathematician and zoologist (*Cettia*).

Cettia From specific name *Sylvia cetti* Temminck, 1820, Cetti’s Warbler.

The second pair of names below is an example of a tautonym (genus *Oenanthe* and specific name *oenanthe* have the same spelling). Conventionally, the genus is listed first, although historically, but with rare exceptions in nomenclature, the specific name preceded it. Here again, the genus *Oenanthe* is derived from the original binomial name *Motacilla oenanthe*, and a substantive name of de Buffon (1770–83). The specific epithet is derived from a classical Greek bird name first mentioned by Aristotle and the names given by various non-binomial authors not shown in this edited example (see text).

Oenanthe From specific name *Motacilla oenanthe* Linnaeus, 1758, Northern Wheatear; based on “Motteux” of de Buffon (1770–1783).

oenanthe Gr. *oinanthē* unidentified bird mentioned by Aristotle, from its appearance in the vintage season (*oinē* vine; *anthos* bloom), associated with the wheatear by later authors (*Oenanthe*).

IDENTICAL GENERIC AND SPECIFIC EPITHETS

Occasionally, identical words may be used generically and specifically in different contexts. In the example below, the genus *Motacilloides* is currently regarded as a synonym of the genus *Pericrocotus*. The specific epithet *motacilloides* occurs in the currently recognised species *Herpsilochmus motacilloides*, and as *Leucocirca motacilloides* (not necessarily the original binomen), a synonym of *Leucocirca leucophrys*. The name was coined to indicate resemblance to a wagtail. These are not tautonyms.

Motacilloides (syn. *Pericrocotus*) / **motacilloides** Genus *Motacilla* Linnaeus, 1758, wagtail; Gr. *-oidēs* resembling (*Herpsilochmus*, syn. *Leucocirca leucophrys*).

GENERIC SYNONYMS

In the examples below, the non-current genus *Aaptus* is a synonym of the genus *Gnorimopsar* (shown in parentheses, preceded by the abbreviation ‘syn.’), and the non-current genus *Rallites* (derived from the genus *Rallus*) is a synonym of the genus *Porzana*. In the text, synonym is used in its broadest sense, including errors, misspellings, *nomina nuda*, *nomina oblita*, unidentifiable names, variants, purisms and corrections.

Aaptus (syn. *Gnorimopsar*) Gr. *aaptos* invincible, unapproachable.

Rallites (syn. *Porzana*) Genus *Rallus* Linnaeus, 1758, rail; Gr. *-itēs* resembling.

Three examples below illustrate current genera whose names have been later coined for unrelated species and which are now synonymised.

Agapornis Gr. *agapē* love; *ornis* bird. • (syn. *Forpus*).

Agapornis is the current valid genus for the Afrotropical lovebirds. The name was later separately coined by another author for the Neotropical parrotlets *Forpus*, but was preoccupied by reason of the name having already been given to the lovebirds. This secondary usage, which has the same etymology and therefore requires no further explanation, is indicated in parentheses following the symbol •.

Vultur L. *vultur* vulture. • (syn. *Aegyptius*).

Similarly, *Vultur* is the current valid genus for the Andean Condor. The symbol • indicates a later usage of *Vultur*, coined by a different author, which is now a synonym of the genus *Aegyptius* (shown in parentheses) and has the same etymology.

Phoenicurus From specific name *Motacilla phoenicurus* Linnaeus, 1758, Common Redstart. • (syn. *Phaethon*) syn. specific name *Phaethon phoenicurus* J. Gmelin, 1789 (= *Phaethon rubricauda*, Red-tailed Tropicbird).

Phoenicurus is a currently recognised valid genus for the Palearctic redstarts, and its etymology is based on a specific epithet by Linnaeus (see entry for *phoenicurus* for derivation of specific epithet; note the original genus of *Motacilla*). *Phoenicurus* was subsequently described as a generic term for the tropicbirds *Phaethon*. That secondary usage, based on a name by J. Gmelin which is now treated as synonymous with *Phaethon rubricauda*, is shown after the symbol •.

There are a few instances of multiple generic synonyms in the Dictionary. For example, *Erythrospiza* has been coined as a genus on three occasions, all three of which are now synonymised. As a synonym of *Accipiter*, a hawk, the name *Erythrospiza* has a different etymology to that of *Erythrospiza* used as a synonym of *Bucanetes* and *Carpodacus*, both finches. The two usages are identified by the symbol •, and under *Accipiter* the purist amendment *Erythrospizias* is shown separately.

Erythrospiza • (syn. *Accipiter*) Gr. *eruthros* red; *spizias* hawk. Amend. *Erythrospizias*.
• (syn. *Bucanetes*, syn. *Carpodacus*) Gr. *eruthros* red; *spiza* finch.

SPECIFIC SYNONYMS

In the examples below, the specific epithet *Aplonis cantor* is currently treated in the synonymy of *Aplonis panayensis* and was based on a substantive name by the non-binominal Latham, and the combination *Agelaiocercus pseudomargarethae*, based on the currently recognised subspecific name *Agelaiocercus kingi margarethae*, is regarded as a synonym of *Agelaiocercus kingi*. Note: > means ‘derived from ...’; ► indicates ‘based on ...’.

cantor L. *cantor* singer (> *cantare* to sing); ► “Songster Thrush” of Latham (1783) (syn. *Aplonis panayensis*).

pseudomargarethae Gr. *pseudos* false; specific name *Lesbia margarethae* Heine, 1863 (= subsp. [of] *Agelaiocercus kingi*, Long-tailed Sylph) (syn. *Agelaiocercus kingi*).

SUBSPECIFIC SYNONYMS

An example of a subspecific synonym is shown below.

pseudohodgsoni Gr. *pseudos* false; syn. specific name *Turdus hodgsoni* von Homeyer, 1849 (= *Turdus viscivorus*, Mistle Thrush) (syn. *Turdus viscivorus bonapartei*).

The combination *Turdus viscivorus pseudohodgsoni*, itself based on the synonymous name *Turdus hodgsoni* (a later name for *Turdus viscivorus*), is a synonym of the currently recognised subspecies *Turdus viscivorus bonapartei*.

AMENDMENTS

The abbreviation ‘Amend.’ highlights an unboldened italicised amended spelling of the genus name (in the case below a purist spelling of the genus *Ramphocoris*). See Standard abbreviations and symbols (p. 16) for the range of amendments included under that term. Many generic names have been misspelled or “corrected” over the last 250 years, so only a selection is illustrated to highlight the work of both the purist and the careless author.

Ramphocoris Gr. *rhamphos* bill; Mod. L. *corys* lark. Amend. *Rhamphocorys*.

AUTOCHTHONYMS: NAMES BASED ON VERNACULAR OR NATIVE NAMES

The derivation, or suggested derivation, is followed in parentheses by the genus in which the current specific or subspecific name is used (i.e. in the examples below: *Uria aalge*, *Uria lomvia arra*, *Gerygone mouki*). With few exceptions, no reference is made to the species included in a generic name (e.g. as in **Ara** below). ‘Etymology undiscovered’ indicates that I have not had sight of the original description. ‘No expl.’ confirms that no explanation for the name was given in the original description (in the example below, in Mathews’ 1912 description of *Gerygone mouki*), which I have consulted. Note that citations for original descriptions or diagnoses are not given in the Bibliography. Full citations may be found in Sharpe *et al.* (1874–1898), Waterhouse (1889), Richmond (1902, 1908, 1917, 1927), Peters *et al.* (1931–1986), or del Hoyo *et al.* (1992–2008).

aalge Danish name *Aalge* for an auk (> Old Norse *Alka* auk) (*Uria*).

Ara Tupí onomatopoeia *Ará* for the macaws, but also used in combination to indicate bird (e.g. *Araçari*, *Araponga*). *Arára* is a general name for parrots.

arra Etymology undiscovered; probably a local name for an auk around the Bering Sea (subsp. *Uria lomvia*).

mouki No expl. (Mathews 1912) or in a subsequent subspecific use; probably an Australian Aboriginal name (*Gerygone*).

EPONYMS: NAMES COMMEMORATING PERSONS

Three examples of eponymous names are listed below:

archboldi / **Archboldia** Richard Archbold (1907–1976), US zoologist at the American Museum of Natural History, philanthropist, and sponsor of expeditions to New Guinea and the Pacific (*Aegotheles*, *Eurostopodus*, *Newtonia*, *Petroica*).

Archboldia, a currently recognised genus, and **archboldi**, which specific epithet may be found in the genera *Aegotheles*, *Eurostopodus*, *Newtonia* and *Petroica*, are dedicated to the same person.

branickii • Konstanty Grzegorz Graf von Branicki (1824–1884), Polish zoologist and collector who planned to found a museum (*Heliodoxa*, *Odontorchilus*, *Tangara*). • Wladyslaw Graf von Branicki (1848–1914), Polish ornithologist and co-founder (1887) (with his cousin Ksawery Graf von Branicki 1864–1926) of the Branicki Zoological Museum, Warsaw (*Leptosittaca*, *Theristicus*). • Aleksander Graf von Branicki (1821–1877), Polish zoologist and collector (*Nothoprocta*).

The eponym *branickii* has been used to honour three people, with the symbol • indicating different dedications, followed by the genus or genera in which the person is commemorated (e.g. *Heliodoxa branickii*, *Odontorchilus branickii* and *Tangara branickii* after Konstanty Grzegorz Graf von Branicki, *Leptosittaca branickii* and *Theristicus branickii* after Wladyslaw Graf von Branicki, *Nothoprocta branickii* after Aleksander Graf von Branicki). Generic names are listed alphabetically, and not in any taxonomic or biological order.

grzimeki Prof. Bernhard Klemens Maria Grzimek (1909–1987), German zoologist, conservationist and author (syn. *Glaucis hirsutus*).

The eponym *grzimeki* is no longer recognised as a valid specific name, and *Glaucis grzimeki* is now treated as a synonym of *Glaucis hirsutus*. Only basic information is given on persons commemorated; more details or guides to further reading can be found in Wynne (1969), Mearns & Mearns (1988, 1992, 1998) and Beolens & Watkins (2003).

TOPONYMS: NAMES BASED ON GEOGRAPHICAL PLACE NAMES

The abbreviation TL indicates a type locality. Only toponyms based on substantives created by non-binominal authors, erroneous toponyms, and some atypical subspecific toponyms are highlighted by the symbol •. The symbol ► is the equivalent of the Latin phrase *ex – in* other words, ‘based on’. Species or forms which otherwise share the given type locality are not generically identified; in the examples below, *Myiagra caledonica*, *Myzomela sanguinolenta caledonica*, *Pterodroma leucoptera caledonica*, all described from New Caledonia, and *Branta sandvicensis*, *Gallinula chloropus sandvicensis*, *Asio flammeus sandwichensis* and *Pterodroma phaeopygia sandwichensis*, all described from the Sandwich Islands (= Hawaiian Islands), are omitted.

In the case of erroneous toponyms, the correct type locality follows after the equals sign (=) within parentheses, e.g. Erroneous TL. New Caledonia (= Tasmania). *Chalcophaps indica sandwichensis* is an example of an atypical subspecific toponym (i.e. despite its name, it does not come from the Sandwich Islands, but neither is it erroneous). In the third example, under the header *groenlandicus*, an old but later specific name (*Fulmarus groenlandicus*) is shown for *Fulmarus glacialis*, based on a non-binominal author. The references to non-binominal authors may be found in the Bibliography (p. 415).

caledonica / caledonicus New Caledonia (L. *Caledonia* highlands of Scotland). • TL. New Caledonia; ► “New-Caledonian Crow” of Latham (1781) (*Coracina*); ► “Caledonian Night-Heron” of Latham (1785) (*Nycticorax*); ► “Olive Flycatcher” of Latham (1783) (*Pachycephala*). • Erroneous TL. New Caledonia (= Tasmania); ► “New Caledonian Parrot” of Latham (1781) (*Platycercus*). • Erroneous TL. New Caledonia (= Celebes); ► “Caledonian Crow” of Latham (1801) (syn. *Streptocitta albicollis*).

sandvicensis / sandwichensis • TL. Vela Harbour, Sandwich I., New Hebrides (subsp. *Chalcophaps indica*). • TL. Sandwich Is. (= Hawaiian Is.); ► “Sandwich Rail” of Latham (1785) (*Pennula*). • TL. Unalaska I. and Sandwich Sound, Alaska (cf. “Named after Sandwich Island, one of the Kurile or Aleutian Archipelago”, Coues 1882) (*Passerculus*). • TL. Sandwich, Kent; ► “Sandwich Tern” of Latham (1785) (*Sterna*).

groenlandicus Greenland. • TL. Greenland; ► “Hav-hesten” of Gunnerus (1761) (syn. *Fulmarus glacialis*).

GENDER DIFFERENCES

Gender differences may be listed together or listed separately. If names with different gender endings follow one another alphabetically and have the same meaning, then they are listed together, separated by a forward slash. Two examples are given below.

flaviventer / flaviventre / flaviventris L. *flavus* yellow; *venter*, *ventris* belly. ▶ “Ortolan à ventre jaune du Cap de Bonne Espérance” of d’Aubenton (1765–1781) (*Emberiza*). ▶ “Petit Râle de Cayenne” of d’Aubenton (1765–1781) (*Porzana*). ▶ “Tachurí vientre amarillo” of de Azara (1802–1805) (*Pseudocolopteryx*). ▶ “Tangara tacheté de Cayenne” of d’Aubenton (1765–1781) (syn. *Tangara mexicana*).

Paynter (1987) indexes the adjectives *flaviventer*, *flaviventre* and *flaviventris* in over 55 different specific and subspecific combinations. Unless based on substantive names given by non-binominal authors, names which are apposite (*flaviventris* for a yellow-bellied species) or subjective (*pulchellus* very pretty) are not elaborated upon further. The symbol ▶ indicates some examples, including synonyms, based on substantives by non-binominal authors, whose works may be found in the Bibliography (p. 415).

pulchella / pulchellum / pulchellus L. *pulchellus* very pretty (dim. from *pulcher* beautiful). ▶ “Grimpereau à longue queue du Sénégal” of Brisson (1760) (*Cinnyris*).

The species *Cinnyris pulchellus*, highlighted by the symbol ▶, is based on a substantive name by the non-binominal Brisson.

Names with different gender endings that are separated alphabetically by other related or non-related entries are listed separately in the Dictionary, as in the example below:

pumila L. *pumilus* dwarf.
pumilio L. *pumilio* dwarf.
pumilis L. *pumilis* dwarfish, diminutive.
pumilo L. *pumilo* dwarf, pygmy.
pumilum / pumilus L. *pumilus* dwarf. ▶ “Crabier des Philippines” of d’Aubenton (1765–1781) (syn. *Zebrilus undulatus*).

Although they have the same meaning, the feminine Latin noun *pumila* is separated alphabetically from the neuter form *pumilum* and masculine form *pumilus* by three other entries. Rather than repeat a mantra such as “see **pumila**” for the two later entries, I have preferred to repeat the original derivation, or a version of it. Only the masculine form is shown in the etymology. Note the non-binominal basis for the synonymous *Zebrilus pumilus* (= *Z. undulatus*) is given after the symbol ▶.

MULTIPLE USAGE AND ORIGINAL QUOTATIONS

In the first example below, the adjectives *intermedia*, *intermedianus*, *intermedium* and *intermedius* occur in over 200 different specific and subspecific combinations in Paynter (1987), all indicative of an intermediate status or appearance between other species. The symbol • indicates a few examples, including one synonymous name, from original descriptions. I have tried to avoid quotations that are less than 100 years old, unless

they throw light on the etymology of a name or reveal an insight into former interpretations of the rules of nomenclature. Square brackets [. . .] identify modern equivalents of synonyms and former scientific combinations. The references shown, i.e. Wagler (1829), Taczanowski (1884) and Rothschild (1895), indicate the original descriptions (of species or subspecies) or diagnoses (of genera) and will not be found in the Bibliography.

intermedia / intermedianus / intermedium / intermedius L. *intermedia* intermediate (cf. Med. L. *intermediatus* intermediate). • “Species *Ardeam candidissimam* [= *Egretta thula*] inter et *Egrettam* [= *Casmerodius albus egretta*] intermedium” (Wagler 1829) (*Mesophoyx*). • “Forme intermédiaire entre la *P. viridis* [= *P. intermedia signata*] de la Bolivie et la *P. [riefferii] melanolaema* de l’Ecuador, plus voisine de la dernière” (Taczanowski 1884) (*Pipreola*). • “This species is somewhat intermediate between *Palaeornis schisticeps* and *P. cyanocephala* in size and coloration, but is nearer *P. schisticeps*” (Rothschild 1895) (syn. *Psittacula cyanocephala*).

In the second example below, the adjectives *subpallida*, *subpallidum* and *subpallidus* occur over ten times in Paynter (1987), but not all have the same etymology. Most share the common derivation, shown first without the symbol •, from the Latin words *sub* and *pallidus*, and are not generically identified. The symbol • shows different etymologies, the current subspecies *Alectoris chukar subpallida*, subspecific synonym *Microeca fascians subpallida* (a synonym of *Microeca fascians pallida*), and specific synonym *Turdus subpallidus* (a synonym of *Turdus feae*) being shown in generic alphabetical order thereafter.

subpallida / subpallidum / subpallidus L. *sub* beneath, somewhat; *pallidus* pallid, pale. • L. *sub* near to; specific name *Caccabis pallidus* Hume, 1873 (= subsp. *Alectoris chukar*, Chukar Partridge) (subsp. *Alectoris chukar*). • L. *sub* near to; specific name *Micraeca pallida* DeVis, 1884 (= subsp. *Microeca fascians*, Jacky Winter) (syn. *Microeca fascians pallida*). • L. *sub* near to; specific name *Turdus pallidus* J. Gmelin, 1789, Pale Thrush (syn. *Turdus feae*).

HOMOPHONES

A homophone is a word having the same sound as another word or words, but usually with a different spelling. The example below is a name based loosely on the original French phrase *bande blanche*. To assist readers most foreign language quotations have been translated and paraphrased. The works of d’Aubenton (1765–1781) and de Buffon (1770–1785), both non-binomial authors, can be found in the Bibliography (p. 415).

bambla Homophone from French *bande blanche* white band; ► “Banbla de Cayenne” of d’Aubenton (1765–1781), and “Bambla” of de Buffon (1770–1785), who so-named the Wing-banded Wren because of the white band crossing each wing, but wrote that his aim was to conserve native names wherever possible. However, a strait-laced Stresemann (1975) regarded the Count poorly: “an enemy of formalism in nomenclature he chose his specific names as unsystematically as possible – they were intended to be not instructive, but amusing” (*Microcerculus*).

Glossary

- allopatric** In ornithology applied to closely related taxa which are geographically separated. **Allopatry** is the noun form (Gr. *allos* different; *patris* country, fatherland) (cf. **sympatric**).
- allospecies** In ornithology applied to the various geographically separated members of a superspecies.
- autochthonym** Generic or specific or subspecific name based on a native vernacular or substantive name (e.g. *aalge*, *Malkoha*). Latin and Greek bird names are also included here (e.g. *merula*, *epops*) (Gr. *autokhthōn* indigenous, native; *onuma* name).
- binomen** The scientific name of a species, combining firstly a generic name and secondly a specific name (*Struthio camelus* is the binomen of the Common Ostrich). **Binomial** (or binominal) is the adjectival form (L. *binominis* having two names).
- eponym** Generic or specific or subspecific name commemorating a person or persons (e.g. *abdimii*, *sarasinorum*, *webbianus*, *Wilsonia*). Generalised eponyms are also included here (e.g. *consobrinorum*) (Gr. *epōnumos* named after) (cf. **patronym**).
- etymon** The original form of a word; a word from which a later word is derived (Gr. *etumon* the true sense of a word).
- holotype** In taxonomy the designated single specimen, formerly referred to simply as ‘the type’, upon which the description of a new species is based (Gr. *holos* entire; *tipos* type).
- homonym** Two or more generic or specific or subspecific names sharing the same spelling but having different usages or applications, e.g. (a) *Podoa* Illiger, 1811, is a synonym of *Heliornis* Bonnaterre, 1791, but *Podoa* Bonaparte, 1856, is a synonym of *Podica* Lesson, 1831. (b) *Dicaeum flavum* Horsfield, 1821, is the original binomen of *Zosterops flavus* (Horsfield, 1821), but *Dicaeum flavum* von Kittlitz, 1832 is a synonym of *Zosterops meyeri* Bonaparte, 1850 (which, despite its later date, takes precedence because von Kittlitz’s name is pre-occupied by that of Horsfield’s) (Gr. *homōnumos* having the same name). See section on **Homonymy** on p. 9.
- homophone** In ornithology an epithet having the same sound as another word or words, but usually with a different or fanciful spelling. This form of play on words was much favoured by the Comte de Buffon and other French authors (Gr. *homōs* same; *phōnē* sound).
- incertae sedis** Of uncertain taxonomic position (Latin *incertae sedis* of uncertain seat).
- monotypic** In taxonomy this term is applied to a genus that contains only a single species. (Gr. *monos* single; *tipos* type) (cf. **polytypic**).
- nomen conservandum** In nomenclature a conserved name, officially sanctioned despite contravening one or more of the provisions of the ICZN (Latin *nomen conservandum*; plural: *nomina conservanda*).
- nomen dubium** In nomenclature a dubious name, unidentifiable or of uncertain application (Latin *nomen dubium*; plural: *nomina dubia*).
- nomen nudum** In nomenclature an invalid name, published without the necessary criteria required by the ICZN (Latin *nomen nudum* naked name; plural: *nomina nuda*).

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- nomen oblitum** In nomenclature a forgotten name, sunk in synonymy, unused over a lengthy period but which can be resurrected subject to ICZN criteria (Latin *nomen oblitum*; plural: *nomina oblita*).
- nominate** In nomenclature the nominate (or nominotypical) subspecies of a species, indicated in a trinomen by the repetition of the original specific epithet. Formerly, the nominate subspecies was considered the 'original' or typical subspecies, and all other forms or subspecies were treated as mere variations (e.g. *Oenanthe lugubris lugubris* is the nominate subspecies of the Abyssinian Black Wheatear; *Oenanthe oenanthe oenanthe* is the nominate subspecies of the Northern Wheatear) (L. *nominatus* named, celebrated).
- non-binomial / non-binominal** In nomenclature any name or system that does not comply with Linnaeus's (1758) method of naming species with a binomen (i.e. a generic and a specific name). It applies not only to pre-Linnaean authors, e.g. Willughby (1676), Ray (1678), Albin (1731–1738), but also to later authors such as de Buffon (1770–1783), Latham (1781–1802) and de Azara (1802–1805), who gave species substantive French, English and Spanish names respectively.
- patronym** In ornithology a modified substantive English name honouring a person, a vernacular equivalent of the eponym, although not necessarily the same person dedicated in the eponym or even reflected in the binomen (e.g. Temminck's Stint *Calidris temminckii*; MacGillivray's Warbler *Oporornis tolmiei*; Gldenstdt's Redstart *Phoenicurus erythrogastrus*) (Gr. *patrōnumos* named after his father, family name) (cf. **eponym**).
- polytypic** In taxonomy this term is applied to a genus that contains two or more species, and to a species that is divisible into two or more subspecies (Gr. *polus* many; *tupos* type) (cf. **monotypic**).
- sensu lato** In the wide or broad sense (Latin *sensu lato*) (e.g. *Erithacus* is treated as poly-specific by Ripley in Peters (1964), whereas *Luscinia*, *Tarsiger*, *Stiphornis* and *Sheppardia* are synonymised and subsumed).
- sensu stricto** In the strict or narrow sense (Latin *sensu stricto*) (e.g. *Erithacus* is treated as monospecific by Collar in del Hoyo *et al.* (2005), whereas *Luscinia*, *Tarsiger*, *Stiphornis* and *Sheppardia* are all recognised as distinct genera).
- substantive** In ornithology applied to the non-binomial, often traditional, English or other language noun for a bird species or group of species (e.g. Whinchat, eagle). The word may also be used for modified names (Siberian Stonechat, Golden Eagle); note the convention on capitalisation.
- superspecies** A group of closely related taxa, no longer considered subspecies, deemed to have evolved from a common stock, but now occupying contiguous ranges.
- sympatric** In ornithology applied to taxa occupying the same geographical range. **Sympatry** is the noun form (Gr. *sum-* together; *patris* country, fatherland) (cf. **allopatric**).
- synonym** In nomenclature two or more generic or specific or subspecific names with different spellings sharing the same usage or application. The earliest valid name, given precedence, is known as the senior synonym; the later name or names are known as junior synonyms and are sunk or subsumed in synonymy, e.g. (a) *Tigrisoma* Swainson, 1827 (senior synonym), *Heterocnus* Sharpe, 1895 (junior synonym) and *Tigribaphe* Reichenow, 1912 (junior synonym). (b) *Tigrisoma lineatum* (Boddaert, 1783) (senior synonym), *Tigrisoma tigrinum* (J. Gmelin, 1789) (junior synonym), *Tigrisoma brasiliense* Cabanis, 1849 (junior synonym) and *Tigrisoma excellens* Ridgway, 1888 (junior synonym) (Gr. *sunōnumos* having the same name as).
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- syntypes** In taxonomy the designated two or more specimens of a type series upon which the description of a new species is based. Such specimens are also known as ‘cotypes’ (Gr. *sun* together; *typos* type).
- tautonym** In nomenclature applied to a binomen where the generic and specific names are the same (e.g. *Ciconia ciconia*, *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*). Although frowned upon by classicists, tautonyms were frequent in early nomenclature (Gr. *tautos* identical; *onuma* name).
- taxon** In ornithology applied to a taxonomic unit of any rank (i.e. order, family, genus, species, subspecies), but most frequently to species and subspecies. Plural is **taxa**.
- toponym** Generic or specific or subspecific name based on a geographic place name (e.g. *africanus*, *bengalensis*, *Kakamega*, *Sipia*). Generalised toponyms are also included here (e.g. *caurinus*, *Notornis*) (Gr. *topos* place; *onuma* name).
- trinomen** The scientific name of a subspecies, combining firstly a generic name, secondly a specific name, and thirdly a subspecific name (e.g. *Struthio camelus camelus*, *Struthio camelus massaicus*, and *Struthio camelus australis* are the currently recognised trinomens of the extant subspecies of the Common Ostrich. *Struthio camelus camelus* is the nominate subspecies). **Trinomial** (or trinominal) is the adjectival form (L. *trinominis* having three names).
- type designation** In nomenclature the naming or selection of the type species of a genus. **Original designation** is that made by the author of the genus in the original published diagnosis, when one of the species in the genus is selected as the type species of that genus. **Subsequent designation** is that made and published by another or the same author when no type species was originally chosen, and a species is selected from those included in the original diagnosis.
- type locality** In nomenclature the geographical place where the named type specimen (holotype) or specimens (syntypes) of the species were actually or believed to have been collected, captured or observed. In early ornithology type localities or habitats were often vague, generalised or erroneous (many of Linnaeus’s habitats were given simply as “Europe” or “The Indies”); subsequent investigation and work has refined, restricted or corrected such generalisations (thus, many of Linnaeus’s European type localities have been restricted to his homeland of Sweden).
- type species** In nomenclature the sole or nominated species upon which a described genus is based (e.g. the type species of the polyspecific genus *Turdus* Linnaeus, 1758, is *Turdus viscivorus* Linnaeus, 1758). The criteria for determining the type species of a genus have oscillated over the years, but since 1901 the appropriate rules and recommendations have become more and more circumscribed, avoiding the ambiguity and differing interpretations of early authors.

Aa

- aalge** Danish name *Aalge* for an auk (> Old Norse *Alka* auk) (*Uria*).
- Aaptus** (syn. *Gnorimopsar*) Gr. *aaptos* invincible, unapproachable.
- Abalius** (syn. *Thamnophilus*) Gr. *a-* not; *balios* dappled, spotted.
- abbas** L. *abbas* abbot. • No expl. (Deppe 1830); doubtless complimenting *Tanagra episcopus* Linnaeus, 1766, Blue-grey Tanager (*Thraupis*).
- abbotti** • Dr William Louis Abbott (1860–1936) US surgeon, explorer, ethnologist and naturalist who collected widely around the world 1883–1923 (*Cinnyris*, *Coracina*, *Nyctibius*, *Papasula*, *Psittinus*, *Spilornis*). • Lt.-Col. J. R. Abbott (1811–1888) Assistant-Commissioner of the Arakan, Burma 1837–1845 (*Malacocincla*).
- Abbotornis** (syn. *Leptopterus*) Dr William Louis Abbott (1860–1936) US surgeon, explorer, ethnologist, naturalist and collector; Gr. *ornis* bird.
- abbreviatus** L. *abbreviatus* short-, shortened.
- Abdimia** (syn. *Sphenorhynchus*) From specific name *Ciconia abdimii* Lichtenstein, 1823, Abdim's Stork.
- abdimii** El Arnaut Abdim Beğ (1780–1827) Albanian Governor of Dongola Province, Egyptian Sudan 1821–1825 (*Sphenorhynchus*).
- abdivita / abdivitus** L. *abdivitus* removed, separated.
- abdominalis** Mod. L. *abdominalis* of the belly, abdominal (> L. *abdomen* belly).
- abeillei** M. Abeillé (fl. 1839) and his wife, Félice, French naturalists and collectors (*Abeillia*, *Arremon*, *Hesperiphona*, *Icterus*, *Orchesticus*).
- Abeillia** From specific name *Ornismya abeillei* Lesson & Delattre, 1839, Emerald-chinned Hummingbird.
- Abelera** (syn. *Sula*) / **Abelaterus** (syn. *Eubucco*) Gr. *abelteros* silly, stupid.
- aberdare** Aberdare Mts, Kenya.
- aberrans** L. *aberrans* deviating (*aberrare* to deviate, to wander).
- aberti** Lt.-Col. James William Abert (1820–1897) US Army, engineer, naturalist, explorer and artist (*Pipilo*).
- abieticola** L. *abies*, *abietis* fir-tree; *-cola* dweller (*colere* to inhabit).
- abietina / abietinus** L. *abietinus* of the fir-tree (*abies*, *abietis* fir-tree).
- abingoni** Montagu Bertie Lord Norreys of Rycote and 5th Earl of Abingdon (1784–1854) Lord-Lieutenant of Berkshire, and patron of the sciences (*Campethera*).
- Ablas** (syn. *Capito*) Gr. *ablos* witless, stupid (*a-* very; *blazō* to be foolish).
- ablectaneus** L. *ab* from; *lectus* selected, chosen (*legere* to choose).
- ablutus** L. *ablutus* washed, purified (*abluerē* to wash).
- abnormis** L. *abnormis* irregular.
- Abornis** (syn. *Phylloscopus*) Gr. *abros* delicate; *ornis* bird.
- Abroscopus** Gr. *abros* delicate; *skopos* seeker.
- absita** L. *absita* distant (*absistere* to go away).
- Abuceros** (syn. *Rhyticeros*) Gr. *a-* not; *boukerōs* horned like an ox.
- abunda / abundus** L. *abundus* copious, abundant (*abundere* to overflow).
- aburri** Colombian Amerindian onomatopoeias *Burria* and *Aburri* for the Wattled Guan (*Aburria*).
- Aburria** From specific name *Penelope aburri* Lesson, 1828, Wattled Guan.
- abyssinica / abyssinicus** Abyssinia (= Ethiopia). In ornithology 'Abyssinian' is still used since it covers both Eritrea and Ethiopia, and cannot be confused with 'Ethiopian', a former term for the Afro-tropical zoogeographical region. • TL. Abyssinia; ► "Calao d'Abyssinie" of de Buffon (1770–1785), and "Abyssinian Hornbill" of Latham (1781) (*Bucorvus*); ► "Rollier d'Abyssinie" of d'Aubenton (1765–1781), and "Abyssinian Roller" of Latham (1781) (*Coracias*); ► "Merle brun d'Abyssinie" of Brisson (1760) and "Abyssinian Thrush" of Latham (1783) (*Turdus*).
- acaciae / acaciarium** From botanical genus *Acacia* acacia, wattle (Gr. *akakia* acacia, shittah-tree).
- acadicus** Acadia or Acadie, former French colony (= Nova Scotia), Canada. • TL. North America; ► "Acadian Owl" of Latham (1781: "an inhabitant of Nova Scotia") (*Aegolius*). • TL. Acadie; ► "Lesser Crested Flycatcher" of Pennant (1785) (?syn. *Empidonax minimus*).
- Acalanthe** (syn. *Erythrura*) French "Acalanthe," the name given to a parrotfinch by Vieillot (1805) (Gr. *akalanthis* small bird mentioned by Aristophanes and Suidas, doubtless the same as *akanthis*).
- Acanthagenys** (syn. *Acanthogenys*) Amendment of genus *Acanthogenys* Gould, 1838, honeyeater.
- Acanthidops** Gr. *akanthis*, *akanthidos* spiky; *ōps* face.
- acanthilis / acanthillis** Gr. *akanthullis* little thorn (dim. from *akanthis* thorn).
- acanthina** Gr. *akanthinos* of thorns, thorny.
- Acanthinotus** (syn. *Coracina*) Gr. *akanthinos* thorny (*akantha* thorn); *-nōtos* -backed (*nōton* back). Amend. *Acanthonotus*.
- Acanthiparus** (syn. *Aegithalos*) Gr. *akantha* thorn; genus *Parus* Linnaeus, 1758, tit.
- Acanthis** Gr. *akanthis* small unidentified bird mentioned by Aristotle and other authors. In ornithology usually identified with some sort of finch (cf. GR. MYTH. Acanthis, daughter of Autonous, was metamorphosed into a type of finch. Her brother, Acanthus, was changed into an unidentified bird).

Acanthisitta From genus *Acanthiza* Vigors & Horsfield, 1827, thornbill; genus *Sitta* Linnaeus, 1758, nuthatch. Amend. *Acanthisidossitta*.

Acanthiza Gr. *akantheōn* thorn-brake; *zāō* to inhabit, to live (*zō* to live).

acanthizoides From genus *Acanthiza* Vigors & Horsfield, 1827, thornbill; Gr. *-oidēs* resembling (*eidos* likeness) (*Cettia*).

Acanthochaera (syn. *Anthochaera*) Gr. *akantha* thistle; *khairō* to enjoy.

Acanthogenys Gr. *akantha* spine, thorn; *genus* cheek.

Acanthopneuste (syn. *Phylloscopus*) Gr. *akantha* thorn; *pneustiaō* to breathe (*pneō* to live).

Acanthoptila Gr. *akantha* spine, thorn; *ptilon* feather.

Acanthorhynchus Gr. *akantha* spine; *rhunkhos* bill.

Acanthornis From genus *Acanthiza* Vigors & Horsfield, 1827, thornbill; Gr. *ornis* bird.

Acanthura (syn. *Chaetura*) / **Acanthurus** (syn. *Dendrocolaptes*) Gr. *akantha* thorn, spine; *-ouros* -tailed (*oura* tail).

Acanthylis (syn. *Chaetura*) Gr. *akanthullis* little thorn (dim. from *akanthis* thorn) (cf. *akanthullis* insect-eating bird that built a ball-shaped nest with a small entrance hole, probably a Long-tailed Tit or a Penduline Tit, but identified generally as a sort of finch).

Acanthylops (syn. *Cypseloides*) From syn. genus *Acanthylis* Boie, 1826, swift; Gr. *ōps* appearance.

accedens L. *accedens* nearly (*accedere* to approach).

Accentor (syn. *Cinclus*, syn. *Prunella*) Mod. L. *accentor* chorister (> L. *ad* towards, for; *cantor* singer). “The genus *Accentor* was first proposed by Bechstein [1797] ... for the Dipper in the same year in which *Cinclus* was proposed by Borkhausen for the same bird. It is uncertain whether Borkhausen or Bechstein’s name was published first. Subsequently, in 1802 Bechstein ... used the same generic term *Accentor*, for the Alpine Accentor. The next available name for the Accentors is *Prunella* Vieillot ... and this is used by Hartert and other writers, and has undoubted priority under the international rules. As, however, the transfer of the well-known name *Accentor* to the Dippers would be a cause of confusion, the Committee have retained *Accentor* for the Hedge-Sparrows as a *nomen conservandum*” (BOU 1915).

accentor Mod. English Accentor, coined by Fleming (1828) (> French *Accenteur*) (> L. *ad* towards; *cantor* singer); “A peculiar little bird, with a throat like an Alpine Accentor” (Whitehead in Sharpe, 1888) (*Bradypterus*).

acceptus L. *acceptus* welcome, agreeable (*accipere* to take).

Accipiter L. *accipiter* hawk (*accipere* to grasp; the original meaning was “to understand” rather than “to seize”) (cf. Med. L. *accipiter* Sparrowhawk; *ancipiter* Goshawk).

accipitrinus L. *accipitrinus* hawk-like (*accipiter* hawk). • “The oldest name for the Short-eared Owl is *Strix flammea* Pontoppidan [1763] ... As,

however, the Committee have decided to use the name “*flammea*” for the Barn-Owl [*Tyto alba*] ... it has been necessary to conserve Pallas’ name “*accipitrinus*,” dating from 1771, for this species” (BOU 1915) (syn. *Asio flammeus*). ▶ “*Psittacus elegans*” of Clusius (1605), and “*Psittacus orientalis capite accipitris*. Hawk-headed Parrot” of Edwards (1751) (*Deropytus*).

accola L. *accola* neighbour.

acedesta Gr. *akēdestos* unkempt, uncared for.

acedis Gr. *akēdēs* thoughtless, uncaring.

Acentetus (syn. *Taccocua*) Gr. *a-* not; *kentētos* spurred (*kenteō* to spur on) (cf. *kentētos* embroidered, pierced).

Acentortyx (syn. *Francolinus*) Gr. *akentros* spur-less; *ortyx* quail.

acer L. *acer* shrill, penetrating.

Aceros Gr. *akerōs* hornless.

Acestrura Gr. *akestra* needle; *oura* tail.

Aceiornis (syn. *Lagopus*) Gr. *akēton* best, most excellent; *ornis* bird.

Achaetops L. *ad-* (*a-* before *c*) resembling; genus *Chaetops* Swainson, 1832, rockjumper.

Achantylops (syn. *Cypseloides*) Original spelling of syn. genus *Acanthylops* Bonaparte, 1857, swift (cf. Gr. *akhantion* little thistle).

acholiensis Acholi Hills (= Imatong Hills), Sudan.

achrusterā / achrusterus Gr. *akhrōstos* colourless.

aciculatus L. *acicula* small pin for a head-dress (dim. from *acus* pin).

Acis (syn. *Pericrocotus*) / **acis** GR. MYTH Acis, a Sicilian shepherd beloved by Galatea and changed into a stream on his death at the hands of the jealous cyclops Polyphemus (subsp. *Tanyptera galatea*).

Acmonorhynchus (syn. *Dicaeum*) Gr. *akmōn* anvil; *rhunkhos* bill.

Acnemis (syn. *Otus*) Gr. *aknēmos* without calf of the leg, thin-legged.

Acomos (syn. *Lophura*) Gr. *akomos* without hair (i.e. crestless).

Acantistes (syn. *Ramphocaenus*) Gr. *akantistēs* javelin-man, javelin-thrower.

Acredula (syn. *Aegithalos*) / **acredula** Med. L. *agredula* titmouse (> L. *acredula* bird of divination mentioned by Tullius Cicero, not otherwise identified).

Acridiornis (syn. *Locustella*) Gr. *akris*, *akridos* grasshopper; *ornis* bird.

Acridotheres Gr. *akris* locust; *-thēras* -hunter (*thēraō* to hunt).

acrita Gr. *akritos* undistinguishable, doubtful, confused.

Acritillas Gr. *akritos* confused; *illas* thrush.

acritus Gr. *akritos* undistinguishable, doubtful, confused.

Acrobatornis Gr. *akrobatēs* acrobat (cf. *akrobatos* walking on tip-toe); *ornis* bird.

Acrocephalus Gr. *akros* topmost, highest (*akē* point); *kephalē* head; “Perhaps Naumann thought *ακρος* =

- acutus* [sharp-pointed], as Agassiz ... did; but this is an error" (BOU 1915).
- Acrochordopus** Gr. *akrokhordōn* wart; *pous* foot.
- Acrocompsa** (syn. *Chlorophonia*) Gr. *akros* topmost; *kompsos* pretty.
- Acroleptes** (syn. *Euphonia*) Gr. *akros* topmost; *leptos* fine (cf. *lēptēs* one who accepts).
- acrolophites** Gr. *akrolophitēs* mountaineer.
- acrophila** Gr. *akron* mountain top, peak; *philos* -loving.
- Acropternis** Gr. *akros* ending in a point; *pternē* heel.
- Acrorchilus** (syn. *Cranioleuca*) Gr. *akros* pointed; *orkhilos* wren.
- Acrolocercus** (syn. *Moho*) Gr. *akroulos* curled at the tip; *kerkos* tail.
- acrum** Gr. *akron* mountain top, peak.
- Acryllium** Dim. from Gr. *akris* point; from the numerous lanceolate feathers on the underparts of the Vulturine Guineafowl *A. vulturinum*. According to Agassiz (1842–1846) this is a proper name, but I can find no basis for such an etymology (unless it be after Acrillae, an ancient city of Sicily). Gotch (1981) says the epithet alludes to the pointed tail.
- Actenoides** Gr. *aktis*, *aktinos* brightness; *-oidēs* resembling; based on "Actenoides" of Hombron & Jacquinot MS (1845), and supposed "HALCYON ACTENOIDES" of G. Gray.
- acteon** GR. MYTH Actaeon, a hunter who dared to approach Diana whilst she was bathing. She turned him into a stag, and he was torn to pieces by his own dogs (subsp. *Halcyon leucocephala*).
- Actia** (syn. *Calidris*) / **actia** Gr. *aktios* of the sea-shore (*aktē* sea-shore).
- Actidurus** (syn. *Bartramia*) From genus *Actitis* Illiger, 1811, sandpiper; Gr. *oura* tail.
- Actinodura** Gr. *aktis*, *aktinos* brightness, splendor; *odouros* watcher, guardian (cf. "The generic name is derived from the Greek noun *aktis* meaning a ray (feminine), which is rendered as the adjective *actinodes*, ray-like, without gender, and the Greek noun *ura* meaning tail (feminine). Thus *Actinodura* means 'ray-like tail'" (Eames *et al.* 1999). Amend. *Actinura*.
- actiosus** Gr. *aktē* coast.
- Actites** (syn. *Limosa*) / **actites** / **Actitis** / **actitis** Gr. *aktitēs* coast-dweller (*aktē* coast).
- Actiturus** (syn. *Bartramia*) From genus *Actitis* Illiger, 1811, sandpiper; Gr. *oura* tail (i.e. long-tailed).
- Actocheilon** (syn. *Sterna*) Gr. *aktē* coast, seashore; *khelidōn* swallow.
- Actodromas** (syn. *Calidris*) Gr. *aktē* seashore; *dromas* running, roaming.
- actophila** Gr. *aktē* seashore, coastal strand; *philos* -loving.
- Actophilornis** From syn. genus *Actophilus* Oberholser, 1899, jacana; Gr. *ornis* bird.
- Actophilus** (syn. *Actophilornis*) / **actophilus** Gr. *aktē* river bank, coastal strand; *philos* -loving (*phileō* to love). Amend. *Actephilus*.
- actiosa** / **actiosus** L. *actiosus* very active, lively (*actus* motion, impulse).
- acuflavida** / **acuflavidus** L. *acus* needle (*acuere* to sharpen to a point); *flavidus* yellowish (*flavus* golden-yellow).
- aculeata** / **aculeatus** L. *aculeatus* furnished with thorns, sharp, prickly (*aculeus* prickle, spine, thorn).
- acuminata** / **acuminatus** L. *acuminatus* pointed (*acuere* to sharpen to a point). ▶ "Fringilla acuminata" of Lichtenstein MS (*Peuceaea*).
- acunhae** Tristan d'Acunha (= Tristan da Cunha I.), South Atlantic.
- acuta** L. *acutus* sharp-pointed (*acuere* to sharpen to a point). ▶ "Anas cauda acuta" of Gesner (1555) and Willughby (1676), "Sea-Pheasant or Cracker" of Ray (1678), and "Anas cauda cuneiformi acuta" of Linnaeus (1746) (*Anas*). ▶ "Hirondelle noire acutipenne de la Martinique" of de Buffon (1770–1783) (syn. *Chaetura martinica*).
- acuticanda** Original spelling of specific name *Cypselus acuticauda* Jerdon, 1864, Dark-rumped Swift.
- acuticauda** L. *acutus* sharp-pointed; *cauda* tail.
- acuticaudata** L. *acutus* sharp-pointed; *-caudatus* -tailed (*cauda* tail). ▶ "Maracana cabeza azulada" of de Azara (1802–1805) (*Aratinga*).
- acuticaudus** L. *acutus* sharp-pointed; *cauda* tail.
- acutipennis** L. *acutus* sharp-pointed; *-pennis* -winged (*penna* feather). ▶ "Engoulevent acutipenne de la Guyane" of de Buffon (1770–1783) (*Chordeiles*).
- acutirostris** L. *acutus* sharp-pointed; *-rostris* billed (*rostrum* bill).
- acutus** L. *acutus* sharp-pointed.
- Ada** (syn. *Knipolegus*) GR. MYTH Ada, sister of Queen Artemisia of Cappadocia, who adopted Alexander the Great as her son.
- adalberti** Adm. Prince Heinrich Wilhelm Adalbert of Prussia (1811–1873) (*Aquila*).
- Adamastor** Portuguese *Adamastor*, hideous phantom of the storms which appeared before Vasco da Gama's fleet off the Cape of Good Hope, mentioned in Os Luciadas by Luis de Camões (1572) (Gr. *adamastos* untamed, unconquered).
- Adamatornis** (syn. *Chrysococcyx*) Gr. *adamatōs* unwedded; *ornis* bird.
- adamsi** / **adamsii** • Edward Adams (1824–1856) British surgeon explorer in the Arctic 1849–1856 (*Gavia*). • Andrew Leith Adams (1826–1882) British Army surgeon in India 1848 (*Montifringilla*).
- adansonii** Michel Adanson (1727–1806) French naturalist, botanist and collector in Senegal 1748–1753, (*Coturnix*).
- adastus** Gr. *adastos* undivided.
- addae** Adda Wilson (fl. 1840) wife of French amateur ornithologist William Wilson (subsp. *Ocreatus underwoodii*).

- addenda / addendus** L. *addendum* that which is to be added, addendum (*addere* to add, to annex).
- addita / additus** L. *additus* added (*addere* to add).
- Addoeca** (syn. *Rhinomyias*) Partial anagram of specific name *Microeca addita* Hartert, 1900, Streaky-breasted Jungle Flycatcher.
- adela** Female eponym: dedication undiscovered (*cf.* Gr. *adēlos* obscure); the “Adela’s Hill-star” of Gould (1861) (*Oreotrochilus*).
- adelaidae** • Adelaide Swift (fl. 1865) daughter of US financier Robert Swift (*Dendroica*). • Inferred TL. Adelaide, South Australia (after Adelaide Princess of Saxe-Meiningen (1792–1849), Queen Consort to William IV King of England and Hannover) (*Platycercus*).
- Adelarus** (syn. *Larus*) Gr. *adēlos* obscure, unknown; *laros* gull.
- adelberti** Vice-Adm. M. C. Adelbert le Barbier de Tinan (1803–1876) French explorer and collector (*Chalcomitra*).
- adeliae** Adélie Land, Antarctica (named for Adélie Vicomtesse Dumont d’Urville (1790–1842) wife of French explorer Adm. Vicomte Dumont d’Urville who explored the coasts of Antarctica).
- Adelinus** (syn. *Cyanomitra*) No expl. (Bonaparte 1854); has the form of an eponym (i.e. after Adélie or Adéline), but perhaps a dim. from Gr. *adēlos* unknown, obscure.
- Adelisca** (syn. *Adelomyia*) Dim. from Gr. *adēlos* obscure.
- Adelomyia** Gr. *adēlos* obscure; *muia* fly. In ornithology *myia* and *myias* signify flycatcher.
- Adelonetta** (syn. *Anas*) Gr. *adēlos* obscure; *nētta* duck.
- adelphe / adelphus** Gr. *adelphē* sister; *adelphos* brother.
- Adelura** Gr. *adēlos* obscure, dark; *oura* tail.
- adesma** Gr. *adesmos* unfettered, unbound.
- Adetococcyx** (syn. *Chrysococcyx*) Gr. *adetos* free, unbound; *kokkux* cuckoo.
- adianta** Gr. *adiantos* unwetted.
- adina / adinus** Gr. *adinos* thronging, loud.
- adjacens** L. *adiacens* adjacent, neighbouring (*adiacere* to be adjacent).
- adjuncta** L. *adiunctus* belonging to, connected with (*adiungere* to join to).
- admiralitis** Admiralty Is., New Guinea.
- adolfriederici** Adolf Friedrich Albrecht Heinrich Herzog von Mecklenburg (1873–1969) German naturalist, collector, and explorer in tropical Africa 1907–1911, and Governor of Togoland 1912–1914 (subsp. *Malaconotus cruentus*).
- adolphi** Adolphe Boucard (1839–1905) French collector in Mexico and natural history agent specialising in hummingbirds (syn. *Phaethornis saturatus*).
- adolphinae** Adolfinia Bruijn (fl. 1875) wife of Dutch botanist and explorer J. Bruijn (*Myzomela*).
- Adophoneus** (syn. *Sylvia*) Gr. *adōn* nightingale; *phōneō* to sing.
- adorabilis** L. *adorabilis* adorable (*adorare* to worship).
- Adornis** (syn. *Sylvia*) Gr. *adōn* nightingale; *ornis* bird.
- adoxa** Gr. *adoxos* ignoble, obscure.
- adscitus** L. *adscitus* (a form of *ascitus*) approved (*asciscere* to approve); ▶ “Blue-cheeked Parrot” of Latham (1787) (*Platycercus*).
- adsimilis** L. *adsimilis* (a form of *assimilis*) similar, like. • Bechstein (1794) considered the Fork-tailed Drongo to have the form of the Jackdaw *Coloeus* (*Dicrurus*).
- adspersa / adspersus** L. *aspersus* or *adspersus* sprinkling (*aspergere* to sprinkle).
- adusta** L. *adustus* burnt (*adurere* to set fire to). ▶ “Ondulé” or “Gobe Mouche Ondulé” of Levaillant (1805) (*Muscicapa*).
- adustoides** From specific name *Butalis adusta* Boie, 1828, African Dusky Flycatcher; Gr. *-oidēs* resembling (syn. *Prodotiscus regulus*).
- adustus** L. *adustus* burnt.
- advena** L. *advena* strange.
- Aechmolphus** Gr. *aikhmē* spear; *lophos* crest.
- Aechmophorus** Gr. *aikhmophoros* spearman (*aikhmē* spear; *pherō* to carry); Coues (1882) later confirmed the allusion to the long sharp bill of the Western Grebe *A. occidentalis* (pace Gotch (1981), “reference to the tarsal bones of the foot which are narrow and shaped like a blade”).
- Aechmoptila** (syn. *Leptotila*) Gr. *aikhmē* spear; *ptilon* feather.
- Aechmorhynchus** Gr. *aikhmē* spear; *rhunkhos* bill.
- aedificans** L. *aedificans* building (*aedificare* to build).
- Aedon** (syn. *Erythropygia*, syn. *Luscinia*) / **aedon** L. *aēdon* or Gr. *aēdōn* nightingale. In Greek mythology Aēdon, wife of Zethus, was changed into a nightingale when, in attempting to murder the eldest son of her fecund sister Niobe, she killed her own son Itylus. In other versions of the legend she was metamorphosed into a goldfinch. The ICZN has banned the use of diacritic marks in scientific names, but in transliteration the Gr. *aēdon* should be so spelled, the diaeresis indicating that the second of the two vowels should be pronounced separately. Similarly, amongst other examples, the ubiquitous Gr. combining form *-oidēs*. Unhappily, whereas the removal of the German umlaut (ü) is compensated for by the addition of an *e* after the modified vowel, the removal of the diaeresis, a useful guide to pronunciation, leaves no trace of its passing.
- Aedonops** (syn. *Locustella*) Gr. *aēdōn* nightingale; *ōps* appearance.
- Aedonopsis** (syn. *Locustella*, syn. *Tychaedon*) Gr. *aēdōn* nightingale; *opsis* appearance.
- aeger** L. *aeger*, *aegra* sorrowful, sad.
- Aegialeus** (syn. *Charadrius*) Gr. *aigialeios* frequenting the shore (*aigialos* beach, sea-shore).
- Aegialitis** (syn. *Charadrius*) Gr. *aigialitis* inhabitant of the seashore.
- Aegialodes** (syn. *Tringa*) Gr. *aigialōdēs* frequenting the shore.

- Aegialophilus** (syn. *Charadrius*) Gr. *aigialos* beach; *philos* -loving.
- Aegintha** Gr. *aiginthos* (form of *aigithos*) mythical bird mentioned by Aristotle, Pliny and others, perhaps a finch, but not further identified. In modern times associated with various small birds.
- Aegiothus** (syn. *Acanthis*) Gr. *aigiothos* unknown bird formerly identified with the Common Linnet *Acanthis cannabina*.
- Aegithaliscus** (syn. *Aegithalos*) Dim. from Gr. *aigithalos* tit.
- aegithalodes** From genus *Aegithalos* Hermann, 1804, long-tailed tit; Gr. *-oidēs* resembling; ▶ “Manakin vert hupé de Cayenne” of d’Aubenton (1765–1781) (syn. *Chiroxiphia pareola*).
- aegithaloides** Genus *Aegithalos* Hermann, 1804, long-tailed tit; Gr. *-oidēs* resembling (*Leptasthenura*).
- Aegithalopsis** (syn. *Parisoma*) From genus *Aegithalos* Hermann, 1804, long-tailed tit; Gr. *opsis* appearance.
- Aegithalos / Aegithalus** (syn. *Panurus*, syn. *Remiz*) Gr. *aigithalos* tit. Three different species of tits were recognised under this name by Aristotle; the Long-tailed Tit *Aegithalos caudatus*, the Great Tit *Parus major*, and the European Blue Tit *Cyanistes caeruleus*.
- Aegithina** Gr. *aigithos* or *aiginthos* unknown and mythical bird mentioned by Aristotle, Aelianus, Dionysius, and other authors.
- Aegithochicla** (syn. *Cichlopasser*) Gr. *aigithos* mythical bird (the Dunnock *Prunella modularis* according to Richmond, 1908); *kikhlē* thrush.
- Aegithospiza** (syn. *Parus*) Gr. *aigithos* unknown bird, variously identified; *spiza* finch.
- aegocephala** Gr. *aigokephalos* unknown bird; ▶ “Aegocephalus” of Willughby (1676) (“It hath a cry like a Goat; whence we guess it was named by Aristotle *Aegocephalus*, or *Goathead*”, Ray 1678) (syn. *Limosa limosa*).
- Aegolius** L. *aegolius* screech owl (> Gr. *aigōlios* bird of ill omen). • (syn. *Asio*).
- Aegothales** Gr. *aigothēlas* nightjar (*aix*, *aigos* goat; *thēlazō* to suckle).
- aegra** L. *aeger*, *aegra* sorrowful, sad.
- Aegyptius** Gr. *aigypios* vulture. This name was applied to the various species which frequented battlefields after the slaughter and fed on the corpses of the combatants and their steeds. • (syn. *Falco*).
- Aegyptis** (syn. *Crypsirina*) Gr. *aigypios* vulture.
- aegyptiaca** L. *Aegyptiacus* Egyptian.
- aegyptius** L. *Aegyptius* Egyptian. ▶ “Houhou d’Egypte” of de Buffon (1770–1783) and “Egyptian Cuckow” of Latham (1782) (subsp. *Centropus senegalensis*). ▶ “Charadrius Aegyptius” of Hasselqvist (1757) (*Pluvianus*).
- Aeipetes** (syn. *Thalassoica*) Gr. *aei* always; *petomai* to fly.
- Aelanus** (syn. *Elanus*) Gr. *elanus* kite.
- aelptes** Gr. *aelptos* unhoped for, unexpected.
- aemodium / aemodius** L. *Oemodium* of the Himalayas (*Oemodi Montes*).
- aemula / aemulus** L. *aemulus* emulating, striving, rivalling.
- aenea** L. *aeneus* of a bronze colour, coppery, bronzed (*aes*, *aeris* bronze). ▶ “Palumbus moluccensis” of Brisson (1760) (*Ducula*).
- aeneicauda** L. *aeneus* of a bronze colour; *cauda* tail.
- aeneigularis** L. *aeneus* of a bronze colour; Mod. L. *gularis* -throated (> L. *gula* throat).
- aeneobrunnea** L. *aeneus* of a bronze colour; Mod. L. *brunneus* brown.
- aeneocauda** L. *aeneus* of a bronze colour; *cauda* tail.
- aeneocephalus** L. *aeneus* of a bronze colour; Gr. *-kephalos* -headed (*kephalē* head).
- aeneoides** From syn. specific name *Turdus aeneus* J. Gmelin, 1788 (= *Lamprotornis caudatus*, Long-tailed Glossy Starling); Gr. *-oidēs* resembling (syn. *Lamprotornis purpuroptera*).
- aeneosticta** L. *aeneus* of a bronze colour; Gr. *stiktos* spotted.
- aeneofincta** L. *aeneus* of a bronze colour; *tinctus* dyed, coloured (*tingere* to dye).
- aeneoviridis** L. *aeneus* of a bronze colour; *viridis* green.
- aenescens** Mod. L. *aenescens* somewhat bronzed (> L. *aeneus* bronzed).
- aeneum / aeneus** L. *aeneus* of a bronze colour, bronzed, coppery. ▶ “Dicée bronzé” of Hombron & Jacquinot (1845) (*Dicaeum*). ▶ “Drongo Bronzé” of Levaillant (1805) (*Dicrurus*).
- aenigma** L. *aenigma* mystery, riddle.
- aenigmaticus** L. *aenigmaticus* obscure, enigmatic (*aenigma* mystery).
- Aenigmatolimnas** Gr. *ainigma*, *ainigmatos* mystery, riddle; Mod. L. *limnas* rail (> Gr. *limnas* of the marsh; *limnē* marsh).
- aenobarbus** L. from specific name *Allotrius aenobarbus* Temminck, 1835, Chestnut-fronted Shrike Babbler (subsp. *Pteruthius aenobarbus*).
- aenobarbus** L. *aenobarbus* red-bearded (*aeneus* of a bronze colour; *barba* beard).
- aenopennis** L. *aeneus* of a bronze colour; *-pennis* -winged (*penna* feather).
- Aenopogon** (syn. *Pteruthius*) L. *aeneus* of a bronze colour; Gr. *pogōn* beard.
- Aeypodius** Gr. *aipus* sheer, lofty; *pous*, *podos* foot.
- aequabilis** L. *aequabilis* similar, like, equal (*aequare* to make equal).
- aequalis** L. *aequalis* equal, like.
- aequanimis** L. *aequanimis* mild, calm.
- aequatoriale / aequatorialis** Late L. *aequatorialis* equatorial (*aequator* equator > L. *aequare* to make equal). Commonly applied to species from Ecuador (Spanish *ecuador* equator). • Erroneous TL. Guayaquil (= Panama City) (subsp. *Dendroica petechia*). • Erroneous TL. Guayaquil (= interior of Ecuador) (subsp. *Falco sparverius*). • Erroneous TL. Ecuador (= Bahia, Brazil) (syn. *Heliothryx*

- aurita auriculata*). • Erroneous TL. Bogotá (= San Lucas, Ecuador) (subsp. *Rallus limicola*).
- aequatorius** Late L. *aequator* equator.
- aequinoctialis** L. *aequinoctialis* equinoctial (*aequinoctium* equinox). • TL. Christmas I., Line Is.; ▶ “Equinoctial Warbler” of Latham (1787) (*Acrocephalus*). • TL. Cayenne; ▶ “Aequinoctial Eagle” of Latham (1781) (*Buteogallus*); ▶ “Figuier olive de Cayenne” of d’Aubenton (1765–1781) (*Geothlypis*). • TL. Cape of Good Hope; ▶ “Great Black Peteril” of Edwards (1747) (*Procellaria*).
- aeralatus** L. *aes*, *aeris* bronze; *latus* flank, side.
- aeratus** L. *aeratus* covered with copper or bronze (*aes*, *aeris* bronze); ▶ “Drongo Bronzé” of Levaillant (1805) (syn. *Dicrurus aeneus*).
- aereus** L. *aereus* fitted with bronze (*aes*, *aeris* bronze). ▶ “Coucou Gris Bronzé” of Levaillant (1806) (*Ceuthmochares*). ▶ “Drongo Bronzé” of Levaillant (1805) (syn. *Dicrurus aeneus*).
- aeria** L. *aerius* aerial, lofty.
- aerobates** Gr. *aerobatēs* one who walks the air, air traveller.
- Aerocharis** (syn. *Euryceros*) Gr. *aēr*, *aeros* air; *kharis* beauty, grace.
- Aerodramus** (syn. *Collocalia*) Gr. *aēr* air; *-dromos* -racer (*trekhō* to run).
- Aeronautes** Gr. *aēr* air; *nautēs* sailor (*naus* ship).
- Aeronympha** (syn. *Heliangelus*) Gr. *aēr* air; *nymphē* nymph.
- aerophila / aerophilus** Gr. *aēr* air; *philos* -loving.
- aeroplanes** Gr. *aeroplanēs* wandering in air (*aēr* air; *planēs* wanderer > *planāō* to wander).
- Aerops** (syn. *Merops*) Gr. *aerops* bee-eater.
- Aerornis** Gr. *aēr* air; *ornis* bird.
- Aerospiza** (syn. *Accipiter*) Gr. *aēr* air; *spizias* hawk.
- aeruginosa / aeruginosum / aeruginosus** L. *aeruginosus* rusty (*aerugo*, *aeruginis* copper rust). ▶ “Psittacus minor, gutture fusco, occidentalis. Brown-throated Parrakeet” of Edwards (1751) (subsp. *Aratinga pertinax*). ▶ “Milvus aeruginosus” of Willughby (1676), “More-Buzzard” of Ray (1678), and “Falco cera luteo-viridi, pedibus luteis, corpore ferrugineo, vertice fulvo” of Linnaeus (1746) (*Circus*).
- Aesalon** (syn. *Accipiter*, syn. *Falco*) / **aesalon** Gr. *aisalōn* hawk. • “Hartert, in the Hand-list of British Birds, rejects this name as being a *nomen nudum* and uses in its place *Falco regulus* Pall., 1773. If Tunstall’s work, however, be examined, it will be seen that he refers to ‘l’Emerillon’ of Brisson, which is undoubtedly our Merlin, and this reference appears quite sufficient to fix Tunstall’s name” (BOU 1915) (syn. *Falco columbarius*).
- aestigma** L. *aes* copper, bronze; *stigma* mark, brand.
- aestiva** L. *aestivus* summery (*aestus* heat). ▶ “Psittacus viridis et luteus barbadensis” of Albin (1738), “Psittacus viridis, capite luteo” of Frisch (1743), and “Psittacus viridis major occidentalis. Great Green Parrot from the West Indies” of Edwards (1751) (*Amazona*). ▶ “Figuier de Canada” of Brisson (1760), “Figuier de la Caroline” and “Figuier de Canada” of d’Aubenton (1765–1781), and “Figuier tacheté” of de Buffon (1770–1783) (*Dendroica*). ▶ “Summer Red-Bird” of Catesby (1731) (syn. *Piranga rubra*).
- aestivalis** L. *aestivalis* of summer (*aestus* summer, heat).
- aestivus** L. *aestivus* summery.
- Aestrelata** (syn. *Pterodroma*) Gr. *oistrēlatos* driven by the gadfly (*oistros* gadfly, horsefly; *elaunō* to drive). “ÆSTRELATA ... This genus, which was wrongly spelled *Æstrelata* by Bonaparte, was proposed by him ... for the Capped Petrel, *Procellaria hasitata* Kuhl. On the same page of the same journal, but a few lines previously, Bonaparte introduced *Pterodroma* for *Procellaria macroptera* of Smith. These two birds are undoubtedly congeneric, and it has recently been argued that *Pterodroma*, which has generally been ignored, should stand. The mistake has probably arisen because these names have generally been quoted as first described in the ‘Conspectus Genera Avium,’ vol. ii., and in that work *Æstrelata* comes first on p. 188, *Pterodroma* on p. 191. The sheet containing these descriptions is dated 1856, but there is internal evidence to show that it could not have been issued till a subsequent year. The names, therefore, must first have been introduced in the Comptes Rendus for 1856” (BOU 1915). Amend. *Oestrelata*.
- aestuarinus** L. *aestuarium* marsh, estuary.
- aethalea / aethalia** Gr. *aithaleos* smoky (*aithalē* soot, thick smoke).
- aethereus** L. *aetherius* on high, of the air, heavenly, from *aether* upper air, heaven (> Gr. *aitherios* ether, heaven). ▶ “Avis tropicorum” of Willughby (1676), and “Tropic Bird” of Ray (1678: “It is called the *Tropic-bird* because it is found about the Latitude of the Tropic circles, and no where else, so far as hath been by our English Travellers hitherto observed”) (*Phaethon*).
- aetherodroma** Gr. *aitherios* ether, heaven; *-dromos* -running.
- Aethia** Gr. *aithuia* unidentified seabird mentioned by Aristotle, Hesychius, and other authors. In modern times associated with a variety of seabirds, including an auklet and a duck.
- aethiopica / aethiopicus** L. *Aethiopicus* Ethiopian, African. • TL. Abyssinia; ▶ “Merle noir et blanc d’Abyssinie” of de Buffon (1770–1783), and “Ethiopian Thrush” of Latham (1783) (*Laniarius*).
- Aethiopinetta** (syn. *Anas*) L. *Aethiopicus* Ethiopian; Gr. *nētta* duck.
- Aethiops** (syn. *Nigrita*) / **aethiops** Gr. *aithiops* negro, blackened (*aithos* burnt; *ōps* face). ▶ “Turdus aethiops” of Lichtenstein MS (*Myrmecocichla*).
- Aethiopsar** (syn. *Acridotheres*) Gr. *aithiops* negro, blackened; *psar* starling.
- Aethocichla** (syn. *Trochoides*) Gr. *aēthēs* strange; *kikhlē* thrush.

- Aethocinnyris** (syn. *Cinnyris*) Gr. *aēthēs* strange; genus *Cinnyris* Cuvier, 1816, sunbird.
- Aethocorys** (syn. *Spizocorys*) Gr. *aēthēs* unusual; Mod. L. *corys* lark.
- Aethomyias** (syn. *Sericornis*) Gr. *aēthēs* unusual, strange; Mod. L. *myias* flycatcher (Gr. *muia* fly).
- Aethopyga / aethopyga** Gr. *aithos* fire, burning heat; *pugē* rump.
- Aethorhynchus** (syn. *Aegithina*) Gr. *aēthēs* unusual; *rhunkhos* bill.
- Aethostoma** (syn. *Trichastoma*) Gr. *aēthēs* unusual; *stoma* mouth.
- Aetos** (syn. *Aquila*) Gr. *aetos* eagle.
- Aetotriorchis** (syn. *Phalcoebenus*) Gr. *aetos* eagle; *triorchēs* buzzard.
- afer** L. *Afer* African. • TL. Cape of Good Hope; ▶ “Red-breasted Green Creeper” of Edwards (1764) (*Cinnyris*); ▶ “African Warbler” and “Spotted Yellow Flycatcher” of Latham (1783) (*Sphenoeacus*). • TL. Africa (= Senegal); ▶ “Black-bellied Grosbeak” of Brown (1776) and Latham (1783) (*Euplectes*). • TL. Africa (= Benguella); ▶ “Perdrix d’Afrique” of d’Aubenton (1765–1781), and “Perdrix rouge d’Afrique” of de Buffon (1770–1783) (*Pternistis*). • TL. Senegal; ▶ “Pie du Sénégal” of Brisson (1760) (*Ptilostomus*). ▶ “Turtur Senegalensis” of Brisson (1760) (*Turtur*). • TL. Maoflang, Khasi Hills, Assam (syn. *Pycnonotus cafer*) (probably a wordplay on *cafer*).
- affabilis** L. *adfabilis* or *affabilis* friendly, affable.
- affinae / affine / affinis** L. *adfinis* or *affinis* related, allied. Over 85 forms share this specific epithet, which indicates relationship or similarity (not necessarily to a currently recognised congeneric species). Some descriptions contain no information as to the supposed related species (e.g. *Alophoixus*, *Apus*, *Coracias*), or refer to an unidentifiable allied species (e.g. *Melithreptus*), but known examples (allied species shown in parentheses) include; Vogelkop Owlet-nightjar *Aegotheles* (Australian Owlet-nightjar *A. cristatus*); Grey-breasted Spiderhunter *Arachnothera* (Olive White-eye *Zosterops olivaceus*); Lesser Scaup *Aythya* (Greater Scaup *A. marila*); Blyth’s Frogmouth *Batrachostomus* (Javan Frogmouth *B. javensis*); White-browed Treecreeper *Climacteris* (Red-browed Treecreeper *C. erythropis*); White-bellied Swiftlet *Collocalia* (Edible-nest Swiftlet *C. inexpectata*); Zanzibar Puffback *Dryoscopus* (Black-backed Puffback *D. cubla*); Brown-rumped Bunting *Emberiza* (White-throated Sparrow *Zonotrichia albicollis*); Pine Flycatcher *Empidonax* (Brown-breasted Flycatcher *Myiarchus tyrannulus*); Scrub Euphonia *Euphonia* (Blue-grey Tanager *Thraupis episcopus*); Spot-crowned Woodcreeper *Lepidocolaptes* (Ocellated Woodcreeper *Xiphorhynchus ocellatus*); Sooty-capped Babbler *Malacopteron* (White-chested Babbler *Trichastoma rostratum*); Black-headed Honeyeater *Melithreptus* (syn. genus *Eidopsarus*); Collared Grosbeak *Mycerobas* (Black-and-yellow Grosbeak *M. icteroides*); Angola Brubru *Nilava* (Southern Brubru *N. brubru*); Andaman Hawk Owl *Ninox* (Brown Hawk Owl *N. scutulata*); Mindanao Hornbill *Penelopides* (Tarictic Hornbill *P. panini*); Tickell’s Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus* (Willow Warbler *P. trochilus*); White-spectacled Warbler *Seicercus* (Grey-cheeked Warbler *S. poliogenys*); Campo Suiriri *Suiriri* (American Redstart *Setophaga ruticilla* ♀ and Vermilion Flycatcher *Pyrocephalus rubinus* ♀); Black-faced Laughingthrush *Trochalopteron* (Variegated Laughingthrush *T. variegatum* and Black-capped Babbler *Pellorneum capistratum*); Red-stained Woodpecker *Veniliornis* (Little Woodpecker *V. passerinus*).
- aflavida** L. *a-* not; *flavidus* yellowish.
- afra** L. *Afer* African. • TL. Angola; ▶ “Red-faced Finch” of Brown (1776) and Latham (1783) (*Pytilia*).
- Afraegialis** (syn. *Charadrius*) L. *Afer* African; syn. genus *Aegialeus* Reichenbach, 1853, plover.
- Afraetus** (syn. *Aquila*) L. *Afer* African; Gr. *aetos* eagle.
- Afranas** (syn. *Anas*) L. *Afer* African; *anas* duck.
- Afranithus** (syn. *Anthus*) L. *Afer* African; genus *Anthus* Bechstein, 1805, pipit.
- afraoides** Specific name *Otis afra* Linnaeus, 1758, Black Bustard; Gr. *-oidēs* resembling (*Afrotis*).
- Afardea** (syn. *Ardea*) L. *Afer* African; genus *Ardea* Linnaeus, 1758, heron.
- Afribyx** L. *Afer* African; Mod. L. *ibyx* lapwing (> Gr. *ibux ibis* > *ibuō* to shout).
- africana** L. *Africanus* African. • TL. Egypt; ▶ “Sarcelle d’Égypte” of d’Aubenton (1765–1781) (syn. *Aythya nyroca*).
- africanoides** From specific name *Mirafra africana* A. Smith, 1836, Rufous-naped Bush Lark; Gr. *-oidēs* resembling (*Calendulauda*).
- africanus** L. *Africanus* African. • TL. Africa; ▶ “African Jacana” of Latham (1785) (*Actophilornis*); ▶ “African Shag” of Latham (1785) (*Phalacrocorax*). • TL. Senegal; ▶ “Pique-Boeuf” of Brisson (1760) (*Buphagus*).
- Africorys** (syn. *Mirafra*) L. *Afer* African; Mod. L. *corys* lark.
- Afrocichla** (syn. *Turdus*) L. *Afer* African; Gr. *kikhlē* thrush.
- Afropavo** L. *Afer* African; *pavo* peacock.
- Afropelia** (syn. *Streptopelia*) L. *Afer* African; Gr. *peleia* dove.
- Afrotis** L. *Afer* African; Gr. *ōtis* bustard.
- Afroxyechus** (syn. *Charadrius*) L. *Afer* African; syn. genus *Oxyechus* Reichenbach, 1853, plover.
- Agaclyta** (syn. *Lesbia*) Gr. *agaklytus* very glorious, famous.
- agami** Cayenne Amerindian name *Agami* for a forest bird, perhaps a trumpeter *Psophia*; ▶ “Héron Agami de Cayenne” of d’Aubenton (1765–1781), “Héron Agami” of de Buffon (1770–1783), and “Agami Heron” of Latham (1785) (*Agamia*).

- Agamia** From specific name *Ardea agami* J. Gmelin, 1789, Agami Heron.
- Aganaphron** (syn. *Anous*) Gr. *aganophrōn* gentle.
- Aganys** (syn. *Trogon*) Gr. *aganos* gentle, mild.
- Agapeta** (syn. *Heliodoxa*) Gr. *agapētos* dearly beloved.
- Agapetornis** (syn. *Heliodoxa*) From syn. genus *Agapeta* Heine, 1863, brilliant; Gr. *ornis* bird.
- Agapornis** Gr. *agapē* love; *ornis* bird. • (syn. *Forpus*).
- agassizii** Jean Louis Rodolphe Agassiz (1807–1873) Swiss zoologist, revolutionary teacher and opponent of Darwinism (syn. *Nothura darwinii*).
- Agathopus** (syn. *Scytalopus*) Gr. *agathos* good; *pous* foot.
- Agelaioides** From genus *Agelaius* Vieillot, 1816, blackbird; Gr. *-oidēs* resembling.
- Agelaius** Gr. *agelaios* gregarious. Amend. *Agelaeus*.
- Agelastes** Gr. *agelastos* sullen, grave (cf. GR. MYTH. *Agelastus*, another name for Pluto, gloomy lord of the underworld).
- Agelasticus** Gr. *agelastikos* gregarious.
- agile / agilis** L. *agilis* nimble, active (*agere* to set in motion). ▶ “Little Green Parrot” of Edwards (1751) (*Amazona*). ▶ “Gobe-mouche olive de Cayenne” of d’Aubenton (1765–1781) (?*Empidonax* sp.).
- Aglaeacis** Gr. *aglaia* splendour; *aktis* sunbeam. A typical hummingbird epithet; the scientific names and English names given to these brilliant small birds reflect their iridescent plumages and sometimes gaudy ornamentation. The nineteenth century saw the blossoming of trochilidomania, the passion for collecting and describing new species of hummingbirds. In the years between 1830 and 1860 over 52% of all hummingbird species were described, as specialist collectors (or trochilidists) like John Gould, Jules Bourcier and George Loddiges vied to have the largest collection of specimens, regardless of cost (Gould paid £20 for a specimen of the Bearded Mountaineer *Oreonympha nobilis* in 1868).
- aglaeus** Gr. *aglaos* shining.
- Aglaia** (syn. *Tangara*) Gr. *aglaia* beauty, splendour (Gr. MYTH. *Aglaia*, one of the three Graces. *Aglaia*, *Euphrosyne*, and *Thalia*, the goddesses of beauty, grace, and favour, were the daughters of Zeus and *Eurynome*).
- aglaiae** *Aglaé* Brelay (fl. 1839) wife of French ornithologist and collector Charles Brelay (*Platysaris*).
- Aglaiocercus** Gr. *aglaia* splendour, beauty (cf. *aglaos* splendid); *kerkos* tail.
- agnata / agnatus** L. *agnatus* belonging to, related to (*agnasci* to be born in addition to).
- agnota / agnotus** L. *agnotus* recognised, known (*agnoscere* to recognise).
- agraphia** Gr. *agraphos* unwritten (negative *a-*; *graphos* lines, writings).
- Agreocantor** (syn. *Dendroica*) L. *ager*, *agri* land; *cantor* singer (*canere* to sing).
- Agreutes** (syn. *Dacelo*) Gr. *agreutēs* hunter (*agreō* to seize).
- agricola** L. *agricola* farmer, tiller of the fields (*ager* field; *-cola* dweller > *colere* to dwell in).
- Agrilorhinus** (syn. *Diglossa*) Gr. *agrius* savage, wild (i.e. raptorial, hooked); *rhis*, *rhinos* nose (i.e. bill). Amend. *Anchilorhinus*.
- Agriocharis** Gr. *agrius* wild; *charis* grace, loveliness.
- Agriornis** Gr. *agrius* fierce; *ornis* bird; “members of this genus are remarkable for their robust form and for their strength and magnitude of their bills; and their habits strictly accord with their structure, as they are fierce and courageous ... I was assured by the inhabitants [near Valparaiso, Chile] that it is a very fierce bird, and that it will attack and kill the young of other birds” (Gould 1839).
- Agriospiza** (syn. *Acanthis*) Gr. *agrius* living in the fields, wild; *spiza* finch.
- agripennis** L. *ager*, *agri* land, field; *penna* flight.
- Agripticus** (syn. *Geocolaptes*) L. *ager*, *agri* land; *picus* woodpecker.
- Agrobates** (syn. *Erythropygia*) Gr. *agrobotēs* dwelling in the country, feeding in the field (*agros* field; *batēs* walker > *baínō* to tread).
- Agrodroma** (syn. *Anthus*) Gr. *agros* field; *-dromos* -runner.
- Agromyias** (syn. *Dyaphorophyia*) Gr. *agros* field, country; Mod. L. *myias* flycatcher.
- Agrophilus** (syn. *Plocepasser*) Gr. *agros* field, country; *philos* -loving.
- Agropsar** (syn. *Sturnia*) Gr. *agros* field; *psar* starling.
- aguia** Chilean name *Aguila* eagle, for the Black-chested Buzzard Eagle (syn. *Geranoaetus melanoleucus*).
- aguimp** Namaqua name *A-guimp* shore-runner, for the African Pied Wagtail; ▶ “Aguimp” of Levaillant (1805) (*Motacilla*).
- Aguimpa** (syn. *Motacilla*) Specific name *Motacilla aguimp* Dumont, 1821, African Pied Wagtail.
- aguya** Chilean name *Aguila* eagle, for the Black-chested Buzzard Eagle (syn. *Geranoaetus melanoleucus*).
- Agyrtria** Gr. *agurtria* collector, especially a begging priest of Cybele.
- Agyrtrina** (syn. *Agyrtria*) Dim. from genus *Agyrtria* Reichenbach, 1854, emerald.
- ahantensis** Ahanta, Gold Coast (= Ghana).
- aheneus** L. *aheneus* of copper or bronze.
- Aibryas** (syn. *Bubo*) Gr. *aetos* eagle; *bruas* owl.
- Aidemonia** (syn. *Cinnyris*) Gr. *aidēmōn* modest, bashful.
- Aidemosyne** Gr. *aidēmosynē* modesty.
- aignani** St Aignan I. (= Misima, Louisiade Archipelago).
- aikeni** Charles Edward Howard Aiken (1850–1936) US ornithologist (*Junco*).
- Ailuroedus** Gr. *ailouros* cat; *ōdos* singer.
- Aimophila / aimophilus** Gr. *aimos* copse, thicket; *philos* -loving (*phileō* to love). Amend. *Haimophila*.

- aithalodes** Gr. *aithalōdēs* sooty, black (*aithalos* soot, thick smoke).
- aithocorys** Gr. *aithos* fire; *korus* helmet.
- Aithurus** (syn. *Trochilus*) Gr. *aithouros* ever-warlike, always belligerent.
- Aix** Gr. *aix* unknown diving bird mentioned by Aristotle, not further identified, but since conjectured to be a small goose, a grebe or a duck.
- Aixopsis** (syn. *Amazonetta*) From genus *Aix* Boie, 1828, duck; Gr. *opsis* appearance.
- Ajaia** From specific name *Platalea ajaia* Linnaeus, 1758, Roseate Spoonbill.
- ajaja** Tupi names *Ayayá* or *Ajajá* for the Roseate Spoonbill; ▶ “Aiaia” of Marcgrave (1648), and “Platea incarnata” of Sloane (1725) (*Ajaia*).
- Ajax** (syn. *Cinclosoma*) From specific name *Eupetes ajax* Temminck, 1835, Painted Quailthrush.
- ajax** Gr. MYTH. Ajax, hero of the Trojan War (*Cinclosoma*).
- akahige** Japanese name *Akahige* red beard (*aka* red; *hige* beard), for the Ryukyu Robin *Luscinia komadori*, erroneously given to the Japanese Robin by Temminck, who believed it came from the Ryukyus. The appellation appears even more confusing when it is revealed that the Ryukyu Robin has a black, not red, throat and breast! However, Hiraoka Takashi (*in litt.*) advises that although the traditional name *Akahige* has been retained for more than two centuries, it is generally considered to be an original error for *Akaike* red hair (*akai* red; *ke* hair) (*Luscinia*).
- Akialoa** Hawaiian name '*Akialoa* long-billed green bird, for the Lesser '*Akialoa a. obscurus*.
- akool** No expl. (Sykes 1833); perhaps from Hindu MYTH. (*cf.* Sinhala name *Kukkula* for the moorhen and watercock) (*Amaurornis*).
- alacris** L. *alacer*, *alacris* active, brisk.
- Alaemon** Gr. *alēmōn* wanderer (*alaomai* to wander).
- alai** Hawaiian name *Alae* burnt forehead, a generic term for moorhens and coots; the name alludes to Hawaiian mythology, the bird's white forehead being scorched by the firebrand it had stolen from the gods to bring comfort to the early Hawaiians (*Fulica*).
- alapi** Etymology undiscovered; probably a French version of a local name; ▶ “Alapi de Cayenne” of d'Aubenton (1765–1781) (syn. *Myrmeciza atrothorax*).
- alare** L. *alarius* or *alaris* of the wing, upon the wing (originally the wing of an army) (*ala* wing).
- Alario** (syn. *Serinus*) From specific name *Fringilla alario* Linnaeus, 1758, Black-headed Canary.
- alario** L. *alarius* of the wing; ▶ “Cape Sparrow” or “Sparrow from the Cape of Good Hope” of Albin (1738) (*Serinus*).
- alaris** L. *alarius* or *alaris* of the wing, upon the wing.
- alarum** L. *alarum* of the wings (*ala* wing).
- alaschanicus** Ala Shan, Ningsia, western China.
- Alauda** L. *alauda* lark; according to Pliny this was the Celtic name, meaning “great songstress,” for the lark (*al* great; *aud* song).
- alaudina / alaudinus** Mod. L. *alaudinus* lark-like, of a lark (> L. *alauda* lark).
- alaudipes** L. *alauda* lark; *pes* foot; the “Huppe aux pieds d'alouette” of Desfontaines (1789) (*Alaemon*).
- Alaudula** (syn. *Calandrella*) Dim. from genus *Alauda* Linnaeus, 1758, skylark. Amend. *Alaudala* (L. *alauda* lark; *ala* wing).
- alba** L. *albus* white, dull white (*cf.* *candidus* glittering white). ▶ “Cacatua” of Brisson (1760), and “Kakatoës des Moluques” of d'Aubenton (1765–1781) (*Cacatua*). ▶ “White Sheath-bill” of Latham (1785) (*Chionis*). ▶ “White Godwit from Hudson's Bay” of Edwards (1750) (?syn *Limosa haemastica*). ▶ “Motacilla” of Gesner (1555), Belon (1555), Aldrovandus (1599) and Willughby (1676), “White Wagtail” of Ray (1678), and “Motacilla pectore nigro” of Linnaeus (1746) (*Motacilla*). ▶ “Spatule blanche de L'Île de Luçon” of Sonnerat (1776). “Mr Ogilvie Grant argues for the adoption of Scopoli's name of *P. alba*, founded on Sonnerat's plate. Although the bird is said to have come from Luzon, it is well-known that many of Sonnerat's species were obtained in Africa, and set down in error as being from the Philippines. That this has been the case with the present species hardly admits of a doubt” (Sharpe 1898) (*Platalea*). ▶ “Guira Panga” or “Cotinga Blanc” of de Buffon (1770–1783) (*Procnias*). ▶ “White-breasted Petrel” of Latham (1785) (*Pterodroma*). ▶ “Mouette cendrée tachetée” of d'Aubenton (1765–1781) (syn. *Rissa tridactyla*). ▶ “Curiçaca” of Marcgrave (1648), and “Courly à col blanc de Cayenne” of d'Aubenton (1765–1781) (syn. *Theristicus caudatus*). ▶ “Aluco minor” of Aldrovandus (1603), “Common Barn-Owl”, “White-Owl” or “Church-Owl” of Ray (1676) and “Common Barn-Owl” or “White Owl” of Albin (1731) (*Tyto*).
- albapiculus** Dim. from L. *albus* white; *apex*, *apicis* point, end (*cf.* *apiculum* thread).
- albaria** L. *albarius* pertaining to whitening or plastering (*albare* to make white > *albus* white).
- albata** L. *albatius* clothed in white.
- Albatros** (syn. *Diomedea*) / **Albatrossa** (syn. *Diomedea*) / **Albatrus** (syn. *Diomedea*) Albatross and its European equivalents are the definitive spellings of a word that has undergone dramatic corruption since its birth in the Arabic name *al qadus* for the leathern bucket used in irrigation. This name early Spanish and Portuguese explorers adopted as “Alcatras” or “Alcaduz” and gave to the pelican *Pelecanus*, with reference to its capacious bill. The name was mistakenly identified and applied vaguely to other large water-birds, firstly by English navigators to the frigatebirds *Fregata* and finally, via Alcatraza, Alcatraz, Algatraz, and Albitross, to the present species of this family (*cf.*

“The name is thought to derive from the Portuguese word *alcatraz*, meaning pelican (itself a corruption of the Arabic *al-gattas*, meaning diver or plunger)”, Moore 2006).

albatrus German *Albatros* albatross.

albatrus L. *albatrus* clothed in white.

Albellus (syn. *Mergellus*) / **albellus** Dim. from L. *albus* white. ▶ “Albellus alter” of Aldrovandus (1599), Willughby (1676) and Albin (1731), “White Nun” or “Smew” of Ray (1678), “Serrator minimus” of Klein (1750), and “Mergus tinus” of Hasselqvist (1757) (*Mergellus*).

albeola / **albeolus** Dim. from L. *albus* white. ▶ “Little Black and White Duck” of Edwards (1747) (*Bucephala*).

alberti • Franz August Karl Albrecht Emanuel Prince of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha (1819–1861), commonly known as Prince Albert, Consort to Queen Victoria (*Craspedophora*, *Crax*, *Menura*). • Albert Stewart Meek (1871–1943) English explorer, collector in New Guinea, the Solomons and Australia (*Eudynamys*, *Todiramphus*). • Albrecht or Albert King of Saxony (1828–1902; reigned 1873–1902) (*Pteridophora*). • Albert I King of the Belgians (1875–1934; reigned 1909–1934) (*Prionops*).

albertinae Albertina Schlegel (fl. 1869) wife of German ornithologist Hermann Schlegel (*Streptocitta*, *Tangara*).

albertinum Albertine Rift Valley, north-eastern Zaïre (= DR Congo).

albertisi / **albertisii** Luigi Maria Conte d’Albertis (1841–1901) Italian botanist, zoologist and ethnologist in the East Indies and New Guinea 1871–1878 (*Aegotheles*, *Drepanornis*, *Gymnophaps*).

albescens L. *albescens* whitish (*albescere* to become white > *albere* to be white > *albus* white) ▶ “Blanchard” of Levaillant (1796) (= *) (syn. *Stephanoaetus coronatus*).

albescentior L. *albescentior* more white, whiter (comp. from *albescens* whitish).

albicans Mod. L. *albicans* whitish (> L. *alba* white).

albicapilla / **albicapillus** L. *albus* white; *-capillus* -capped (*capillus* hair of the head). ▶ “Geay de Cayenne” of Brisson (1760), and “Geai de Cayenne” of d’Aubenton (1765–1781) (syn. *Cyanocorax cayanus*).

albicauda L. *albus* white; *cauda* tail.

albicaudata / **albicaudatus** L. *albus* white; *caudatus* tailed (*cauda* tail). ▶ “Aguila coliblanca” of de Azara (1802–1805) (*Buteo*).

albicaudus L. *albus* white; *cauda* tail.

albigiceps L. *albus* white; *-ceps* -headed (*caput* head).

albicillus L. *albus* white; *cilium* eyelid.

albicilla • Med. L. *Albicilla* Gaza’s (1476) name for the White-tailed Eagle, equivalent to Gr. *pugargos* type of eagle (*pugē* rump; *argos* white); ▶ “Pygargus”, “Albicilla” and “Hinnularia” of Belon (1555), Gesner (1555) and Aldrovandus (1599), “White-tail’d Eagle” of Ray (1678), and “Falco cera flava, reetricibus albis: intermediis apice nigris” of

Linnaeus (1746) (*Haliaeetus*). • L. *albus* white; *-capillus* headed (*capillus* hair of the head) (*Mohoua*, syn. *Myiopagis gaimardii*). • Mod. L. *albicilla* white-tailed (> L. *albus* white; Mod. L. *cilla* tail; the mistaken use of *cilla* for tail in ornithology goes back to mediaeval writers who misread *motacilla*, Varro’s name for the wagtail and a dim. from L. *motare* to move about or shake (i.e. a little shaker or wagger), as ‘shake-tail’ (*Ficedula*, syn. *Todiramphus saurophagus*).

albicincta L. *albus* white; *cinctus* banded.

albiclunus L. *albus* white; *clunus* buttock, haunch.

albicollaris L. *albus* white; *collaris* of the neck (*collum* neck).

albicollis L. *albus* white; Mod. L. *-collis* -necked (> L. *collum* neck). ▶ “Gavilan de estero chorreado” of de Azara (1802–1805) (= *) (syn. *Circus buffoni*). ▶ “South-Sea Raven” of Latham (1787) (*Corvus*). ▶ “Suiriri chorreado sin roxo” of de Azara (1802–1805) (syn. *Legatus leucophaeus*). ▶ “White-necked Falcon” of Latham (1787) (*Leucopternis*). ▶ “Guëpier à Gorge Blanche” or “Guëpier Cuvier” of Levaillant (1807) (*Merops*). ▶ “White-throated Goatsucker” of Latham (1783) (*Nyctidromus*). ▶ “Cravatte Blanche” of Levaillant (1804) (syn. *Pachycephala pectoralis*). ▶ “Ypacahá aplomado y pardo” of de Azara (1802–1805) (*Porzana*). ▶ “Cravatte Blanche” of Levaillant (1802) (*Streptocitta*). ▶ “Courly à col blanc de Cayenne” of d’Aubenton (1765–1781) (syn. *Theristicus caudatus*). ▶ “White-throated Sparrow” of Edwards (1760) (*Zonotrichia*).

albicrissa / **albicrissalis** L. *albus* white; Mod. L. *crissalis* of the vent (*crissum* vent, lower tail-coverts > L. *crissare* to copulate).

albida L. *albidus* whitish, white.

albidadema L. *albus* white; *diadema* diadem (> Gr. *diadēma* diadem).

albidadorsalis L. *albidus* whitish; *dorsalis* (properly *dorsualis*) dorsal, of the back (*dorsum* back).

albidularis L. *albidus* whitish; Mod. L. *gularis* -throated (> L. *gula* throat).

albidinucha / **albidinuchus** L. *albidus* whitish; Med. L. *nuchus* nape.

albidior L. *albidior* more whitish, whiter (comp. from *albidus* whitish).

albidiventer / **albidiventris** L. *albidus* whitish; *venter*, *ventris* belly.

albidulus L. *albidulus* whitish (dim. from *albidus* white).

albidus L. *albidus* whitish, white.

albifacies L. *albus* white; *facies* face, countenance.

albifrons L. *albus* white; *frons* forehead, front. ▶ “White-crowned Parrot” of Latham (1781) (*Amazona*). ▶ “Cola aguda vientre de canela” of de Azara (1802–1805) (*Donacospiza*). ▶ “White-fronted Thrush” of Latham (1783) (syn. *Miro australis*). ▶ “White-faced Manakin” of Edwards (1764) (*Pithys*).

albigena L. *albus* white; *gena* cheek.

- albigula** L. *albus* white; *gula* throat.
- albigularis** L. *albus* white; Mod. L. *gularis* throated (> L. *gula* throat). • “Hellmayr proposed *Automolus roraimae* as a new name for *Philydor albigularis* Salvin and Godman on grounds that it was a homonym of *Philydor albogularis* Spix ... 1824 ... however under the International Rules *albigularis* and *albogularis* are different names” (Peters 1951); “Under the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature Art. 58 (8) these two names are homonymous variable spellings and under Arts. 57 and 59 (a) primary homonyms, so Hellmayr was correct and Vaurie was wrong” (Eisennann in Vaurie 1980) (syn. *Automolus roraimae*).
- albilatera / albilateralis** L. *albus* white; *lateralis* lateral (*latus* flanks).
- albillinea** L. *albus* white; *linea* line.
- albillineata** L. *albus* white; *lineatus* lined (*linea* line).
- albilara / albiloris** L. *albus* white; Mod. L. *lorum*, *loris* lore (> L. *lorum*, *lori* bridle).
- albigmaculatus** L. *albus* white; *maculatus* spotted, blotched (*maculare* to make spotted).
- albigmarginatus** L. *albus* white; *marginatus* bordered, edged (*margo* edge > *marginare* to emarginate).
- albimentalis** L. *albus* white; Mod. L. *mentalis* pertaining to the chin (> French *mental* of the chin > L. *mentum* chin).
- albimfrons** Error for specific name *Setophaga albifrons* P. Sclater & Salvin 1871, White-fronted Whitestart.
- albina** L. *albinus* plasterer (*albare* to whiten).
- albinis** Eleazar Albin (fl. 1759) English water-colourist and author (syn. *Crax rubra*; ▶ “Curassow Hen” of Albin, 1734).
- albinotata** L. *albus* white; *notatus* spotted, marked.
- albinucha** L. *albus* white; Med. L. *nucha* nape (> Arabic *nukha* spinal marrow).
- albionis** L. *Albion*, *Albionis* Britain.
- albior** Mod. L. *albior* whiter (comp. from L. *albus* white).
- albipectus** L. *albus* white; *pectus* breast.
- albipennis** L. *albus* white; *pennis* wings, -winged (*penna* feather).
- albipes** L. *albus* white; *pes* foot.
- albipileata** L. *albus* white; *pileatus* capped.
- albirictus** L. *albus* white; *rictus* open mouth.
- albiris** L. *albus* white; Gr. *rhis* nose, nostril.
- albirostris** L. *albus* white; -*rostris* -billed (*rostrum* bill). ▶ “Calao à Bec Blanc” of Levaillant (1801) (*Anthracoeros*). ▶ “Yapú negro y amarillo” of de Azara (1802–1805) (syn. *Cacicus chrysopterus*). ▶ “White-billed Jacamar” of Latham (1787) (*Galbula*). ▶ “Carpintero lomo blanco” of de Azara (1802–1805) (subsp. *Phloeocastes melanoleucos*). ▶ “Tangara pourpré de Cayenne” of d’Aubenton (1765–1781) (syn. *Ramphocelus carbo*).
- albiscapa** L. *albus* white; *scapus* shaft, stem.
- albiscapulata** L. *albus* white; *scapulae* shoulders.
- albispecularis** L. *albus* white; *specularis* mirror-like (*speculum* mirror > *specere* to look at).
- albistriata / albiatriatus** L. *albus* white; *striatus* striated (*stria* furrow > *striare* to striate). ▶ “Etourneau des Terres Magellaniques” of de Buffon (1770–1783) (syn. *Sturnella loyca*).
- albitarse / albitarsis / albitarsus** L. *albus* white; Gr. *tarsos* flat of the foot. In ornithology *tarsus* refers to the visible leg of a bird.
- albitempora** L. *albus* white; *tempora* temples of the head.
- albitemporalis** L. *albus* white; *temporalis* of the temples of the head.
- albitorquata** L. *albus* white; *torquatus* collared (*torques* collar).
- albitorques** L. *albus* white; *torques* collar.
- albiventer / albiventre / albiventris** L. *albus* white; *venter*, *ventris* belly. ▶ “Martin-pêcheur de l’Île de Luçon” of Sonnerat (1776) (*Halcyon*). ▶ “Hirondelle à ventre blanc de Cayenne” of d’Aubenton (1765–1781) (*Tachycineta*).
- albivertex** L. *albus* white; *vertex* crown of the head.
- albivitta** L. *albus* white; *vitta* band, head-band.
- alboauricularis** L. *albus* white; Med. L. *auricularis* of the ear (> L. *auricula* ear; dim. from *auris* ear).
- alboaxillaris** L. *albus* white; *axillaris* of the armpit (*axilla* armpit).
- albobrunneus** L. *albus* white; Mod. L. *brunneus* brown (> Med. L. *brunus* brown).
- albocaeruleus** L. *albus* white; *caeruleus* blue.
- albobcapillus** L. *albus* white; -*capillus* capped (*capillus* hair of the head).
- albocaudatus** L. *albus* white; *caudatus* -tailed (*cauda* tail).
- albofacialis / albociliatus** L. *albus* white; *cilia* eyelids (*cilium* eyelid).
- albofasciata / albocinctus** L. *albus* white; *cinctus* banded (*cingere* to encircle).
- albofasciatus** L. *albus* white; *cinereus* ash-grey, ash-coloured (*cinis*, *cineris* ashes).
- albofasciatus** L. *albus* white; *caeruleus* blue.
- albofasciatus** L. *albus* white; *caeruleus* blue.
- albofasciatus** L. *albus* white; *caeruleus* blue (> *coronare* to crown).
- albofasciatus / albocristatus** L. *albus* white; *cristatus* crested, plumed (*crista* crest, plume).
- albofasciatus** L. *albus* white; *cruralis* of the leg (*crus*, *cruris* shin).
- albofasciatus / albofasciatus** L. *albus* white; Late L. *fasciatus* banded (> L. *fascia* band).
- albofrenatus** L. *albus* white; *frenatus* bridled (> *frenare* to bridle).
- albofrontata / albofrontatus** L. *albus* white; Mod. L. *frontatus* browed, fronted (> L. *frons* forehead).
- albogilva** L. *albus* white; *gilvus* pale yellow.
- albogrisea / albogriseus** L. *albus* white; Mod. L. *griseus* grey.
- albogulare / albogularis** L. *albus*, white; Mod. L. *gularis* -throated, of the throat (> L. *gula* throat).
- alboides** From specific name *Motacilla alba*

- Linnaeus, 1758, White Wagtail; Gr. *-oidēs* resembling (subsp. *Motacilla alba*).
- albolarrvatus** L. *albus* white; *larvatus* masked (*larva* mask).
- albolaxatus** L. *albus* white; *laxatus* extended, spread out (*laxus* spacious > *laxare* to widen).
- albolimbata / albolimbatus** L. *albus* white; *limbatus* edged (*limbus* border, fringe, band).
- albolineata / albolineatus** L. *albus* white; *lineatus* lined (*linea* line).
- albomaculata** L. *albus* white; *maculatus* spotted.
- albomarginata** L. *albus* white; *marginatus* bordered (*marginare* to emarginate).
- alboniger / albonigra** L. *albus* white; *niger* black.
- albonotata / albonotatus** L. *albus* white; *notatus* marked (*notare* to mark > *nota* mark).
- alboolivacea** L. *albus* white; Mod. L. *olivaceus* olivaceous.
- albopectus** L. *albus* white; *pectus* breast.
- alboplagatus** L. *albus* white; *plaga* stripe, wound.
- albopunctatum** L. *albus* white; Mod. L. *punctatus* spotted (> L. *punctum* spot > *pungere* to prick).
- alboscapulatus** L. *albus* white; *scapulae* shoulders.
- albosignata** L. *albus* white; *signatus* marked (*signare* to mark).
- albospecularis** L. *albus* white; *specularis* like a mirror, mirrored (*speculum* mirror > *specere* to look at).
- albosquamatus** L. *albus* white; *squamatus* scaled (*squama* scale).
- albostriatatus** L. *albus* white; *striatus* striated (*stria* furrow > *striare* to striate).
- albostrigatus** L. *albus* white; *strigatus* furrowed (*striga* furrow).
- albosuperciliaris** L. *albus* white; Mod. L. *superciliaris* eyebrowed.
- albotaeiniata / albotaeiniatus** L. *albus* white; *taenia* ribbon, head-band (> Gr. *tainia* head-band).
- alboterminatus** L. *albus* white; *terminatus* boundary, edge (*terminare* to limit).
- albotibialis** L. *albus* white; *tibialis* shinned (*tibia* shin bone).
- albotorquatus** L. *albus* white; *torquatus* collared.
- alboundata** L. *albus* white; Mod. L. *undatus* with wave-like pattern.
- albovittata / albovittatus** L. *albus* white; *vittatus* banded (*vitta* band).
- albula** Dim. from specific name *Motacilla alba* Linnaeus, 1758, White Wagtail (*cf.* L. *albulus* whitish; dim. from *albus* white) (syn. *Motacilla alba alboides*).
- albus** L. *albus* white, dull white (*cf.* *candidus* glittering white). ▶ “*Ardea alba major*” of Willughby (1676) (*Casmerodius*). ▶ “*Corneille du Sénégal*” of de Buffon (1770–1783) (*Corvus*). ▶ “*Numenius albus*. White Curlew” of Catesby (1731) (*Eudocimus*). ▶ “*Ourigourap*” of Levaillant (1796) (Namaqua name *Ourigourap* for the Egyptian Vulture) (syn. *Neophron percnopterus*). ▶ “*White Gallinule*” of Phillip (1789) (*Porphyrio*).
- Alca** Norwegian name *Alke* for the Razorbill *A. torda*; based on “*Alca*” of Clusius (1605), Wormius (1655) and Willughby (1676).
- Alcedinoides** (syn. *Alcedo*) From genus *Alcedo* Linnaeus, 1758, kingfisher; Gr. *-oidēs* resembling.
- Alcedo** L. *alcedo* kingfisher.
- Alcella** (syn. *Aethia*) Dim. from genus *Alca* Linnaeus, 1758, auk.
- Alcemerops** (syn. *Nyctyoris*) L. *alcedo* kingfisher; Gr. *merops* bee-eater.
- alchata** Arabic onomatopoeia *al Kattar* the sandgrouse (“*The Arabian name is Kata*”, Latham 1783) (*Pterocles*).
- Alcidius** (syn. *Oreotrochilus*) Alcide Dessalines d’Orbigny (1802–1857) French ornithologist and author.
- alcinus** Mod. L. *alcinus* auk-like (from genus *Alca* Linnaeus, 1758); the weak, compressed bill of the Black Bat Hawk was compared to that of an auk (*Macheiramphus*).
- Alcippe** GR. MYTH. Alcippe, daughter of Aries the god of war.
- Alcippornis** (syn. *Alcippe*) From genus *Alcippe* Blyth, 1844, fulvetta; Gr. *ornis* bird.
- Alcopus** (syn. *Heterophasia*) Gr. *alkē* might, strength; *pous* foot.
- Alcurus** Gr. *alkē* might, strength; *oura* tail.
- Alcyon** (syn. *Megaceryle*) From specific name *Alcedo alcyon* Linnaeus, 1758, Belted Kingfisher.
- alcyon** L. *alcyon* kingfisher; ▶ “*Jaguacati guacu*” of Marcgrave (1648), “*Alcyon*. King-fisher” of Catesby (1731), and “*American Kingfisher*” of Edwards (1750) (*Megaceryle*).
- Alcyone** (syn. *Ceyx*) GR. MYTH Alcyone wife of Ceyx, both being metamorphosed into kingfishers. Amend. *Halcyone*.
- Alcyonides** (syn. *Galbalcyrrhynchus*) From syn. genus *Alcyone* Swainson, 1837, three-toed kingfisher; Gr. *-oidēs* resembling.
- aldabrana / aldabranus** Aldabra I., Indian Ocean.
- aldrovandi** Prof. Ulisse Aldrovandi or Aldrovandus (1522–1605) Italian physician and naturalist, whose works were much used by early binominal authors (syn. *Falco severus*).
- aldunatei** Gen. José Santiago Aldunate (1796–1864) Chilean Army and politician (syn. *Phrygilus gayi*).
- Aleadryas** Gr. *alea* heat of the sun; *druas* dryad, woodnymph.
- alearis** L. *alearis* pertaining to dice (i.e. spotted, marked) (*alea* game of dice).
- Aleator** (syn. *Lybius*) L. *aleator* dice-player.
- Alecthelia** (syn. *Megapodius*, syn. *Sarothrura*) Gr. *alēktos* unceasing (*cf.* *alektos* indescribable; *alektros* unmarried); *thēlus*, *thēleia* female (Agassiz (1842) indicates that the second part of this name is from Gr. *hēlios* sun).
- Alecto** (syn. *Bubalornis*) From syn. specific name *Textor alecto* Temminck, 1828 (= *Bubalornis albirostris*, White-billed Buffalo Weaver).
- alecto** GR. MYTH. Alecto, one of the three Furies,

Erinyes or Eumenides, usually represented clad in black, her head wreathed with serpents, and breathing pestilence, war and vengeance. Alector, Megaera and Tisiphone were the spirits of vengeance who dwelt in hell, avenging crimes and tormenting criminals. Nemesis was sometimes included in their number (syn. *Bubalornis albostris*, *Myiagra*).

Alector • (syn. *Crax*) From specific name *Crax alector* Linnaeus, 1766, Black Curassow; based on “les Alectors” of Cuvier (1817). • (syn. *Gallus*) Gr. *alektōr* domestic fowl, cock.

alector Gr. *alektōr* domestic fowl, cock; ▶ “Hocco de la Guiane” of Brisson (1760) (*Crax*).

Alectoris Gr. *alektoris* farmyard fowl, chicken.

Alectorops (syn. *Phaenicophaeus*) Gr. *alektōr* fowl, cock; *ōps* face.

Alectroenas Gr. *alektruōn* domestic cock; *oinas* pigeon.

Alectromorphnus (syn. *Buteogallus*) Gr. *alektruōn* fowl, chicken; *morphnos* eagle.

Alectrophasis (syn. *Lophura*) Gr. *alektruōn* cock; Mod. L. *phasis* pheasant.

Alectornis (syn. *Bubalornis*) From syn. genus *Alecto* Lesson, 1831, buffalo weaver; Gr. *ornis* bird.

Alectrurus Gr. *alektōr* domestic cock; *oura* tail. Amend. *Alectorurus*, *Alecturus*.

Alectryon (syn. *Lophura*) Gr. *alektruōn* cock.

Alectryopelia (syn. *Alectroenas*) Gr. *alektruōn* cock; *peleia* pigeon.

Alectura Gr. *alektōr* domestic cock; *oura* tail (according to Agassiz (1842–1846) the first part of the name is from Gr. *alektos* ineffable, indescribable).

Alethe Alethe, attendant of the Sacred Ibis in the Temple of Isis (cf. Gr. *alēthēs* sincere, actual; GR MYTH. Alethes, a king of Corinth).

alethelia Gr. *alēthēs* sincere, true; *thēleia* female.

aleucus Gr. *a-* without; *leukos* white.

aleutica / aleuticus Aleutian Is., North Pacific Ocean.

alexanderi • William Backhouse Alexander (1885–1965) British ornithologist (syn. *Diomedea dabbenena*). • Capt. Boyd Alexander (1873–1910) British explorer, collector and ornithologist (*Falco*, *Nigrita*).

alexandrae Princess Alexandra Caroline Mary Charlotte Louisa Julia (1844–1925), eldest daughter of Christian IX King of Denmark and wife of Edward Prince of Wales (married 1863) (*Polytelis*).

alexandri • Capt. Boyd Alexander (1873–1910) British ornithologist, collector and explorer (*Apus*).

• Dr Alexandre (fl. 1840) who practised in Mexico and sent specimens to Paris; the “Alexandre” of Bourcier & Mulsant (1846) (*Archilochus*). • Alexander the Great (356–323 BC) King of Macedonia, whose conquering armies introduced eastern parakeets to Greece; ▶ “Perrocello” of Olina (1622), “Psittacus torquatus macrorurus antiquorum” of Willughby (1676), “Parroquet from Bengall” of Albin (1738), “Psittacus cubicu-

larius” of Hasselqvist (1757), and “Psittacus javanicus” of Osbeck MS. This name, in the original combination *Psittacus alexandri* Linnaeus, 1758, is the first eponym in avian nomenclature (*Psittacula*).

alexandrinus L. *Alexandrinus* of Alexandria, Egypt. • “Habitat ad Ægypti ex Nilo canale”, Linnaeus 1758; ▶ “Charadrius Alexandrinus” of Hasselqvist (1757) (*Charadrius*).

alfredi • Prof. Alfred Newton (1829–1907) British ornithologist (*Bradypterus*). • Alfred Hart Everett (1848–1898) English ornithologist, explorer and collector in the East Indies (*Otus*). • Sir Alfred Sharpe (1853–1935) British adventurer, big-game hunter, Consul-General and Commissioner for British Central Africa 1896–1907, Governor of Nyasaland 1907–1910 (*Phyllastrephus*). • Male eponym; after a child dear to des Murs (1856), probably a son, in the hope that the dedication would instill in him a love of science, but no further clarification provided (*Psarocolius*).

algida L. *algidus* cold, of high mountains.

algistus Gr. *algistos* most grievous, distressing (super. from *algeinos* painful).

algobularis Misspelling of specific name *Loxia albogularis* von Spix, 1825, White-throated Seed-eater.

alia L. *alius* another, different.

alice / aliciae • Alice Robinson (fl. 1895) wife of US collector and explorer Col. W. Robinson (*Aglaeactis*). • Alice Kennicott (fl. 1858) sister of Robert Kennicott (1835–1866) founder of Chicago Academy of Sciences (syn. *Catharus minimus*). • Female eponym; dedication undiscovered; the “Alice’s Emerald” of Gould (1861) (*Chlorostilbon*).

aliena / alienus L. *alienus* stranger.

alilicuco Local name *Alilicuco* in Tucumán, Argentina, for the Tropical Screech Owl *Otus choliba*.

alinae • Lady Aline Jackson (d. 1966) wife of English ornithologist and Governor of Uganda Sir Frederick Jackson (*Cyanomitra*). • Aline Bourcier (fl. 1842) wife of French naturalist and trochilidist Jules Bourcier (*Eriocnemis*).

Aline (syn. *Eriocnemis*) Aline Bourcier (fl. 1842) wife of French naturalist and trochilidist Jules Bourcier.

alipodis Gr. *alē* wandering; *pous*, *podos* foot.

alishanensis A-li Shan, Taiwan.

Alisteranus (syn. *Poephila*) Alister William Mathews (b. 1907) son of Australian ornithologist Gregory Mathews.

alisteri Alister William Mathews (b. 1907) son of Australian ornithologist Gregory Mathews (*Cinlosoma*).

Alisterornis (syn. *Pachycephala*) Alister William Mathews (b. 1907) son of Australian ornithologist Gregory Mathews; Gr. *ornis* bird.

Alisterus Alister William Mathews (b. 1907) son of Australian ornithologist Gregory Mathews.

alius L. *alius* different, another. • “The name *alius*, which is Latin for ‘other’ (this being another Scops-owl from the Nicobar Islands), encapsulates the

family name of Mr Humayun Abdulali, who first collected this species, and contributed a great deal to Indian ornithology, and in particular that of the Andaman and Nicobar islands” (Rasmussen 1998) (*Otus*).

alixii Édouard Alix (1823–1893) French zoologist (*Clytoctantes*).

Allasma (syn. *Caprimulgus*) Gr. *allassō* to change, to alter.

Alle From specific name *Alca alle* Linnaeus, 1758, Little Auk.

alle “*Allē*, the Lapp name of the Long-tailed Duck” (BOU 1915); “Actually *alle* is a widespread and well-known dialectal name for the Long-tailed Duck *Clangula hyemalis*. The name is onomatopoeic and, like the first syllable in *alfågel* (the modern Swedish name), alludes to the beautiful call of the male which is usually transcribed as ‘a-AU-li’ or something similar. Linnaeus, as far as I know, never visited the Baltic coast during the winter or early spring and probably had only heard of the *alle* at second hand. Presumably he thought that this light-coloured seabird which only occurred in winter was the same as the Little Auk which he ... had only read about. Linnaeus did know of the Long-tailed Duck, but managed to partially confuse it with the Pintail” (Tyrberg, *in litt.*); ▶ “Mergus melanoleucus” of Willughby (1676), “Small Black and White Diver” of Ray (1678) and Edwards (1747), and “Greenland Dove” or “Sea Turtle” of Albin (1731) (pt.) (*Alle*).

aleni • Arthur Augustus Allen (1885–1964) US field ornithologist and collector in Panama and Colombia (*Grallaria*). • Rear-Adm. William Allen (1793–1864) who took part in the Niger Expeditions 1832, 1841–1842 (*Porphyryla*). • Charles Andrew Allen (1841–1930) US collector, taxidermist and woodsman (syn. *Selasphorus sasin*).

Allenia Joel Asaph Allen (1838–1921) US ornithologist and Curator of the AMNH 1885–1921.

alligator South Alligator River, Arnhem Land, Northern Territory, Australia.

allinornatus L. *allinere* to attach to; specific name *Buarremon inornatus* P. Sclater & Salvin, 1879, Plain Brush Finch (*Buarremon*).

Allcotops (syn. *Melanocichla*) Gr. *allokotos* strange, unusual; *ōps* face.

Allcotopterus Gr. *allokotos* unusual; *-pteros* -winged (*pteron* wing).

Allcoturus (syn. *Enicurus*) Gr. *allokotos* unusual, strange; *oura* tail.

allophyeus Gr. *allophuēs* strange, abnormal.

Allotrius (syn. *Pteruthius*) Gr. *allotrios* foreign, strange.

alluvia L. *alluvius* alluvial.

alnorum L. *alnorum* of the alder trees (*alnus* alder tree).

alopécias Gr. *alōpekeios* of a fox (*cf.* *alōpekia* fox-mange).

Alopecoenas (syn. *Gallicalumbra*) Gr. *alōpēx* fox; *oinas* pigeon.

alopekion Gr. *alōpekeios* of a fox.

alopex Gr. *alōpēx* fox (i.e. fox-brown, tawny-red).

Alophius (syn. *Tockus*) Gr. *alophos* without a crest.

Alophioxus Gr. *alophos* crestless; genus *Ixos* Temminck, 1825, bulbul.

Alphonherpes (syn. *Mulleripicus*) Gr. *alophos* without a crest; *herpēs* creeper (probably a snake, but used in ornithology for woodpeckers and similar tree-climbing birds) (*herpō* to move slowly).

Alphopus (syn. *Mulleripicus*) Gr. *alophos* without a crest.

Alpochelidon Gr. *alōpos* fox-like (*alōpēx* fox); *khelidōn* swallow.

Alpochen Gr. *alōpos* fox-like; *khēn* goose. The Egyptian Goose *A. aegyptiaca* was known as *khēnalōpēx* fox-goose, to the ancient Greeks because of its fox-brown plumage (although the name could equally apply to the Ruddy Shelduck *Tadorna ferruginea*).

Alosia (syn. *Boissonneaua*) Gr. *alos* ornament, star, stud.

alpestris L. *alpestris* of the high mountains (*Alpes* the Alps or any high mountains). • TL. “Habitat in America septentrionali, & ... Gedani” (Linnaeus 1758); ▶ “Lark” of Catesby (1731), and Klein (1750) (*Eremophila*).

Alphachlamydera (syn. *Chlamydera*) Gr. *alpha* first; genus *Chlamydera* Gould, 1837, bowerbird.

Alphacincla (syn. *Colluricincla*) Gr. *alpha* first; Mod. L. *cinchus* thrush.

Alphagygis (syn. *Gygis*) Gr. *alpha* first; genus *Gygis* Wagler, 1832, tern.

Alphaphilemon (syn. *Philemon*) Gr. *alpha* first; genus *Philemon* Vieillot, 1816, friarbird.

Alphapuffinus (syn. *Puffinus*) Gr. *alpha* first; genus *Puffinus* Brisson, 1760, shearwater.

Alphaturnia (syn. *Turnix*) Gr. *alpha* first; genus *Turnix* Bonnatere, 1791, buttonquail.

alphonsianus Prof. Alphonse Milne-Edwards (1835–1900) French zoologist, Director of the Muséum National d’Histoire Naturelle, Paris 1891–1900 (*Paradoxornis*).

alpica L. *alpes* high mountains.

alpicola L. *alpes* high mountains; *-cola* dweller (*colere* to dwell).

alpina / alpinum / alpinus L. *alpinus* alpine, of high mountains (*alpes* high mountains). • TL. Alps; ▶ “Fauvette des Alpes” of d’Aubenton (1765–1781), and “Collared Stare” and “Alpine Warbler” of Latham (1783) (syn. *Prunella collaris*); ▶ “Choucas des Alpes” of Brisson (1760) (syn. *Pyrhocorax graculus*).

Alseonax (syn. *Muscicapa*) Gr. *alsos* grove; *anax* lord, master.

alsiosa L. *alsiosus* susceptible to cold (*alsius* chilly, cold).

Alsocomus (syn. *Columba*) Gr. *alsokomos* keeper of a grove (*cf.* *alsos* grove; *kommos* lament).

- Alsoecus** (syn. *Sylvia*) Gr. *alsos* grove; *oikos* house.
- alta** L. *altus* high, shrill.
- altaica / altaicus** Altai Mts, central Asia.
- alter / altera** L. *alter*, *altera* second, next, another.
- Alterapus** (syn. *Rhaphidura*) L. *alter* another; genus *Apus* Scopoli, 1777, swift.
- alternans** L. *alternus* alternate.
- alterum / alterus** L. *alter*, *altera* another, second, next.
- althaea** GR. MYTH. Althaea, wife of King Oënus of Calydon and mother to Meleager. During the Calydonian boar hunt Meleager, in a rage, slew Althaea's brothers, his uncles Plexippus and Toxeus. The tormented Althaea, torn between love for her son and revenge for her brothers, eventually threw the log upon which Meleager's life depended upon the flames and he died in agony. Althaea committed suicide by driving a sword through her body (*Sylvia*).
- Altiiceps** (syn. *Cephalopterus*) L. *altus* high (*alere* to support); *-ceps* -headed (*caput* head).
- alticincta** L. *altus* high; *cinctus* banded.
- alticola** L. *altus* high; *-cola* dweller (*colere* to dwell). • Erroneous TL. Fife, Nyasaland (= Isoka, Northern Rhodesia, now Zambia) (*Apalis*).
- altifrons** L. *altus* high; *frons* forehead, front.
- altijugus** L. *altiugus* that has a lofty summit (i.e. casqued, crowned).
- altiloqua / altiloquus** L. *altus* high, shrill; *loqui* to speak.
- altipetens** L. *altipeta* high-flying.
- altirostre / altirostris** L. *altus* high; *-rostris* -billed (*rostrum* bill).
- altissima** L. *altissimus* highest (super. from *altus* high; > *alere* to support).
- altitudo** L. *altitudo*, *altitudinis* height, altitude.
- altivagans** L. *altus* high; *vagans* wandering.
- altivagus** L. *altus* high; *vagus* wandering, roaming.
- altumi** L. *altus* great, high, shrill (> *alere* to nourish).
- altus** L. *altus* high, shrill.
- Aluco** • (syn. *Strix*) From specific name *Strix aluco* Linnaeus, 1758, Tawny Owl. • (syn. *Tyto*) L. *ulucus* screech owl.
- aluco** Italian names *Alocho* and *Allocco* for the Tawny Owl; ▶ “Aluco minor” of Willughby (1676), “Common Brown Owl” or “Ivy-Owl” of Ray (1678), “Brown Owl” of Albin (1731), “Strix capite lævi, corpore ferrugineo, iridibus atris, remigibus primoribus serratis” of Linnaeus (1745) and Linnaeus (1746) (*Strix*).
- amabile / amabilis** L. *amabilis* amiable, lovable (*amare* to love).
- Amadina** Corrupt dim. from genus *Ammodramus* Swainson, 1827, sparrow; the Cut-throat Finch *A. fasciata* was formerly considered to form a link between *Ammodramus* and *Estrilda* Swainson, 1827, waxbill.
- amadoni** Dr Dean Amadon (1912–2003) US ornithologist (syn. *Urotiorchis macrourus*).
- Amalocichla** Gr. *amalos* soft, weak; *kikhlē* thrush.
- Amandava** From specific name *Fringilla amandava* Linnaeus, 1758, Red Avadavat.
- amandava** Amandava, Amaduvad, Avadavad, Amadavad, and Anadavad, all former names for the Red Avadavat *Amandava*, are corruptions of Ahmadabad, a town of Gujerat, India, whence the first examples of this colourful cage-bird were brought; ▶ “Amadavad” or “Amaduvad” of Albin (1738) (*Amandava*).
- amanum** L. *amans*, *amantis* friendly, affectionate.
- amarantha** L. *amarantus* amaranth, flower that never fades, purple (> Gr. *amarantos* unfading).
- amaryllis** GR. MYTH. Amaryllis, a shepherdess (syn. *Lesbia victoriae*).
- Amathusia** (syn. *Doricha*) / **amathusia / amathusice** ROM. MYTH. Amathusia, another name for the goddess Venus (syn. *Platycercus adscitus*). Amend. *Amalusia*, *Amalsia*, *Amalasia*.
- amaura** Gr. *amauros* dusky.
- Amauresthes** (syn. *Spermestes*) Gr. *amauros* dusky; *esthēs* clothing.
- amaurocephala / amaurocephalus** Gr. *amauros* brown, dusky; *-kephalos* -headed (*kephalē* head).
- amaurochalinus** Gr. *amauros* dusky, brown; *khalinos* bridle.
- Amaurocichla** Gr. *amauros* brown, dusky; *kikhlē* thrush.
- Amaurodryas** (syn. *Melanodryas*) Gr. *amauros* brown, dusky; *druas* dryad, tree-nymph.
- amaurogaster** Gr. *amauros* brown, dusky; *gastēr* belly.
- Amaurolimnas** Gr. *amauros* dusky, brown; Mod. L. *limnas* rail (> Gr. *limnas* of the marsh > *limnē* marsh).
- amauronota / amauronotus** Gr. *amauros* brown, dusky; *-nōtos* -backed (*nōton* back).
- amauroptera / amauropterus** Gr. *amauros* brown, dusky; *-pteros* -winged (*pteron* wing).
- amauropteryx** Gr. *amauros* dusky; *pteryx* wing.
- Amauornis** Gr. *amauros* dusky, brown; *ornis* bird.
- Amaurospiza** Gr. *amauros* dark; *spiza* finch, identified by most authors as the Chaffinch.
- Amaurospizopsis** (syn. *Amaurospiza*) From genus *Amaurospiza* Cabanis, 1861, seedeater; Gr. *opsis* appearance.
- amaurotis** Gr. *amauros* brown, dusky; *-ōtis* -eared (*ous*, *ōtos* ear).
- amaurora / amaourus** Gr. *amauros* brown, dusky; *-ouros* -tailed (*oura* tail).
- amazili** Amazili, an Inca heroine in Jean Marmontel's (1777) novel “Les Incas, ou la destruction de l'Empire du Pérou” (syn. *Amazilia amazilia*).
- Amazilia** From specific name *Ornismya amazilia* Lesson, 1828, Inca Amazili.
- amazilia** Amazili, an Inca heroine in Jean Marmontel's (1777) novel “Les Incas, ou la destruction de l'Empire du Pérou” (*Amazilia*).
- Amazilina** (syn. *Amazilia*) Dim. from genus *Amazilia* Lesson, 1843, amazili.