Reeves's Pheasants were landed here alive and deposited in the Zoological Gardens; Mr. Stone has since received several others, which are located in his pheasantries. In sending home these birds Mr. Medhurst was anxious that the Queen should have early possession of specimens; and in compliance with this wish one male and two females were offered to and graciously accepted by Her Majesty, and they are now in the aviaries at Windsor Castle."

That the *Phasianus Reevesii* is likely to breed in and ornament our aviaries for many years to come, there can be little doubt; for its native country, the neighbourhood of Pekin, and the British Islands being nearly in the same parallel of latitude, our climate cannot be an uncongenial one. Besides the locality above in the same parallel of latitude, our climate cannot be an uncongenial one. Besides the locality above mentioned, the bird is also said to be found in the Taihoo district of Central China, on the north side of the Yang-tsze-Kiang.

Latham mentions that he saw at Sir Joseph Banks's some fine drawings taken from Lady Banks's curious collection of ancient porcelain, wherein is represented a mock fight on the water for the Emperor's amusement, supposed to be between his Tartarian and Chinese subjects, personated by the females in his seraglio,—the chieftains of the former having one of the barred feathers of this species on each side of the bonnet (perhaps as an insigne of one order), the opponents or Chinese having two feathers of a Pheasant of a smaller kind, probably of the Golden one; and hence he concludes that the present bird is a native of Tartary, and not unlikely to be as common there as the other is in China.

As every scrap of information respecting a bird of which so little is known is of interest, I copy the following extract from the 'Wanderings in New South Wales, &c.,' of Dr. George Bennett:—

"In Mr. Beale's splendid aviary and garden at Macao the beautiful *Phasianus veneratus* of Temminck, the *P. Recresii* of Gray, now commonly known by the name of Reeves's Pheasant, was seen. It is the *Chee Kai* of the Chinese. The longest tail-feathers of this bird are six feet in length, and are placed in the caps of the players when acting military characters. This I observed in Canton, where some of the beautiful tail-feathers (rather in a dirty condition, like the actors themselves, who in their tawdry dresses reminded me of the chimney-sweeps in London on a May-day) were placed erect on each side their caps as a decoration. The Chinese do not venerate this bird, as was first supposed, and which may have caused Temminck to bestow upon it the name of *veneratus*; but it is superstitiously believed that the blood of the bird is possessed of poisonous properties, and that the Mandarins, when in expectation of losing their rank and being suddenly put to death by order of the Emperor, preserve some of it upon a handkerchief in a dried state, on sucking which they fall down and instantly expire.

"Mr. Beale's first male specimen, obtained in 1808, was kept in a healthy state for thirteen years; after its death he endeavoured to procure others, but did not succeed until 1831, when four specimens were brought from the interior of China, and purchased by him for 130 dollars; these were, I believe, subsequently taken to England by Mr. Reeves."

I am greatly indebted to James J. Stone, Esq., of Scyborwen, Llantrissent, for his kindness in submitting to my inspection examples of this and many other fine Pheasants when they unfortunately die in his aviary.

The male has the crown of the head, a spot under the eye, chin, and a broad collar round the neck white; forehead, face, a V-shaped mark on the throat, a broad collar round the base of the neck, centre of the abdomen, and under tail-coverts jet-black; feathers of the upper surface and breast buffy yellow, each feather with a crescent of black at the tip; centre of the wing black, with a mark of snow-white in the centre of each feather; flanks rich chestnut, mottled with white and black; primaries blackish brown, mottled with buff; tail silvery grey, margined with tawny buff, and crossed with numerous bands of black and chestnut, those on the two central feathers being about sixty in number; bill and raised nostrils pale pea-green; legs and toes nearly uniform pale horn-colour; spurs nearly black at tips; naked skin before, above, and behind the eye blood-red.

The female has the parts of the head and neck, with the exception of the crown, yellowish buff, in lieu of white as in the male; back of the neck beautifully marked with black, chestnut, and white, the latter of a spear-shaped form in the centre of each feather; chest and flanks light chestnut-brown, with pale grey edgings and trifurcated centres; centre of abdomen and under tail-coverts light buff; wings mottled brown and black, each feather with a narrow streak of buff down the centre; rump dark, freckled brown, with a dark streak down the centre; five or six of the outer tail-feathers on each side rich chestnut, crossed by irregular bands of black and white, and largely tipped with white; central tail-feathers freckled brown and black.

The annexed Plate represents both sexes nearly of the size of life, with the exception of the splendid feathers of their tails, which are of necessity omitted; but their relative proportions are well shown in the reduced figures in the distance. The length of the two central feathers of the male varies considerably in different individuals, some being nearly six feet long, while others are only four or five. The female, as is the case with the females of other Pheasants, is considerably smaller than the male, and has a relatively shorter tail.