

"This singular bird," says Captain Sturt, in the Appendix to his Account of his recent expedition into the interior of South Australia, "made its appearance in 1841 suddenly on the plains of Adelaide, seeming to have come from the north. It occupied the sand-hills at the edge of the Mangrove swamps and fed round the puddles of water on the plains. This bird afforded my friend, Mr. Torrens, an abundant harvest, as it was numerous round his house; but although some few have visited South Australia every subsequent year, they have never appeared in such numbers as on the first occasion. It runs very fast along the ground. Mr. Browne and I met or rather crossed several flights of these birds in August of 1845, going south. They were on the large open plains and were very wild."

GENUS HIATICULA, *G. R. Gray.*

Five species of this genus inhabit Australia, and others occur in New Zealand, the Indian Islands, India, Europe, Africa and America, consequently few genera have their members more widely dispersed. Almost all the species found in Australia are peculiar to the country, and are more numerous on the southern than they are on the northern parts of that continent; shingly beaches and low flat shores are their principal places of resort.

472. <i>Hiaticula bicincta</i>	Vol. VI. Pl. 16.
473. <i>Hiaticula ruficapilla</i>	Vol. VI. Pl. 17.
474. <i>Hiaticula monacha</i>	Vol. VI. Pl. 18.
475. <i>Hiaticula inornata</i> , <i>Gould</i>	Vol. VI. Pl. 19.
476. <i>Hiaticula nigrifrons</i>	Vol. VI. Pl. 20.

GENUS ERYTHROGONYS, *Gould.*

Generic characters.

Bill longer than the head, straight, rather depressed; *nostrils* basal, linear; *wings* long and powerful, the first feather the longest; *tertiaries* nearly as long as the *primaries*; *tail* short and nearly square; *legs* long; *toes* four in number, slender, the hind-toe extremely diminutive and free, the outer toe united to the middle one nearly to the first joint; *thighs* naked above the knee.

The single species of this genus appears to be strictly Australian, for I have never seen examples from any other country.

477. <i>Erythrogonys cinctus</i> , <i>Gould</i>	Vol. VI. Pl. 21.
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In structure, actions and economy this elegantly formed bird is very nearly allied to the *Hiaticulae* on the one hand, and the *Schaenieli* on the other.

GENUS GLAREOLA, *Briss.*

I have for many years questioned the propriety of placing the Pratincoles in the same group with the Plovers, or even in the same order, believing them as I do to be a terrestrial form of the Fissirostral birds. Linnæus placed them near the Swallows, and I think he was right in so doing; and Mr. Blyth, one of the most philosophical of ornithologists, entertains, I believe, the same opinion; but as nearly all other writers have placed them with the *Charadriadae*, I have adopted their view of the subject, and have accordingly retained them in that group.

Species of this genus inhabit India, the Indian Islands, Europe and Africa.

478. <i>Glareola grallaria</i> , <i>Temm.</i>	Vol. VI. Pl. 22.
479. <i>Glareola Orientalis</i> , <i>Leach</i>	Vol. VI. Pl. 23.