

GENUS *APTERYX*, *Shaw*.

New Zealand is the only country wherein the members of this genus now exist; but they doubtless formerly ranged over that continent of which the greater part is submerged beneath the surface of the ocean, and of which a few isolated spots—New Zealand, Norfolk and Phillip Islands among others—alone remain.

458. *Apteryx Australis*, *Shaw* Vol. VI. Pl. 2.
 459. *Apteryx Owenii*, *Gould* Vol. VI. Pl. 3.

GENUS *OTIS*, *Linn.*

A country better adapted than Australia for the members of this genus can scarcely be imagined, yet singularly enough only one species has yet been found there. Africa may be considered the cradle of the race, for it is on that continent that they are most numerous; Europe and India are also inhabited by various species. The *Otis nigriceps* of the plains of Upper India, and the *O. Australis* are beautiful representatives of each other in the respective countries they inhabit.

460. *Otis Australis*, *Gray*.

Otis Australis, Gray in Griff. An. King., vol. iii. p. 305.

- Otis Australasianus*, *Gould* Vol. VI. Pl. 4.

The range of this bird over the country is probably universal; both Dr. Leichardt and Mr. Gilbert observed it within the tropical portion of Australia, and Captain Sturt found it in the desert interior.

FAMILY CHARADRIADÆ, *Leach*.

GENUS *ŒDICNEMUS*, *Temm.*

The *Œdicnemi* occur in Europe, Africa, Asia and Australia, in which latter country one if not two species exist that are not found elsewhere.

461. *Œdicnemus grallarius* Vol. VI. Pl. 5.

The birds of this form inhabiting the northern coast have longer legs and shorter wings, and I have no doubt are distinct; but I have not seen a sufficient number of specimens to enable me to affirm that such is actually the case.

GENUS *ESACUS*, *Less.*

The genera *Œdicnemus* and *Esacus* are merely modifications of the same form; the variation in that of the bill being expressly adapted for procuring the kinds of food upon which the species respectively subsist; the *Œdicnemus* frequenting the stony deserts of the interior of the country feeds upon insects of various kinds, and the tender shoots of herbage; while the *Esacus*, resorting to the salt-marshes and the shores of the sea, lives upon crabs, mollusks and other marine animals.

462. *Esacus magnirostris* Vol. VI. Pl. 6.

So far as our knowledge extends, the present bird is confined to the shores of the northern and north-western parts of Australia. It is beautifully represented in India by the *E. recurvirostris*, and these two species are all that are known to ornithologists.