

of its host, and emerges from the head of the pupa-case a fly—an *Ichneumon*, *Trichistus*, Forst., sp. nov., of which Mr. Claude Morley says, "certainly very closely allied to *Trichistus nigritellus*, Holmyr., from which it differs mainly in its unicolorous antennæ, dark tegutæ, black hind tibiæ, and larger size."

EXPLANATION OF PLATE XXI.

- Fig. 1. *Epalziphora axenana*, ♀ type (nat. size).
 Fig. 2. " ♀ *Albo-suffusa*, n. ab. (nat. size).
 Fig. 3. " ♀ *Brunnei-lineata*, n. ab.
 Fig. 4. " ♀ *Purpurascens*, n. ab.
 Fig. 5. " ♀ *Obsoleta*, n. ab.
 Fig. 6. " ♀ *Obscura*, n. ab.
 Fig. 7. " ♀ *Nigra-extrema*, n. ab.
 Fig. 8. " ♂ type.
 Fig. 9. Ova, imbrication, and ovum at two days (× 75).
 Fig. 10. Ovum at seven days (× 75).
 Fig. 11. Micropyle, and sculpturing of ovum (× 250).
 Fig. 12. First larval stage, dorsa of posterior segments (× 250).
 Fig. 13. " dorsum of caput (× 250).
 Fig. 14. " 3rd abdominal segment, lateral view (× 250).
 Fig. 15. Second larval stage, anal comb, anal flap distended (× 250).
 Fig. 16. Ultimate stage, anal comb, ventral view (× 50).

ART. XXXII.—On the Occurrence of *Graucalus melanops*, Latham, in New Zealand.

By Captain HUTTON, F.R.S.

[Read before the Philosophical Institute of Canterbury, 2nd November, 1904.]

ON the 11th June last the Museum received a specimen in the flesh of the shrike-thrush from Mr. E. A. Radford, of Gebbie's Valley, who stated that he had picked it up dead on Rabbit Island. The bird is in the young plumage, and proved to be a male.

The first recorded occurrence of the species in New Zealand was a specimen in the Nelson Athenæum, which had been shot in an apple-tree at Motueka in 1869 or 1870. Another specimen was shot near Invercargill on the 8th April, 1870. Both were in the immature plumage. I was also informed by the Hon. W. Mantell that he had seen one at Port Chalmers in 1842. Mr. W. T. L. Travers also told me that he had seen the bird at his run at Lake Guyon, and Captain Fraser told me that he had seen it at Lake Hawea. In all these instances the birds appear to have been in immature plumage also. This seems very remarkable.

Graucalus melanops.

G. melanops, Vigers and Horsford; Buller, "Birds of New Zealand," 1st ed. p. 148, 2nd ed. vol. i. p. 66; Cat. Birds in British Museum, vol. iv., p. 30. *Colluricincla concinna*, Hutton, Cat. Birds of New Zealand, p. 15 (1871).

Light ash-grey; abdomen and lower tail-coverts white; a broad band of black from the bill through the eye. The two middle tail-feathers dark-grey, lateral ones brownish-black, tipped with white. Quills brownish-black, the outer webs edged with white. Bill and legs black. Length of the wing, 8 in.; of the tarsus, 1.1 in. In the adult bird the forehead, sides of the face and neck, the throat and fore-neck, are black, with a greenish gloss.

The immature bird from Australia is described as having wavy bars of dusky black on the throat, but there are none on any of the three New Zealand examples which I have seen.

ART. XXXIII.—A Rare Saurian.

By Archdeacon WALSH.

[Read before the Auckland Institute, 12th September, 1904.]

FROM time to time over a number of years reports have been brought in by surveyors, bushmen, and others of the existence of a large lizard on the Waoku Plateau. This is an extensive tableland, about 2,000 ft. above sea-level, lying between the Hokianga and Kaipara districts. It is covered with forest, and here and there are several shallow lagoons. It is about these lagoons that the lizard is supposed to make its home.

So far as I am aware, no specimens have been captured; or, if they have, they have not been preserved. A dead specimen was, however, washed down the Waima Creek, a stream leading from the plateau, about thirty-five years ago, on the occasion of the *hahunga* or official reinterment of the bones of Arama Karaka, when it was seen by several European visitors, and was recognised by the Maoris, who were much frightened at its appearance. Being in a partly decomposed condition, however, no attempt, I believe, was made at preservation. From the appearance of this specimen, and from such other slight details as have been gathered from the reports above mentioned, it has been concluded, I understand, that the animal is a species of salamander hitherto undescribed.

As I have occasional opportunities of visiting the neighbourhood of the Waoku Plateau, as well as the Waima Valley, where the decomposed specimen was seen, I have made it my business to seek for any information that was to be had on the subject.