Family OTIDIDÆ.

The Bustards, from their large size and noble bearing, constitute one of the most remarkable groups in ornithology. They are all inhabitants of the sandy plains of the Old World; and many of the most conspicuous species are natives of Africa.

Genus Otis.

Formerly Great Britain enumerated a very fine bird of this genus; now and then, however, a solitary individual flies over to us from Spain or France, where it is still tolerably plentiful.

232. Otis tarda . . . . . Vol. IV. Pl. XVII.

Great Bustard.

Accidental visitant.

233. Otis tetrax . . . . . Vol. IV. Pl. XVIII.

Little Bustard.

Accidental visitant.

234. Otis Macqueenii.

Macqueen's Bustard.

Quite accidental.

A native of Afghanistan and the neighbouring countries. A specimen of this bird, now in the possession of the Philosophical Society of York, was killed at Kirton Lindsey, in Lincolnshire, on the 7th of October, 1847. Still, with so slight a claim to be considered British, I shall content myself with this notice of it and a reference to a figure which will be found in my 'Birds of Asia.' Specimens have also been met with in Holland and Denmark.

ORDER **GRALLATORES.**

Family GRUIDÆ.

As must have been noticed by every one who has given a moment's thought to the subject, the Gruidæ, or Cranes, differ from the Herons and every other group of birds of which this great order is composed. The larger number of the known species are inhabitants of the Old World, over which they are widely spread, the plains of Australia on the one hand and those of Hindustan on the other being frequented by