

of birds were obtained, most of which were new to science and were described by Lesson. The voyage of the 'Astrolabe' also contains the description and figures of some Papuan birds, written by Messrs. Quoy and Gaimard, the naturalists attached to this expedition, as they had been to that of the 'Uranie.' In 1854 the volume on the 'Zoology' of the 'Voyage au Pôle Sud' contained some more descriptions of New-Guinea birds, and then French enterprise in Papuasias seems to have stood still till quite recently, when a young naturalist, M. Léon Laglaize, sent from that region some very interesting and important novelties in the way of birds.

The Dutch, however, to whom belongs the western half of the island at the present time, were very active in New Guinea during the second half of the century, and some admirable collections were made by Solomon Müller and Maklot. These formed the foundation of the splendid series of Papuan birds in the Leyden Museum, which is still one of its chief glories. Many of the species were figured by Temminck in the 'Planches Coloriées,' and also by Müller and Schlegel in the well-known 'Verhandelingen.'

While Dr. Selater was writing his memoir, and placing the zoology of New Guinea as it were on a proper basis of knowledge, our great countryman, A. R. Wallace, was at work on that wonderful exploration of the Malay Archipelago which will render his name famous for all time. Most of Mr. Wallace's discoveries were epitomized and catalogued in the late George Robert Gray's 'List of the Birds of New Guinea' (1859); but many more species were described by the traveller himself, and a most complete list of the Mammals and Birds of Papuasias and the Moluccas was given by Dr. Otto Finsch in his 'Neu-Guinea und seine Bewohner' (1865).

Fired by the success of the English traveller Wallace in their East-Indian possessions, the Dutch nation provided a sum of money for several years to compass the zoological exploration of Papuasias, and, under the guidance of the late Professor Schlegel, several energetic collectors were despatched, Bernstein, Von Rosenberg, Hoedt, and others, who obtained extensive results, so that once more the scientific prestige of the Dutch nation was paramount in Papuasias, and many islands, hitherto unvisited by Europeans, yielded important novelties. Then came the celebrated expedition of Dr. A. B. Meyer, whereby a further number of new species were discovered, to be followed by the extensive explorations of Signor D'Albertis and Dr. Beccari. D'Albertis discovered *Drepanornis* in the Arfak Mountains in 1872, and visiting afterwards the southern and south-eastern portions of New Guinea, he met with *Harpyopsis* and other remarkable new genera of birds, many of which have been figured in the present work. Dr. Beccari sent some most interesting and wonderful birds from the Arfak Mountains and many of the islands of the Papuan Subregion, where also the hunters employed by an enterprising Dutch naturalist, Mr. Bruijn, have obtained many rare and new species. To this gentleman and to Mr. Riedel science is indebted for many important contributions to zoological science.

During the time which elapsed since Mr. Wallace's successful labours in the Malay Archipelago, Englishmen had been busy in exploring many of the outlying groups of islands to the eastward of New Guinea; and Captain Richards, Mr. Brazier, Mr. Cockerell, and other naturalists discovered many new species of birds in the Solomon Islands, and quite recently an energetic explorer, Mr. C. M. Woodford, has brought home a most interesting collection from this Archipelago. The Rev. George Brown and Mr. L. C. Layard have also done much to explore the natural history of New Britain and the adjacent islands, which were also visited by Dr. Finsch, to whom we owe much enduring work in the same locality and in the Caroline Islands. The collectors of the celebrated Hamburg firm, Messrs. Godeffroy, have also explored Ponapé and other islands to the west of New Guinea, and the names of Kubary, Graeffe, and Kleinschmidt will always remain famous amongst those of the explorers of these little-known and inaccessible localities. For the exploration of the Admiralty group of islands we are indebted to the 'Challenger' expedition. Nor have Englishmen been idle in their newly-acquired province of South-eastern New Guinea. Mr. Goldie, Mr. Octavius Stone, and the well-known missionaries the Rev. Mr. Lawes and the Rev. Mr. Macfarlane, have done wonders in procuring collections from the neighbourhood of Port Moresby, from whence also an interesting collection was sent by a young American explorer, Dr. James. The