

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

NOTES ON THE NOMENCLATURE OF THE GENUS
CRYPTURUS ILLIGER.

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The generic name *Crypturus* as originally proposed by Illiger (Prodromus System. Mamm. et Avium, 1811, after April, p. 244) included two species—*Tetrao cinereus* Gmelin and *Tetrao major* Gmelin. It has since universally been employed as the generic designation for the group of which *Tetrao cinereus* Gmelin is a member, and this species has been consistently cited as its type. However, as may be seen by reference to the introduction of Illiger's work (Prodromus System. Mamm. et Avium, 1811, after April, pp. XVI-XVII) the name *Crypturus*, along with a number of others, chiefly mammal names, must be regarded as merely substitutes for older names that Illiger for one reason or another intended to reject. His reasons for rejecting *Sula* and *Tinamus* may be seen from the quotation given below, as these two generic names are included in a list of 37 names, all the rest of which relate to mammals, by which the paragraphs of this quotation are immediately followed:

“Nomina itaque generica, ab auctoribus transmissa, sancte quidem servavi, nisi aperte praecepta Linnaeana offendeant; tunc enim cum aliis illa mutavi, in quibus eligendis consilium, benevolenter impertitum, clarissimorum Virorum, in graecis litteris versatissimorum, Lichtensteinii patris et Buttmanni, me duxit. Nomina generica, quae rejeci, secundum regulas codicis nostri, Philosophiae nempe botanicae Linnaeanae, quibus, contradicunt, digesta jam enumerabo.

§220. Nomina generica primitiva (uti barbara, quum lingua eorum ab eruditis non intelligatur) nemo sanus introducit.

et §229. N. g. quae ex graeca vel latina lingua radicem non habent, rejicienda sunt:"

Attention has already been called by Mr. G. M. Mathews (Birds of Australia, IV, pt. 3, June 23, 1915, p. 202) to the real status of the generic name *Dysporus* Illiger as merely a substitute name for *Sula*, and this name has now been displaced by *Moris* Forster. The name *Crypturus*, however, which has an exactly parallel status, being a substitute and therefore an absolute synonym of *Tinamus* Latham, must likewise be rejected, and another name be sought for the group to which it has commonly been applied. Two of the species of this group, *Tinamus tataupa* Temminck and *Crypturus parvirostris* Wagler, have been generically separated by Brabourne and Chubb (Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., ser. 8, XIV, October 1, 1914, p. 322) under the name *Crypturellus*, and because this name was found to be preoccupied, later as *Microcrypturus* (Chubb, Bull. Brit. Ornith. Club, XXXVIII, No. CCXXIX, December 29, 1917, p. 30). Since these two species are generically different from the others commonly referred to the genus *Crypturus*, and since apparently there are no available synonyms, a new name must be provided for *Crypturus* Auct. nec Illiger. We propose, therefore, to call the group **Cryptuornis**,¹ nom. nov., with *Tetrao cinereus* Gmelin as type.

On account of this change the species and subspecies of this genus will stand as follows:

- Cryptuornis cinereus* (Gmelin)
- Cryptuornis macconnelli* (Brabourne and Chubb)
- Cryptuornis berlepschi* (Rothschild)
- Cryptuornis castaneus* (Sclater)
- Cryptuornis obsoletus obsoletus* (Temminck)
- Cryptuornis obsoletus cerviniventris* (Sclater and Salvin)
- Cryptuornis obsoletus griseiventris* (Salvadori)
- Cryptuornis obsoletus purensis* (Chubb)
- Cryptuornis soui soui* (Hermann)
- Cryptuornis soui mustelinus* (Bangs)
- Cryptuornis soui albigularis* (Brabourne and Chubb)
- Cryptuornis soui hoffmannsi* (Brabourne and Chubb)
- Cryptuornis soui andrei* (Brabourne and Chubb)
- Cryptuornis soui harterti* (Brabourne and Chubb)
- Cryptuornis soui caquetae* (Chapman)

¹κρυπτός, occultus, οὐρά, cauda, ὄρνις, avis.

- Crypturornis soui caucae* (Chapman)
Crypturornis soui modestus (Cabanis)
Crypturornis soui panamensis (Carriker)
Crypturornis soui meserythrus (Sclater)
Crypturornis undulatus undulatus (Temminck)
Crypturornis undulatus scolopax (Bonaparte)
Crypturornis undulatus confusus (Brabourne and Chubb)
Crypturornis boucardi (Sclater)
Crypturornis kerriae (Chapman)
Crypturornis transfasciatus (Sclater and Salvin)
Crypturornis adpersus adpersus (Temminck)
Crypturornis adpersus vermiculatus (Temminck)
Crypturornis adpersus simplex (Salvadori)
Crypturornis adpersus yapura (Spix)
Crypturornis occidentalis (Salvadori)
Crypturornis mexicanus (Salvadori)
Crypturornis inornatus (Nelson)
Crypturornis atricapillus (Tschudi)
Crypturornis garleppi (Berlepsch)
Crypturornis rubripes (Taczanowski)
Crypturornis noctivagus (Wied)
Crypturornis columbianus (Salvadori)
Crypturornis tetrao tetrao (Boddaert)
Crypturornis tetrao bimaculatus (Gray)
Crypturornis tetrao salvini (Salvadori)
Crypturornis brevirostris (Pelzeln)
Crypturornis bartletti (Sclater and Salvin)
Crypturornis bartletti caroli (Brabourne and Chubb)
Crypturornis cinnamomeus cinnamomeus (Lesson)
Crypturornis cinnamomeus spencei (Brabourne and Chubb)
Crypturornis cinnamomeus goldmani (Nelson)
Crypturornis dissimilis (Salvadori)
Crypturornis erythropus (Pelzeln)
Crypturornis strigulosus (Temminck)
Crypturornis hellmayri (Brabourne and Chubb).

