

A ZOOLOGICAL 'WHO WAS WHO' by Mike Grayson

Did you ever wander around a zoological garden, or through the pages of a zoological tome, and come across 'Elliot's Pheasant' or 'De Brazza's Monkey' – and think to yourself "I wonder who Elliot and De Brazza were? How did they come to have animals named after them?"

If so, the following list might help satisfy your curiosity. A small number of cases – such as Père David and his deer – are too well known to warrant repetition, but here you will find persons ranging from the reasonably famous to the downright obscure. The one thing they have in common: they all have at least one species of vertebrate named in their honour.

ABBOTT

William Louis Abbott (1860-1936).

American explorer and collector. Studied medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, but upon receiving his inheritance he turned to a life of exploration and the study of natural history. In 1887-90 he was collecting specimens in East Africa, Madagascar and the Seychelles. In 1899 he had a schooner built, which he named the *Terrapin*, and in this he sailed the islands of Southeast Asia for the next ten years. He was occasionally accompanied by the zoologist Cecil Kloss [q.v.]. Most of his collections were made for the Smithsonian Institution.

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Abbott's Day Gecko, *Phelsuma abbotti*, and Abbott's Booby, *Papasula abbotti*. Also in the subspecific name of a race of Müller's (Grey) Gibbon, *Hylobates muelleri abbotti*.

AGASSIZ

Jean Louis Rodolphe Agassiz (1807-1873).

Swiss-born naturalist who studied at the Jardin des Plantes, Paris, under Baron Cuvier. Later moved to America, becoming Chair of Zoology and Geology at the Lawrence Scientific School, Harvard. In 1865/6 he led an expedition to Brazil. Agassiz was an outspoken critic of Darwin's Theory of Evolution.

Remembered in: the scientific name of the Desert Tortoise, *Gopherus agassizii*. Several species of fish are named after him, the most familiar to aquarists being the dwarf cichlid *Apistogramma agassizii*, and the catfish *Corydoras agassizii*.

ALLEN

Joel Asaph Allen (1838-1921).

American mammalogist and ornithologist. Curator at the American Museum of Natural History, New York, and President of the American Ornithologists' Union. A supporter of Lamarckian, rather than Darwinian, explanations for inherited characteristics.

Remembered in: the common and generic names of Allen's Swamp Monkey, *Allenopithecus nigroviridis*. Scientific name of the Antelope Jackrabbit, *Lepus alleni*.

ANGAS

George French Angas (1822-1886).

English artist and naturalist. Served as secretary of the Australian Museum, Sydney, in the 1850s. Also travelled to South Africa; author of *The Kafirs Illustrated* (1849).

Remembered in: the scientific name of the Nyala, *Tragelaphus angasi*. Angas was also a noted conchologist, and several molluscs were named after him including the Australian cone shell *Conus angasi*.

ANSORGE

William John Ansorge (1850-1913).

Born in Bengal and educated in Mauritius, Ansorge seemed destined from the outset to spend his life in exotic locations. Travelled extensively in Africa, including making an east-

to-west crossing of the continent. In the course of his explorations, he discovered many new species of African fauna. Author of '*Under the African Sun*' (1899).

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Ansorge's Cusimanse, *Crossarchus ansorgei*, and Ansorge's Greenbul, *Andropadus ansorgei* [a type of bulbul]. Over twenty species of African fish owe their scientific names to Ansorge, including the Guinea Bichir, *Polypterus ansorgii*, the Ornate Climbing Perch, *Microctenopoma ansorgii*, the African Whiptail Catfish, *Phractura ansorgii*, a cichlid *Thysochromis ansorgii*, a freshwater pipefish *Enneacampus ansorgii*, an African 'tetra' *Neolebias ansorgii*, and a killifish *Epiplatys ansorgii*.

BARBOUR

Thomas Barbour (1884-1946).

Associate Curator of Reptiles and Amphibians, and later Director, of the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard. Barbour was a wealthy patron of science with a special interest in herpetology. He travelled widely in the West Indies, Central America, and the Far East.

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Barbour's Map Turtle, *Graptemys barbouri*, and Barbour's Day Gecko, *Phelsuma barbouri*. Also in the subspecific scientific name of the Dusky Pygmy Rattlesnake, *Sistrurus miliarius barbouri*.

BECCARI

Odoardo Beccari (1843-1920).

Italian botanist, who explored many parts of Indonesia. In 1872 Beccari accompanied Luigi d'Albertis [q.v.] in an exploration of the Vogelkop peninsula of western New Guinea. Though his chief interest was in plants, Beccari also collected zoological and ethnological specimens. Several species from the New Guinea region are named after him.

Remembered in: the scientific names of the Black Tree Monitor, *Varanus beccarii*, the Bronze Ground Dove, *Gallicolumba beccarii*, and the Biak Scops Owl, *Otus beccarii*.

BELL

Thomas Bell (1792-1880).

Dental surgeon and zoologist; appointed Professor of Zoology at King's College, London, in 1836. His main interests were in reptiles & amphibians, and crustaceans. Author of '*A history of British reptiles*' (1838).

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Bell's Hingeback Tortoise, *Kinixys belliana*, and Bell's Agama [also known as the Butterfly Lizard], *Leiolepis belliana*. Also in the subspecific scientific name of the Western Painted Turtle, *Chrysemys picta bellii*.

BENNETT (1)

Edward Turner Bennett (1797-1836).

English zoologist. Practised as a surgeon, but a life-long interest in natural history led him to the nascent Zoological Society of London. Elected as the ZSL's secretary in 1831 and held this position until his untimely death. Well known for his books '*The Tower Menagerie*' (1829), and '*The Gardens and Menagerie of the Zoological Society Delineated*' (1831).

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Bennett's Woodpecker, *Campethera bennettii*. Scientific name of that little-known carnivore, the Otter Civet, *Cynogale bennettii*. It is almost certainly E.T. Bennett, rather than George Bennett [q.v.], who is remembered in the common name of Bennett's Wallaby, *Macropus rufogriseus*.

BENNETT (2)

George Bennett (1804-1893).

English-born physician. Emigrated to Australia in 1835 and later became secretary and curator of the Australian Museum, Sydney. Correspondent of Sir Richard Owen, Charles Darwin, and other eminent naturalists of the period. Author of '*Gatherings of a Naturalist in Australasia*' (1860).

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Bennett's Cassowary, *Casuarius bennetti*, and Bennett's Tree Kangaroo, *Dendrolagus bennettianus*.

BOULENGER

George Albert Boulenger (1858-1937).

Belgian-born ichthyologist and herpetologist. Worked at the British Museum (Natural History) c.1880-1920, during which time he described over 1,000 species of fish and over 1,400 amphibians & reptiles. After retiring from the museum, Boulenger returned to Belgium and devoted himself to the study of roses at the botanical gardens in Brussels. His son, Edward Boulenger, became a curator at London Zoo.

Remembered in: the scientific names of various fish, amphibians & reptiles. Examples include *Boulengerina* (Water Cobra genus), *Boulengerella* (Pike-characins), and the specific names of the Marbled Poison-arrow Frog, *Epipedobates boulengeri*, the Rhinoceros Snake, *Rhynchophis boulengeri*, and the Lake Tanganyika cichlid *Xenotilapia boulengeri*. Boulenger's Tree Agama, *Dendragama boulengeri*, and Boulenger's Cape Tortoise, *Homopus boulengeri*, should also be noted.

BULWER

Henry Ernest Gascoyne Bulwer (1836-1914).

British diplomat who was Governor of Labuan (now part of Sabah, East Malaysia) at the time of the discovery, in 1874, of the pheasant that would bear his name. Bulwer presented the type specimen to the British Museum where the Curator of Birds, Richard Bowdler Sharpe, named it in the donor's honour.

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Bulwer's Pheasant, *Lophura bulweri*. NB. Bulwer's Petrel, *Bulweria bulwerii*, is named after the Reverend James Bulwer (1794-1879) who discovered this sea-bird whilst visiting Madeira.

BURCHELL

William John Burchell (1782-1863).

British explorer and naturalist. In 1810 Burchell embarked upon his first expedition, which he documented in his 2-volume work '*Travels in the Interior of Southern Africa*' (1822-24). He returned to England with over 50,000 specimens, many of which he donated to the British Museum. Burchell set out on a second expedition in 1825, this time travelling across Brazil. On his return he was awarded an honorary doctorate by Oxford University. However, his travels had exhausted his finances and he gradually sank into isolation. In 1863, after several years of ill health, Burchell committed suicide.

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Burchell's Zebra, *Equus burchelli* [though many authorities would now use *E. quagga* as the scientific name for all Plains Zebras], and Burchell's Sandgrouse, *Pterocles burchelli*. Common name of Burchell's Glossy Starling, *Lamprotornis australis*.

CAMPBELL

Henry Dundas Campbell (*fl.* 1835). **Can any reader provide full dates?**

Campbell was governor of Sierra Leone, 1835-37. He presented the Zoological Society of London with a specimen of guenon, which George Waterhouse recognised as a new species. It was then named in Henry Campbell's honour.

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Campbell's Monkey, *Cercopithecus campbelli*.

CATESBY

Mark Catesby (1679?-1749). **Seems to be doubt about his date of birth**

English-born artist and naturalist. He was in North America c.1710-1719, and returned to England with a large plant collection. Later (1722-1726) he made a second expedition to the

south-eastern regions of North America. Author of '*The Natural History of Carolina, Florida and the Bahama Islands*' [Vol. 1 in 1731, Vol. 2 in 1743, and an Appendix in 1748].

Remembered in: the scientific name of the American Bullfrog, *Rana catesbeiana*.

CUMING

Hugh Cuming (1791-1865).

English collector of natural history specimens, especially seashells. His career began inauspiciously as an apprentice sail-maker, based in Chile. However, from 1826 he devoted himself to collecting specimens, making various expeditions. Cuming's trip to the Philippines in 1836-1840 led to several species from those islands being named after him.

Remembered in: the scientific names of the Slender-tailed Cloud Rat, *Phloeomys cumingi*, the Philippine Scrubfowl, *Megapodius cumingii*, and the Scale-feathered Cuckoo, *Phaenicophaeus cumingi*. Also in the subspecific name of the Mindanao Water Monitor, *Varanus salvator cumingi*.

D'ALBERTIS

Luigi Maria d'Albertis (1841-1901).

Italian ethnologist and naturalist, who conducted exploration in New Guinea. In 1872 he was in western New Guinea with Odoardo Beccari [q.v.], and later (1876-77) made three journeys by steam launch up the Fly River. D'Albertis has been criticized by later travellers for antagonising the native Papuans with his unscrupulous collecting methods.

Remembered in: the scientific names of the White-lipped Python, *Leiopython albertisii*, the Papuan Mountain Pigeon, *Gymnophaps albertisii*, and the Black-billed Sicklebill [bird of paradise], *Drepanornis albertisi*.

DALL

William Healey Dall (1845-1927).

American naturalist with broad interests; not only in zoology but in oceanography, anthropology and palaeontology. Conducted field work in Alaska, and along the USA coastlines. He saw at first hand what effects European colonisation had on pristine Nature, and wrote "The advent of the white man has spoiled and will continue to spoil the holy wilderness."

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Dall's Sheep, *Ovis dalli*, and Dall's Porpoise, *Phocoenoides dalli*. Scientific names of two species of fish found off the coast of California: the Blue-banded Goby, *Lythrypnus dalli*, and the Calico Rockfish, *Sebastes dallii*.

DE BRAZZA

Pierre Paul François Camille Savorgnan de Brazza (1852-1905).

Italian by birth, Pietro di Brazza Savorgnani entered the French naval academy in 1870, later adopting the French style of his name by which he is better known. Between 1875 and 1878 he led his first mission into the interior of central Africa, discovering new plant and animal species as well as exploring the region. A second mission took place in 1879 to 1882, which included the founding of a settlement later called Brazzaville.

Remembered in: the common name of De Brazza's Monkey, *Cercopithecus neglectus*. A species of swallow is also named after him; the Brazza's (or Congo) Martin, *Phedina brazzae*.

DUMERIL

Andre Marie Constant Dumeril (1774-1860)

his son, Auguste Henri Dumeril (1812-1870).

French zoologists; both became professors of herpetology and ichthyology at the Museum of Natural History, Paris. They created the first vivarium for reptiles at the Jardin des Plantes. The younger Dumeril observed the transformation of an axolotl into a terrestrial salamander, providing the basis for the concept of neoteny.

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Dumeril's Monitor, *Varanus dumerilii*, and Dumeril's Boa, *Acrantophis dumerili*. Scientific names of several species of fish,

including the White-spotted Filefish, *Cantherhines dumerili*, and the Grooved Mullet, *Liza dumerili*.

DYBOWSKI

Benedykt Dybowski (1833-1930).

Polish biologist, and ardent proponent of Darwin's theories. He spent time as a political exile in Siberia, where support from friends in the Zoological Cabinet [later the Zoological Museum in Warsaw] allowed him to undertake investigations into the natural history of Lake Baikal, and other regions of the Soviet Far East.

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Dybowski's Deer, *Cervus nippon dybowskii* [a subspecies of Sika Deer], and Dybowski's Frog, *Rana dybowskii*. Scientific names of several (obscure!) fish species, including the Lesser Baikal Oilfish, *Comephorus dybowskii*.

NB. The African finch known as Dybowski's Twinspot, *Euschistospiza dybowskii*, is named after the explorer Jan Dybowski (1856-1928), who led an expedition through Central Africa in 1892.

EDWARDS

See under MILNE-EDWARDS

ELLIOT

Daniel Giraud Elliot (1835-1915).

American zoologist; Curator of the Field Museum in Chicago from 1894 to 1908. Famous for his production of a series of large colour-plate books on birds, long after most publishers employed smaller formats and cheaper colouring techniques. Perhaps his finest achievement, in association with the artist Joseph Wolf, is 'A *Monograph of the Phasianidae*' (1870-72).

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Elliot's Pheasant, *Syrnaticus ellioti*.

NB. In his popular reference work 'Latin Names Explained', A.F. Gotch claims that the Indian Tree Shrew, *Anathana ellioti*, is also named after Daniel Elliot. As the latter was only fifteen years old when Waterhouse named the tree shrew, this is obviously incorrect. In fact, the tree shrew was named after Walter Elliot (1803-1887), a civil servant and amateur naturalist in India.

FEA

Leonardo Fea (1852-1903).

Italian zoologist, who worked at the Genoa Natural History Museum. He explored extensively in Burma (1885-87), and visited the Cape Verde Islands (1898) where he discovered the petrel that would later be named after him.

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Fea's Muntjac, *Muntiacus feae*, Fea's Viper, *Azemiops feae*, and Fea's Petrel, *Pterodroma feae*.

FORSTER

Johann Reinhold Forster (1729-1798)

his son, Georg Forster (1754-1794).

Father and son team of German naturalists, who accompanied Captain Cook on HMS Resolution [1772-75]. The father was famously described as "Dogmatic, humourless, suspicious, pretentious, contentious, censorious, demanding, rheumatic"(!) by historian John Beaglehole. One wonders if he had any *bad* points? Georg Forster served as the artist on Cook's voyage of discovery and wrote a popular account of the trip, 'A *Voyage Round the World*' (1777).

Remembered in: the scientific names of the Emperor Penguin, *Aptenodytes forsteri*, and the New Zealand Fur Seal, *Arctocephalus forsteri*.

NB. The Australian Lungfish, *Neoceratodus forsteri*, not scientifically described until 1870, is named after William Forster – a Queensland resident who brought the fish to the attention of its describer, Gerard Krefft [q.v.].

GAMBEL

William Gambel (1821-1849).

American amateur naturalist and explorer. He made various expeditions in North America, sometimes collecting specimens for the ornithologist Thomas Nuttall. On a trip to California he encountered miners suffering from typhoid, contracted the disease himself, and died at a tragically early age.

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Gambel's Quail, *Lophortyx gambelii*. Scientific name of the Mountain Chickadee, *Parus gambeli*. A genus of iguanid lizards, *Gambelia*, is also named after him.

GOELDI

Emil August Goeldi (1859-1917).

Swiss naturalist. Travelled to Brazil in 1884, where he worked first at the National Museum in Rio de Janeiro and later at the Pará Museum of Natural History and Ethnography. The latter institution today bears his name: Museu Paraense Emilio Goeldi. He returned to Switzerland in 1907 to teach at the University of Berne.

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Goeldi's Monkey, *Callimico goeldii*, and Goeldi's Antbird, *Myrmeciza goeldii*.

GRANT

James Augustus Grant (1827-1892).

Scottish explorer and soldier. Served in the army in India (1846-58), and later joined John Hanning Speke in the quest for the source of the Nile (1860-63). Grant made botanical collections during this expedition. His records of the journey were published under the title 'A Walk Across Africa' (1864).

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Grant's Gazelle, *Gazella granti*, and the common name of Grant's Zebra, *Equus quagga boehmi*.

GRAUER

Rudolf Grauer (1870-1927).

Austrian explorer and hunter. Between 1904 and 1911 he made several trips to eastern Africa, collecting zoological specimens. From his last trip, sponsored by the Natural History Museum in Vienna, he brought back the hide and skull of a gorilla which he had shot close to Lake Tanganyika. This proved to be a new subspecies, which was named after Grauer by Paul Matschie [q.v.].

Remembered in: the scientific name of the Eastern Lowland Gorilla, *Gorilla beringei graueri*. Also in the common and generic names of Grauer's Warbler, *Graueria vittata*; and the scientific name of the African Green Broadbill, *Pseudocalyptomena graueri*. Two African cichlids owe their scientific names to Grauer: *Bathybates graueri* of Lake Tanganyika, and *Haplochromis graueri* of Lake Kivu.

GREVY

François Jules Grevy (1807-1891).

President of France from 1879 to 1887 - when he was forced to resign because of a scandal over his son-in-law's traffic in decorations of honour. In 1882, the emperor of Abyssinia presented the French President with a zebra, which was deposited in the Menagerie du Jardin des Plantes. It was recognised as a new species, and named after the President by Emile Oustalet.

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Grevy's Zebra, *Equus grevyi*.

HARDWICKE

(Major-General) Thomas Hardwicke (1756-1835).

An amateur naturalist in the Indian army. Hardwicke made the first scientific descriptions of several species from the Indian subcontinent, including the Blood Pheasant and the Cheer

Pheasant. Rather than attempting to preserve the specimens he collected, Hardwicke generally had drawings made of them. Some of these drawings were later used in Gray's *Illustrations of Indian Zoology* (1830-34).

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Hardwicke's Spiny-tailed Lizard, *Uromastyx hardwickii*, and Hardwicke's Pipefish, *Solegnathus hardwickii*. Scientific names of the Orange-bellied Leafbird, *Chloropsis hardwickii*, and the Spine-bellied Sea Snake, *Lapemis hardwickii*.

HARRIS

Edward Harris (1799-1863).

A New Jersey farmer and amateur ornithologist. Harris was a friend and sponsor of John James Audubon, sometimes accompanying Audubon on his expeditions. Harris's other claim to fame (at least among horse-lovers) is that he was the first person to import Percheron horses to the USA.

Remembered in: the common name of the Harris Hawk, *Parabuteo unicinctus* (Audubon gave it the scientific name of *Falco harrisi*, but the species had already been described by Temminck [q.v.] as *F. unicinctus*). Also in the common and scientific names of Harris's Antelope Squirrel, *Ammospermophilus harrisi*.

NB. The Tasmanian Devil, *Sarcophilus harrisi*, is named after George P. Harris, the Deputy Surveyor of Van Diemen's Land, who published a description of this marsupial in 1808.

HARTLAUB

Karl Johann Gustav Hartlaub (1814-1900).

German ornithologist, based in Bremen. Collected in Africa in 1857. Author of several works on birds, including *System der Ornithologie Westafrika's* (1857).

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Hartlaub's Duck, *Pteronetta hartlaubii*, Hartlaub's Francolin, *Francolinus hartlaubi*, Hartlaub's Gull, *Larus hartlaubii*, Hartlaub's Bustard, *Lissotis hartlaubii*, and Hartlaub's Turaco, *Tauraco hartlaubi*. Also in the scientific name of the Dwarf Black Hornbill, *Tockus hartlaubi*.

HOSE

Charles Hose (1863-1929).

English naturalist. As a young man he entered the service of the Rajah of Sarawak, taking up various administrative positions in that country until 1907. During that time he made large collections of the local fauna and flora. Author of *A Descriptive Account of the Mammals of Borneo* (1893). Several animals found in Borneo are named after him.

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Hose's Leaf Monkey, *Presbytis hosei*, and Hose's Palm Civet, *Diplogale hosei*. Scientific names of the Black Oriole, *Oriolus hosii*, and Fraser's Dolphin, *Lagenodelphis hosei*. [This cetacean is unusual in having one person honoured in its common name, and a different person in its scientific name. Hose discovered a skeleton of this dolphin in Sarawak, but it was not until 1956 that F.C. Fraser of the British Museum (Natural History) identified these remains as belonging to a new genus.]

HUME

Allan Octavian Hume (1829-1912).

During a career in the Indian Civil Service, Hume built up the world's largest collection of Asiatic bird specimens. It is said that, whilst Hume was spending the winter away from his Indian home, his servants sold all his ornithological manuscripts and correspondence – the accumulated labour of twenty-five years – in the bazaar, as waste paper! No wonder then that Hume turned to the more relaxing pastime of politics. In 1881 he named a newly-discovered species of pheasant in honour of his wife, Mary.

Remembered in: the common name of Hume's Wheatear *Oenanthe alboniger*. A species of Wren-babbler, *Sphenocichla humei*, is also named after him, but Hume is best known in connection with Mrs Hume's (Bar-tailed) Pheasant, *Syrmaticus humiae*.

HUNTER

Henry Charles Hunter (1861-1934).

A hunter by nature as well as name; Henry Hunter was a big-game hunter and amateur naturalist. In 1888, he discovered the hartebeest that would later be named after him by Philip Sclater [q.v.].

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Hunter's Hartebeest (or Hirola), *Damaliscus hunteri*, and Hunter's Sunbird, *Nectarinia hunteri*.

JACKSON

Sir Frederick John Jackson (1860-1929).

English diplomat in British East Africa, holding various positions culminating in that of Governor of Uganda, 1911-17. A keen naturalist and collector; author of '*The Birds of Kenya Colony and the Uganda Protectorate*' [published posthumously in 1938, completed and edited by W. Sclater].

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Jackson's Hartebeest, *Alcelaphus buselaphus jacksoni*, Jackson's Hornbill, *Tockus (deckeni) jacksoni*, Jackson's Francolin, *Francolinus jacksoni*, and Jackson's Chameleon, *Chamaeleo jacksonii*.

[Sir Frederick's wife, Lady Aline Jackson, is also immortalised zoologically – in the scientific name of the Blue-headed Sunbird, *Nectarinia alinae*].

JAMES

Harry Berkeley James (1846-1892).

British businessman involved in the nitrate industry in Chile. In his spare time he amassed bird specimens; both collecting them personally and buying from other collectors. Returning to England, he died at the age of 46. His collection of eggs and bird skins went to the British Museum (Natural History).

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of James's Flamingo, *Phoenicoparrus jamesi*.

JAYAKAR

Atmaram Sadashiv Jayakar (1844-1911).

Indian surgeon, sent to Muscat by the Indian Medical Service. During his stay of three decades in the Oman area, he studied the local culture and wildlife. Many natural history specimens were sent by Jayakar to the British Museum.

Remembered in: the scientific names of the Arabian Tahr, *Hemitragus jayakari*, Arabian Sand Boa, *Eryx jayakari*, and a species of seahorse, *Hippocampus jayakari*. Subspecific name of the Arabian Rock Hyrax, *Procavia capensis jayakari*.

JERDON

Thomas Claverhill Jerdon (1811-1872).

A student of medicine at Edinburgh University, later taking a post as assistant-surgeon with the East India Company. Whilst in India, Jerdon began a study of the local fauna. He was not merely a collector of specimens but also a student of animal behaviour. Author of '*The Birds of India*' (1862-64) and '*The Mammals of India*' (1867).

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Jerdon's Palm Civet, *Paradoxurus jerdoni*, and Jerdon's Bushchat, *Saxicola jerdoni*. Scientific name of the Grey-breasted Laughing-thrush *Garrulax jerdoni*, and the common name of Jerdon's Courser, *Rhinoptilus bitorquatus*. [This bird was rediscovered in 1986 after having been considered extinct since the early years of the 20th Century]

KIRK

Sir John Kirk (1832-1922).

Scottish diplomat, explorer and naturalist. Acted as chief assistant to David Livingstone during the second Zambesi Expedition (1858-63). Became Vice-consul, then Consul General, of Zanzibar from 1866 to 1886.

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Kirk's Dik-dik, *Madoqua kirkii*, and Kirk's Red Colobus, *Ptilocolobus kirkii*.

KLOSS

Cecil Boden Kloss (1877-1949).

Director of the Raffles Museum in Singapore from 1923 to 1932, having earlier worked at the museum of Kuala Lumpur. In his time, perhaps the leading expert on the systematics of Southeast Asian birds and mammals.

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Kloss's Gibbon, *Hylobates klossii*, and Kloss's Sea Snake, *Hydrophis klossi*.

KREFFT

Johann Ludwig Gerard Krefft (1830-1881).

German by birth, Krefft emigrated to Australia in 1852 and went on to become one of that country's first and greatest zoologists and palaeontologists. An early supporter of Darwin's theories on evolution. Curator of the Australian Museum, Sydney, from 1861 to 1874.

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Krefft's River Turtle, *Emydura krefftii*; and in the scientific names of the (now highly endangered) Northern Hairy-nosed Wombat, *Lasiorhinus krefftii*, and the Dwarf Crowned Snake, *Cacophis krefftii*.

KUHL

Heinrich Kuhl (1797-1821).

German-born naturalist who became assistant to Coenraad Jacob Temminck [q.v.] at the Leiden Museum. In 1820 he travelled to Java to study the local fauna and flora, but died less than a year later of a liver infection.

Remembered in: the scientific names of the Bawean Deer, *Axis kuhlii*, and the Flying Gecko, *Ptychozoon kuhli*. A genus of fish - *Kuhlia* (the flagtails) - is named after him; as is the Coolie Loach *Pangio kuhlii* [the common name derives from the sound-alike nature of 'kuhlii' and 'coolie'].

LATHAM

John Latham (1740-1837).

English medical practitioner and ornithologist. One of the founders of the Linnaean Society. His most famous work is the eleven-volume '*A General History of Birds*' (1821-28). Latham's ornithological career coincided with the influx of many new species reaching Britain from Australasia. His descriptions of these birds have earned him the title of the 'Grandfather of Australian Ornithology'.

Remembered in: the scientific names of the Australian Brush-turkey, *Alectura lathamii*, the Glossy Black Cockatoo, *Calyptorhynchus lathamii*, and the Crested Bunting, *Melophus lathamii*. Also in the generic name of the Swift Parrot, *Lathamus discolor*.

MATSCHIE

Paul Matschie (1861-1926).

German zoologist who worked at the Humboldt University Zoological Museum in Berlin, from 1887 until his death. Today he is often viewed in rather a poor light due to the strange theories he espoused about the creation of species, and his tendency to name every specimen that came his way as a new taxon.

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Matschie's Tree Kangaroo, *Dendrolagus matschiei*. Scientific name of the Spectacled (or Dusky) Galago, *Galago matschiei*. A subspecies of Black-&-white Colobus, *Colobus guereza matschiei*, is also named after him.

MERRIAM

Clinton Hart Merriam (1855-1942).

A medical doctor who, in 1883, switched from medicine to full-time scientific work. Became the first president of the American Society of Mammalogists and a founding member of the American Ornithologists' Union. Merriam was also interested in Native American culture, and spent his final years studying Californian tribes.

Merriam achieved everlasting taxonomic notoriety for his 'splitting' of American brown bears. In his '*Review of the Grizzly and Big Brown Bears of North America*' (1918), he recognised eighty-six different species!

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Merriam's Chipmunk, *Tamias merriami*, and Merriam's Kangaroo Rat, *Dipodomys merriami*. Scientific name of the Canyon Lizard, *Sceloporus merriami*.

(Another animal named after Merriam is an extinct subspecies of Wapiti which occurred in the south-western USA: *Cervus canadensis merriami*)

MERTENS

Robert Mertens (1894-1975).

Herpetologist: born in St Petersburg, studied in Leipzig University, and worked at the Senckenberg Museum, Frankfurt (where he eventually became Director). Described many new species of reptiles and amphibians. It is said he enjoyed being able to identify, by sight, unusual species he saw in zoos. He died in a most appropriate fashion – killed by the bite of his pet *Thelotornis* (Twig Snake).

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Mertens' Water Monitor, *Varanus mertensi*, and Mertens' Day Gecko, *Phelsuma robertmertensi*.

MILNE-EDWARDS

Alphonse Milne-Edwards (1835-1900).

French zoologist and palaeontologist; director of the Natural History Museum in Paris. His father, Henri Milne-Edwards, was also a famous naturalist. Particularly noted for his many ornithological works, and for research on the mammals of Madagascar.

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Milne-Edwards's Sifaka, *Propithecus diadema edwardsi*, Edwards's Pheasant, *Lophura edwardsi*, and Edwards's Fig Parrot, *Psittaculirostris edwardsii*. Scientific name of the Red-tailed Laughing-thrush, *Garrulax milnei*.

MORELET

Pierre Arthur Morelet (1809-1892).

French naturalist and collector in Guatemala who, in 1850, discovered the crocodile species that would come to bear his name. Morelet's own chief interest and expertise appears to have been in molluscs.

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Morelet's Crocodile, *Crocodylus moreletii*.

NATTERER

Johann Natterer (1787-1843).

Austrian zoologist. A taxidermist at the Imperial Collection of Natural History, Natterer was invited to join a scientific expedition to Brazil. This proved to be a lengthy sojourn, lasting from 1817 to 1835. Natterer amassed a huge zoological, botanical and ethnological collection (eg. over 12,000 bird specimens) which enriched the museums of Vienna.

Remembered in: the scientific names of several South American fish, including the Red-bellied Piranha, *Pygocentrus nattereri*, Spotted Tetra, *Copella nattereri*, and Blue Corydoras (catfish), *Corydoras nattereri*. Neotropical birds named after him include the Tawny-tufted Toucanet, *Selenidera nattereri*, Blue Cotinga, *Cotinga nattererii*, and a subspecies of Yellow-crowned Amazon Parrot, *Amazona ochrocephala nattereri*.

OWSTON

Alan Owston (1853-1915).

British merchant and collector of natural history specimens, based in Japan. He also hired other collectors to work for him in various regions of the Far East, and in 1911 one such person discovered, in northern Vietnam, the palm civet that would be named after Owston. **Remembered in:** the common and scientific names of Owston's Palm Civet, *Chrotogale owstoni*. Scientific name of the Guam Rail, *Gallirallus owstoni*, and of several species of fish including the Goblin Shark, *Mitsukurina owstoni*.

PALLAS

Peter Simon Pallas (1741-1811).

German naturalist and explorer. In 1767 he was invited by Catherine the Great to the Academy of Sciences, St Petersburg. He explored and collected in many parts of the Russian Empire, including the Ural and Altai mountains. Returned to his native Berlin shortly before his death.

Remembered in: the common names of several species he discovered, including Pallas's Cat, *Felis (Otocolobus) manul*, Pallas's Fish Eagle, *Haliaeetus leucoryphus*, Pallas's Sandgrouse, *Syrrhaptes paradoxus*, and Pallas's Rosefinch, *Carpodacus roseus*.

PEL

Hendrik Severinus Pel (1818-1876).

Dutch colonial official on the Gold Coast (now Ghana), from 1840-1850. He took a keen interest in the fauna of the region, and collected specimens for the Leiden Museum.

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Pel's Fishing Owl, *Scotopelia peli*, and Pel's Anomalure*, *Anomalurus peli*. Scientific name of the Bristle-nosed Barbet, *Gymnobucco peli*, and of two fish species found off the West African coast – the Pebbletooth Moray, *Echidna peli*, and Boe Drum, *Pteroscion peli*.

[* Anomalures, also known as Scaly-tails, are gliding rodents superficially resembling Flying Squirrels.]

PHAYRE

Sir Arthur Purves Phayre (1812-1885).

British army officer in India. Became Commissioner of British Burma, 1862-67, and later the Governor of Mauritius. Author of '*History of Burma*' (1883). Several species found in Burma are named after him.

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Phayre's Langur, *Trachypithecus phayrei*, Phayre's Squirrel, *Callosciurus phayrei*, and Phayre's (or Eared) Pitta, *Pitta phayrei*. Subspecific scientific name of the Burmese Black Tortoise, *Manouria emys phayrei*.

REEVES

John Reeves (1774-1856).

Employed by the East India Company as an 'Inspector of Tea'. Lived in China from 1812 to 1831, and sent specimens of Chinese fauna and flora back to Britain. Reeves is credited with introducing many ornamental Oriental plants to Western gardens.

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Reeves's Muntjac, *Muntiacus reevesi*, Reeves's Pheasant, *Syrmaticus reevesi*, and Reeves's Terrapin, *Chinemys reevesii*.

REINWARDT

Caspar Georg Carl Reinwardt (1773-1854).

Born in Prussia, Reinwardt studied botany and chemistry in Amsterdam. In 1801 he was appointed professor of chemistry and natural history at the University of Harderwijk. King Louis Napoleon Bonaparte (king of the Netherlands 1806-1810) appointed Reinwardt as director of his menagerie. Later he spent several years in Java, and sent many ethnographic and natural history specimens to the museums of Leiden.

Remembered in: the scientific names of the Blue-tailed Trogon, *Apalharpactes reinwardtii*, the Gold-collared Toucanet, *Selenidera reinwardtii*, and a species of 'flying' (gliding) frog, *Rhacophorus reinwardtii*. A genus of pigeons, *Reinwardtoena*, is also named after him.

RÜPPELL

Wilhelm Peter Eduard Simon Rüppell (1794-1884).

Frankfurt-born zoologist and explorer. He studied natural history in Italy before making his first major expedition to Sudan (1821-27). Later visited Abyssinia (1830-34), and became the first scientist to describe the Ethiopian Wolf (*Canis simensis*) and the Gelada.

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Rüppell's Sand Fox, *Vulpes rueppelli*, Rüppell's Griffon Vulture, *Gyps rueppellii*, and Rüppell's Warbler, *Sylvia rueppelli*.

SALVADORI

Adlard Tommaso Salvadori (1835-1923).

Vice-Director of the Royal Museum of Turin. He built up the museum's bird collection to become the biggest in Italy. Salvadori was particularly interested in the birds of the Indonesia/New Guinea region. Author of '*Catalogue of the Birds of Borneo*' (1874).

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Salvadori's (or Crocodile) Monitor, *Varanus salvadorii*, and Salvadori's Fig Parrot, *Psittaculirostris salvadorii*. Also in the common names of Salvadori's Pheasant, *Lophura inornata*, and Salvadori's Duck, *Anas waigiensis* [sometimes placed in the monotypic genus *Salvadorina*].

SCHLEGEL

Hermann Schlegel (1804-1884).

Born in Saxony, Schlegel joined the staff of the Leiden Museum, The Netherlands, in 1825. In 1860 he became the museum's director, and held this post until his death. Particularly noted for his ornithological works, such as '*De Vogels van Nederland*' (1854-58).

Remembered in: the scientific names of the Royal Penguin, *Eudyptes schlegeli*, False Gharial, *Tomistoma schlegelii*, Eyelash Viper, *Bothriechis schlegelii*, Yellow Guitarfish, *Rhinobatos schlegelii*, and Yellow-band Parrotfish, *Scarus schlegeli*.

SCLATER

Philip Lutley Sclater (1829-1913).

Eminent English zoologist, particularly noted for his works on Neotropical birds. Also published works on mammals; eg. '*The Book of Antelopes*' (1894-1900), co-authored with Michael Oldfield Thomas. Sclater was appointed secretary of the Zoological Society of London in 1859, and held this position until 1903.

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Sclater's Guenon, *Cercopithecus sclateri*, Sclater's Monal Pheasant, *Lophophorus sclateri*, and Sclater's Parrotlet, *Forpus sclateri*. Scientific name of the Erect-crested Penguin, *Eudyptes sclateri*.

SELOUS

Frederick Courteney Selous (1851-1917).

Naturalist, explorer and big game hunter. His father was Chairman of the London Stock Exchange, but Frederick Selous chose adventure above a safe career. He went to South Africa at the age of nineteen, and from then until 1890 Selous hunted and explored in the little-known regions between the Congo basin and the Limpopo River. He enjoyed observing wildlife as well as hunting it, and also collected natural history specimens for museums.

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Selous's Mongoose, *Paracynictis selousi*. Also bearing his name is a subspecies of Plains Zebra, *Equus quagga selousi*, and a subspecies of Sitatunga, *Tragelaphus spekei selousi*.

SOEMMERRING

Samuel Thomas von Soemmerring (1755-1830).

German physician, anatomist and general scientist. Although his contribution to natural history was fairly minor, his pre-eminence in other fields led naturalists to honour him when naming animal species.

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Soemmerring's Gazelle, *Gazella soemmerringi*. Scientific name of the Copper Pheasant, *Syrmaticus soemmerringii*.

SPIX

Johann Baptist von Spix (1781-1826).

Bavarian naturalist. In 1811 he was appointed Curator of Zoology at the Bayerische Akademie der Wissenschaften [Academy of Science] in Munich. From 1817 to 1820 he took part in a scientific exploration of Brazil, but died six years after his return – probably the result of illnesses contracted during his travels.

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Spix's Macaw, *Cyanopsitta spixii*, and the common name of Spix's Guan, *Penelope jacquacu*. Scientific name of the Spiny-necked Turtle, *Acanthochelys spixii*.

STEJNEGER

Leonhard Stejneger (1851-1943).

Norwegian naturalist, who emigrated to the USA. From 1881 he worked at the Smithsonian Institution; first as an ornithologist, but later as Curator of the Department of Reptiles and Batrachians. Co-author, with Thomas Barbour [q.v.], of 'A Checklist of North American Amphibians and Reptiles' (1917). Also wrote a biography of Georg Wilhelm Steller [q.v.].

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Stejneger's Beaked Whale, *Mesoplodon stejnegeri*. Scientific names of the Mona Island Iguana, *Cyclura (cornuta) stejnegeri*, the Long-tailed Rattlesnake, *Crotalus stejnegeri*, and the Chinese Bamboo Viper, *Trimeresurus stejnegeri*.

STELLER

Georg Wilhelm Steller (1709-1746).

German naturalist, who went to Russia to work in the Academy of Sciences, St Petersburg. He joined Vitus Bering's expedition to Alaska and the North Pacific. En route back to Kamchatka in 1741, Bering's ship was wrecked on a small island where the crew was forced to over-winter. Steller lived through the ordeal, but his health was broken. He died on the way back to St Petersburg at the age of 37. Despite having several animals named after him, Steller had been largely forgotten by history until Leonhard Stejneger [q.v.] discovered his long-ignored papers in the St Petersburg archives, and wrote a biography: 'Georg Wilhelm Steller, the Pioneer of Alaskan Natural History' (1936).

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Steller's Eider, *Polysticta stelleri*, and Steller's Jay, *Cyanocitta stelleri*. Also in the common names of Steller's Sea Eagle, *Haliaeetus pelagicus*, Steller's Sea Lion, *Eumetopias jubatus*, and the extinct Steller's Seacow, *Hydrodamalis gigas*.

SWAINSON

William Swainson (1789-1855).

English artist and naturalist. In 1807 Swainson left England for a military career in Malta and Sicily; but retired in 1815 on half-pay to pursue his real interest – natural history. Went to Brazil in 1816 to collect specimens. A talented artist – he has been compared favourably with Audubon – Swainson illustrated many zoological works.

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Swainson's Hawk, *Buteo swainsoni*, Swainson's Francolin, *Francolinus swainsonii*, and Swainson's Toucan, *Ramphastos ambiguous swainsonii*. Scientific name of the Barraband (or Superb) Parakeet, *Polytelis swainsonii*.

TELFAIR

Charles Telfair (1777-1833).

Owner of a sugar plantation on Mauritius, and private secretary to the island's Governor, Sir Robert Farquhar. An amateur naturalist, Telfair instigated the Mauritius Natural History Society, and also established a botanical garden on the island.

Remembered in: the scientific names of the Lesser Hedgehog Tenrec, *Echinops telfairi*, and the Round Island Skink, *Leiopisma telfairii*.

TEMMINCK

Coenraad Jacob Temminck (1778-1858).

Dutch zoologist, and first director of the Natural History Museum in Leiden. His father, Jacob Temminck, was treasurer of the Dutch East India Company and amassed a large private collection of bird specimens. Coenraad Temminck extended this to include other taxa.

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Temminck's Golden Cat, *Catopuma temminckii*, Temminck's (or Cape) Pangolin, *Manis temmincki*, Temminck's Tragopan, *Tragopan temminckii*, Temminck's Stint, *Calidris temminckii*, and Temminck's Courser, *Cursorius temminckii*. Scientific names of the Purple-winged Roller, *Coracias temminckii*, Alligator Snapping Turtle, *Macrochelys temminckii*, and various fish species including the Kissing Gourami, *Helostoma temminckii*, and Threadfin Wrasse, *Cirrhilabrus temminckii*.

THOMSON

Joseph Thomson (1858-1895).

Scottish explorer. He joined the Royal Geographical Society expedition to Lake Nyasa in 1878, and later explored parts of Kenya previously barred to outsiders by the Masai. Died at the age of 37 from pneumonia, his constitution having been weakened by a series of tropical diseases.

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Thomson's Gazelle, *Gazella thomsonii*.

TINKER

Spencer Tinker (1909-1999).

Born in North Dakota, Tinker went to the University of Hawaii in 1932 as a teaching fellow in the zoology department. In 1940 he became director of the Waikiki Aquarium, and held this position for over thirty years. In 1951, a striking new species of butterflyfish was discovered in Hawaiian waters and named in Tinker's honour.

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Tinker's Butterflyfish, *Chaetodon tinkeri*.

VERREAUX

Jules Pierre Verreaux (1807-1873).

French ornithologist, taxidermist and plant collector, who amassed vast collections of specimens on various expeditions. Along with other members of his family, he worked at 'Maison Verreaux' in Paris – a natural history business, supplying specimens to private and public collections throughout Europe and America. At the age of twelve he accompanied his uncle to South Africa on a collecting trip. In later years he travelled to the Far East and Australia.

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Verreaux's Sifaka, *Propithecus verreauxi*, and Verreaux's Eagle, *Aquila verreauxii*. Scientific names of the White-tipped Dove, *Leptotila verreauxi*, and the Whistling Tree Frog, *Litoria verreauxii*.

VIEILLOT

Louis Jean Pierre Vieillot (1748-1831).

French ornithologist; an early advocate of studying birds in life as well as in museum cabinets. He emigrated to the French colony of Santo Domingo in the West Indies, until a rebellion there forced him to take refuge in the USA. Returning to France in 1798, Vieillot began producing a series of ornithological works, describing many new species. Despite his achievements, he died in poverty and relative obscurity.

Remembered in: the common and scientific names of Vieillot's Barbet, *Lybius vieilloti*. Also in the common names of Vieillot's Black Weaver, *Ploceus nigerrimus*, and Vieillot's

Fireback Pheasant, *Lophura ignita rufa* [a subspecies of the Crested Fireback]. Scientific name of the Southern Figbird, *Sphecotheres vieilloti*.

WIED

(Prince) Maximilian Alexander zu Wied (1782-1867).

German naturalist, ethnologist and explorer. He made two major scientific expeditions; firstly to Brazil (1815-17), and later to North America (1832-34). Wied was responsible for describing and naming several North American reptiles and amphibians, including the [now ubiquitous] Red-eared Terrapin.

Remembered in: the scientific names of the Scaly-headed (or Maximilian's) Parrot, *Pionus maximiliani*, and the Margay, *Leopardus wiedii*.