

On Some Types of Birds (Aves) from the Solomon Islands Named by Edward Pierson Ramsay

IAN A. W. MCALLAN

Information Access & Advisory Services, Library, Macquarie University NSW 2109, Australia

ABSTRACT. In the years 1879–1882 the Curator of the Australian Museum, Edward P. Ramsay, named 15 bird taxa largely based upon specimens collected in the Solomon Islands by James F. Cockerell in 1878. Investigations based upon the original correspondence and examination of the specimens determined that the specimens used by Ramsay to describe these taxa were dispersed to at least six museums. The number of types collected by Cockerell is larger than previously thought, with only 40 of the 93 known extant type specimens being held by the Australian Museum. The dates of publication of these taxa, the journals of original publication and related nomenclatorial issues are discussed.

KEYWORDS. Aves, Solomon Islands, zoological nomenclature, Edward Ramsay, James Cockerell.

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In 1995, while looking for type specimens in the bird collections of Museum Victoria, I came across several specimens that are arguably types of taxa from the Solomon Islands. These taxa were described by Edward Pierson Ramsay, Curator of the Australian Museum from 1874 to 1894, and are represented amongst the type specimens held in the Australian Museum (Etheridge, 1917; Longmore, 1991). Further research has revealed that type specimens from these collections from the Solomon Islands were dispersed to at least six museums.

The specimens in Museum Victoria were purchased from James F. Cockerell in 1879. James F. Cockerell was, like his father John T. Cockerell, a natural history collector (Whittell, 1954). He collected specimens on Cape York Peninsula in 1867–1868, in Samoa and the Bismarck Islands in 1875–1876, the Solomon Islands in 1878, Western Australia in 1879, and Cape York and the Aru Islands in 1880. He finally settled near Mildura in Victoria where he collected for the South Australian Museum, both in the local area and in South Australia itself.

The specimens referred to in this paper are from Cockerell's collections made when aboard the schooner *Ariel* under the command of Captain Neil Brodie in late 1878. Cockerell is known to have collected at three localities, Cape Pitt, the south-eastern point of Nggatokae in the New Georgia group; Lango [now = Lungga] on Guadalcanal; and the island of Savo (Whittell, 1954; Ramsay, 1879b). It is not known exactly when the specimens were collected, though many have details on tags that give general collection dates of October or November 1878. The *Ariel* was still present in Sydney in late May 1878 when it was reported to be tied up to Grafton Wharf (Anon., 1878). According to a newspaper account, the *Ariel* left the Solomon Islands on 21 December 1878 and arrived in Sydney on 6 January 1879 (Anon., 1879). Nothing is really known of what business was actually being conducted by the *Ariel*. The *Ariel* left Sydney again on 26 March 1880 on her last voyage and was sunk in deep water after hitting a coral reef—apparently off the coast of Guadalcanal (Anon., 1880). Brodie and the crew “together with a large number of natives” were able to make shore. Two

of the crew were said to have been poisoned by “natives” and yet according to the newspaper account, Brodie was apparently on good terms with them.

Methods

Relevant specimens of the taxa described by Ramsay were examined in the following Australian museums over several years: Australian Museum, Sydney (AM); Macleay Museum (University of Sydney), Sydney (MM); and Museum Victoria, Melbourne (NMV). The following museums in Italy were visited during August–September 1994: Museo Civico di Storia Naturale, Milano (MSNM); Museo Civico di Storia natural “G. Doria”, Genova (MSNG) and the Museo di Zoologia dell’Università di Torino (MZUT, specimens now housed in the Museo Regionale di Scienze Naturale, MRSN).

Details of specimens in the Queensland Museum, Brisbane (QM) and the Bird Section of The Natural History Museum Tring, United Kingdom (BMNH) were inferred from Ingram (1987), Longmore (1991) and Warren & Harrison (1971), and through correspondence with staff at these museums.

Where possible, the specimens were examined to see if the plumages and morphology conformed to the descriptions given by Ramsay. Specimen labels registers and relevant correspondence held at these institutions were examined. The extensive files of Ramsay’s correspondence and diaries held in the Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW, Sydney, were also consulted.

Taxonomic nomenclature. The nomenclature generally follows Dickinson & Remsen (2013) and Dickinson & Christidis (2014). Issues of nomenclature arising from these specimens and Ramsay’s descriptions and publications are discussed below.

Results

Ramsay’s acquisition of the specimens

Cockerell evidently met Ramsay soon after the arrival of the *Ariel* in Sydney in early 1879, though the specimens were not acquired by Ramsay on their first meeting. On 8 January Cockerell wrote to Ramsay,

“I would wish if it were convenient to you for you to go on board the *Ariel* tomorrow morning and inspect the plants. With regard to the birds etc, I give you full power to act for me but I wish to hold my own portion of these in preference to the coin as I have already told you” (letter in Ramsay papers, Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW, ML.MSS.1589/3).

Thus the entire collection was examined by Ramsay within a few days of Cockerell’s arrival. As with most biologists of the latter half of the nineteenth century, Ramsay rarely designated type specimens in his descriptions. Consequently all the specimens in Cockerell’s collection that were taxa named by Ramsay in his initial paper on the collection are available as types.

Ramsay may have helped Cockerell with the sale of the collection. Cockerell’s collection went to Museum Victoria after having first passed through Ramsay’s hands, as confirmed by letters in the archives of the Museum Victoria ornithology department (examined in 1995). On 14 January 1879, Ramsay sent a telegraph to Professor Frederick McCoy, the first curator of Museum Victoria:

“Cockerell offers splendid collection at five shilling each from Solomon Islands [:] Shall I send you a set pair of each species cheap [?]”

Two days later, on 16 January, Ramsay again wrote to McCoy:

“I have told Cockerell that I would select a set of his birds &c for you but he says he is going down to Melbourne himself and will show you all his collections [.] he has some good things among them.

“I do not find as many new things among Cockerell’s birds as I expected—but still there are some, these I have described and named and send you a list of them in case we should both be naming the same species—which would be very undesirable and only burden science with useless synonyms.

“The following are the birds which I have described as New—in our Linn. Soc. Proceed.

<i>Myzomela personata</i>	sp. nov.
<i>Monarcha castanea</i>	“ ”
<i>Rhipidura cockerelli</i>	“ ”
“ <i>erebi</i> ”	“ ”
<i>Monarcha nigrogularis</i>	“ ”
<i>Ptilopus alexandrae</i>	“ ”
<i>Centropus alboviolacea</i>	“ ”
<i>Graucalus assimilis</i>	“ ”
<i>Myiagra albicans</i>	“ ” ...

Publication and nomenclatural issues

Ramsay described several species at a meeting of the Linnean Society of New South Wales on 29 January 1879 (Ramsay, 1879b). Although Ramsay’s letter of 16 January 1879 suggests that he had already decided the names, those published in the *Proceedings of the Linnean Society of New South Wales* (hereafter *Proceedings*) were almost entirely different (Ramsay, 1879b). The only name described at the meeting that is directly analogous is *Sauloprocta cockerelli*, for *Rhipidura cockerelli*.

A further problem arises with Ramsay’s description of Cockerell’s collections in the earlier publication of a summary paper in *Nature* (Ramsay, 1879a). The paper in the *Proceedings* was published on 16 June 1879 (see Fletcher, 1896 for publication dates of the *Proceedings*) while the paper in *Nature* dates from 5 June 1879. Again there were differences between the two sets of names. Longmore (1991) outlined these differences and once again, apart from the description of *Sauloprocta cockerellii* (vs. *Rhipidura cockerelli*), none of the names is similar to those used in Ramsay’s letter to McCoy (Table 1).

Warren & Harrison (1971) suggested that the names in *Nature* were *nomina nuda*, i.e. not valid descriptions. However, the descriptions, although rudimentary, are valid, and were recognized as such by, amongst others, Mathews (1930), Salomonsen (1967), Schodde (1977), Watson *et al.* (1986) and Longmore (1991). Furthermore, several of the names found only in the *Nature* paper are used in standard works; for example *Monarcha barbatus* and *Myzomela melanocephala* were both used in Mayr (1945a), Sibley & Monroe (1990), Dickinson (2003), Dutton (2011) and Dickinson & Christidis (2014), the latter two publications listing *M. barbatus* as *Symposiarchus barbatus*.

Table 1. Names used by Ramsay in *Nature* in 1879 (Ramsay, 1879a) versus those he used in the *Proceedings* (Ramsay, 1879b)

Name used in <i>Nature</i> (published 5 June 1879)	Name in <i>Proceedings</i> (16 June 1879)
<i>Myiagra ferocyanea</i>	<i>Myiagra ferro-cyanea</i>
<i>Monarcha barbata</i>	<i>Monarcha brodiei</i>
<i>Sauloprocta cockerellii</i>	<i>Sauloprocta cockerelli</i>
<i>Rhissidura rufofronta</i>	<i>Rhipidura rubrofrontata</i>
<i>Cinnyris melanocephalus</i>	<i>Cinnyris (?) dubia</i>

Four of the names listed in Ramsay's letter to McCoy, *Ptilopus alexandrae*, *Centropus alboviolacea*, *Rhipidura erebi* and *Graucalus assimilis*, have no corresponding new name in Ramsay's paper in *Nature* and are *nomina nuda*. However, *Graucalus assimilis* may refer to *Graucalus pusillus* described in Ramsay's first 1879 paper in the *Proceedings*, and *Ptilopus alexandrae* may refer to *Ptilopus lewisii*, which Ramsay published later using material from Cockerell's collection (Ramsay, 1882a,c).

Ramsay (1881b) corrected the spelling of *Rhissidura rufofronta* to *Rhipidura rubrofrontata*, specifically referring to the *Nature* article. This was probably prompted by criticism of Ramsay's spelling errors in a paper in *The Ibis* by Salvadori (1880) and not anticipated by Ramsay as suggested by Longmore (1991). In 1882, in a summary paper on the birds of the Solomons, Ramsay used the spelling *Myiagra ferocyanea* and *Piezorhynchus* [instead of *Monarcha*] *brodiei* as used in the *Proceedings*, but then used *Sauloprocta cockerellii* and *Cinnyris melanocephalus* as used in *Nature* (Ramsay, 1882f). Evidently Ramsay's application of these names was not set in stone.

Ramsay wrote several other papers on birds from the Solomon Islands at least partly based on Cockerell's collections of 1878. In 1882, Ramsay noted that eight taxa were described in the first 1879 *Proceedings* paper (Ramsay, 1882f). He then listed another six taxa represented in Cockerell's collection that were described in the intervening years: "*Graucalus elegans*, *Baza gurneyi*, *Astur pulchellus*, *Ptilopus lewisii*, *Macropygia rufrocastanea*" and "*Halcyon tristrami*".

Several of Cockerell's specimens of these taxa are types, though Ramsay's use of *Halcyon tristrami* was an error. *Halcyon* [now = *Todiramphus*] *chloris tristrami* is now considered to be restricted to New Britain. It was described by Edgar Layard from a single specimen with the incorrect locality of San Cristobal [now = Makira] (Layard, 1880; Rothschild & Hartert, 1905; Peters, 1945). Ramsay's separate error is explained through a specimen in the Australian Museum (O.18644) collected at Cape Pitt and labelled on the reverse, "var. of *H. chloris*?". This specimen is evidently the one collected by Cockerell in 1878. According to Ramsay (1879b), Cockerell collected only one specimen of "*Halcyon chloris* var.", and this came from Cape Pitt. The subspecies of *T. chloris* from the Solomons south to Guadalcanal is now usually given as *T. c. alberti* (Rothschild & Hartert, 1905), and is slightly smaller in size and darker above than *T. c. tristrami* from New Britain, whereas *T. c. solomonis* from San Cristobal has paler underparts than *T. c. alberti* and has a broad rufous superciliary stripe (Rothschild & Hartert, 1905; Mayr, 1936; Peters, 1945; Fry *et al.*, 1992; Dutson, 2011). Thus the Cape Pitt specimen is now *T. c. alberti* and is closer in appearance to *T. c. tristrami* than *T. c. solomonis*.

Two of the additional taxa mentioned by Ramsay in 1882 as being represented in Cockerell's collection were again described in *Nature* rather than the *Proceedings*. A further paper of Ramsay's in *Nature* was also published in 1881 (Ramsay, 1881a). Even though these three later papers in *Nature* were largely based on other collections, it is worthwhile listing these taxa and their variant spellings (Table 2).

Table 2. Ramsay's names used in papers in *Nature* and the *Proceedings* in 1881 and 1882.

Ramsay (1881a,b)	Name used in <i>Nature</i> (21 July 1881)	Name used in <i>Proceedings</i> (12 September 1881)
	<i>Graucalus elegans</i>	<i>Graucalus elegans</i>
	<i>Piezorhynchus Richardsii</i>	<i>Piezorhynchus Richardsii</i>
	<i>Myzomela Tristrami</i>	<i>Myzomela Tristrami</i>
	<i>Mygomela pulcherrima</i>	<i>Myzomela pulcherrima</i>
	<i>Zosterops (Tephras?) olivacens</i>	<i>Tephras olivaceus</i>
	<i>Nasiterna finschii</i>	<i>Nasiterna Finschii</i>
Ramsay (1882a,d)	Name used in <i>Nature</i> (19 January 1882)	Name used in <i>Proceedings</i> (20 March 1882)
	<i>Astur versicolor</i>	<i>Astur versicolor</i>
	<i>Ianthenas philippanæ</i>	<i>Ianthenas philippanæ</i>
	<i>Ptilopus richardsii</i>	<i>Ptilopus Richardsi</i>
	<i>Ptilopus lewisii</i>	<i>Ptilopus Lewisi</i>
	<i>Chalcophaps mortoni</i>	<i>Chalcophaps Mortoni</i>
	<i>Sternoides minor</i>	<i>Sturnoides minor</i>
	<i>Plectorhyncha fulviventris</i>	<i>Plectorhyncha (?) fulviventris</i>
Ramsay (1882c,e)	Name used in <i>Nature</i> (9 February 1882)	Name used in <i>Proceedings</i> (20 March 1882)
	<i>Halcyon salmonis</i>	<i>Halcyon solomonis</i>
	<i>Rhipidura tenebrosa</i>	<i>Rhipidura tenebrosa</i>

Citation of the first 1882 *Nature* paper with Ramsay as the author often occurs. The variants of spelling of *Ptilinopus richardsonii* and *Ptilinopus viridis lewisii* are in the standard literature, largely through their use in Peters (1937). However, the earlier publication of the 1881 paper appears to have gone almost unnoticed, indeed it was overlooked in the same volume of Peters for *Micropsitta finschii*.

The only significant change in the spelling of any name in the 1881 paper was that of *Tephras olivaceus* where it is given as *Zosterops olivacens* in the *Nature* article, presumably a typographical error. This change will be examined separately in a future paper.

The name "*Halcyon salmonis*" in the second 1882 paper in *Nature* has not been used since for the taxon now known as *Halcyon* (or *Todiramphus*) *chloris solomonis*. As such it is an unused senior synonym and should not be used. The type locality for this taxon was merely noted as the "Solomon Islands" in both *Nature* and the *Proceedings*. However, in a later paper Ramsay indicated that specimens were received from Alex Morton and John Stephens from Ugi and San Cristobal (Ramsay, 1882f).

Ramsay intentionally sent his papers to *Nature*. In one of his diaries in the Mitchell Library is the note "Nov 30th 1881. Read paper on two new species of Bds from Ugi. *Halcyon salomonis*, *Rhipidura tenebrosa*. Sent memo of the meeting to 'Nature' on 2nd Dec" (ML.MSS 2278 Add on 544). In the issue of *Nature* in question, 9 February 1882, there are references to all the papers given at the relevant meeting of the Linnean Society of NSW. In a sense this was a forerunner to the later published *Abstracts of the Proceedings of the Linnean Society of New South Wales* (hereafter *Abstracts*). Partial sets of the *Abstracts* are found in both the Australian Museum Library and the Mitchell Library. The earliest numbers in these sets date from the meeting of 27 September 1882, the meeting following the fire that destroyed the Garden Palace in Sydney's Domain on 22 September 1882. The Australian Museum lost its ethnological and technical collections in the fire (Strahan, 1979) and may have lost earlier issues of the *Abstracts*. The Linnean Society of NSW also lost its Library, equipment and specimens in the fire (Strahan, 1979). Many later issues of the *Abstracts*, apart from surviving in original form in the Australian Museum and Mitchell Libraries, were reprinted in the German journal *Zoologischer Anzeiger* and the Melbourne-based journal *Southern Science Record*. There are additional earlier accounts in *Nature* for the meetings from June and July 1882, though there are no new names involved. It would be interesting to know if any published *Abstracts* exist for meetings of the Linnean Society of NSW from before 27 September 1882, but it is likely that Ramsay ceased sending papers to *Nature* following the commencement of the publication of the *Abstracts* which provided a more rapid publication of his names.

Dispersal of the specimens

Cockerell apparently delivered his specimens to Museum Victoria during January 1879. Most of these specimens have tags dated "Jan.23/79". The specimens were all wrapped separately in wide strips of paper fastened as tubes with a pin. These strips were annotated by Cockerell and most of the Melbourne specimens were still unregistered and wrapped in the paper strips when examined in 1995. Nearly all the strips with Cockerell's handwriting were removed from the

specimens in the Australian Museum. However, at least one remains attached to the tag of a specimen of *Dicaeum aeneum* (AM O.18696). Cockerell's specimens from the Solomon Islands are fairly distinctive. They are cylindrical in shape and sometimes have a "waist" when the paper tube did not cover the entire bird. This cylindrical shape is common to Cockerell's specimens in the Australian Museum, Museum Victoria and those in another major repository of Cockerell's specimens at the Macleay Museum.

The bird collection in the Macleay Museum of the University of Sydney consists of around 9500 specimens and largely dates from 1874 to 1888, the period in which William John Macleay was actively collecting and acquiring bird specimens (Stanbury & Holland, 1988; S. Norington, pers. comm.). Despite many type specimens being transferred on permanent loan to the Australian Museum in 1969 (Longmore, 1991), large numbers of type specimens and specimens of rare taxa still remain in the Macleay Museum (Fisher & Longmore, 1995; Fulton, 2001; McAllan, 2006). Unfortunately most of the specimens in this collection lack original labels, largely through the curation of the collection by George Masters from 1874 to 1912.

Nevertheless, all the specimens labelled "Solomon Islands" in this collection have the same cylindrical shape as the specimens in the Australian Museum and Museum Victoria. In 1929, J. J. Fletcher published a paper giving information on the sources of material found in the Macleay Museum where there is only one reference to birds coming from the Solomon Islands (Fletcher, 1929; Whittell, 1954). On page 267 it refers to donations to the Museum in 1879 and notes "Mr Cockerell—part of his collection (mammals, birds, over 100 species, reptiles, fish and insects) from the Solomon Islands". Stanbury (1969) suspected that some of these specimens were types, but gave no details of why he thought this was so and many were not included in the later transfer of types to the Australian Museum. Given that Ramsay was closely associated with Macleay (Strahan, 1979), it is not surprising that part of Cockerell's collection ended up in Macleay's Museum.

In his letter to McCoy of 16 January 1979, Ramsay wrote that he had seen the entire collection made by Cockerell before describing the new taxa. Consequently many of the types from the first paper on Cockerell's collection are in both Museum Victoria and the Macleay Museum. However, only some of the types from Ramsay's later publications that used specimens from Cockerell's collection can be said to be in these other museums. Even so, it is evident from occasional references in his papers, that Ramsay regularly visited the Macleay Museum (e.g., see the *Chalcophaps mortonii* account in Ramsay, 1882f). Furthermore, Ramsay visited Melbourne in 1880 (Strahan, 1979), and again in January 1881, when he helped McCoy identify some New Guinea bird specimens (letter from McCoy to Ramsay, Mitchell Library ZML.MSS 2169; also Ramsay diaries, Mitchell Library ML.MSS 2278 Add on 544).

Ramsay organized an exchange of several specimens with the Queensland Museum that finally took place in June 1883 when Ramsay was absent in Europe. Whether done intentionally or unintentionally, this exchange included a type specimen (Ingram, 1987). Although Cockerell disposed of most of his specimens within Australia, he also sold two type specimens to The Natural History Museum in London. These were registered into the collection in January 1884 (Warren & Harrison, 1971).

It also appears that Ramsay exchanged some types with Otto Finsch when he visited the Australian Museum in August 1881. A memo from Finsch to Ramsay written in Sydney notes, "I shall come in the course of this afternoon in order that we may begin to make some choices in regard to duplicates" (letter in Ramsay papers, Mitchell Library ML.MSS.1589/3). Some of the specimens concerned, including one evidently collected by Cockerell, were shortly afterwards acquired from Finsch by Count Turati and are now in the Museo Civico di Storia Naturale, Milano (McAllan *et al.*, 2005).

Ramsay also exchanged some specimens with Giacomo Doria in Genoa in early 1883. The species were identified for Doria by Tommaso Salvadori of Turin. Salvadori was given some of these specimens himself. Although some of Cockerell's specimens were included, no types of the taxa discussed here were involved.

Several of Cockerell's type specimens now in the Australian Museum were not registered into the collection until 1912 as they were previously part of the Ramsay family's collection, known as the "Dobroyde" collection (Hindwood, 1970; Longmore, 1991). Although separate registers exist for specimens in this collection dating from before 1869, there are no registers for later parts of the collection. On this basis some types could have been exchanged with other collectors or institutions before the Australian Museum's acquisition of the Dobroyde collection around 1896. This evidently includes a type specimen exchanged by Ramsay to The Natural History Museum in 1895, as the exchange does not appear in the Australian Museum registers (Warren & Harrison, 1971).

Type specimens collected by Cockerell in the Solomon Islands

The known type specimens from Cockerell's collections in the Solomon Islands are discussed below. All the specimens used in the description of the taxon concerned are listed, including those not actually collected by Cockerell. After each specimen number, the information found on attached specimen tags and in the register of the relative museum is quoted.

Specimens from the Dobroyde collection in the Australian Museum have no additional information in the Museum's registers beyond what is written on the tags and so only the details on the tags are given. It is unclear when the labels on these specimens were written. Although many of these tags are in Ramsay's handwriting, some appear to have been written by A. J. North. North initially was the personal curator of Ramsay's Dobroyde Collection in late 1886 before being employed by the Australian Museum (Cahill, 1998).

Most of the non-Australian collections in Museum Victoria were unregistered at the time of my initial examination in 1995. Exceptions to this were specimens of species whose distribution includes Australia and those that had been made into mounts. Consequently most of the registration numbers from Museum Victoria listed below that begin with a "B" were registered in September 1995.

In the late 1970s there was no existing register of the Macleay Museum bird collection, though Stanbury (1969) noted registration numbers for the specimens. All the specimens were re-registered by Graeme Phipps in the early

1980s (G. Phipps, pers. comm.). Consequently the Macleay Museum specimen numbers are totally different to those given by Stanbury (1969). The earliest remaining specimen labels attached to the Solomons collections in the Macleay Museum appear to have been written by George Masters. From the names used on the labels this may have occurred some time in late 1881 or early 1882 (i.e. after Ramsay's description of *Ptilopus lewisii* at the meeting of the Linnean Society of NSW on 31 August 1881, but before Masters was aware of Ramsay's description of *Baza gurneyi* which was published in the *Journal of the Linnean Society* [of London] in late January 1882).

Macropygia rufocastanea Ramsay, 1879, *Proceedings* 4: 314 (issued 1 December 1879)

[= *Macropygia mackinlayi arossi* Tristram, 1879 (issued October 1879)]

Australian Museum. Holotype: O.18711.

This specimen is from the Dobroyde collection and was registered in 1912. It is labelled in Ramsay's hand "Macropygia rufo-castanea, ad male?, Solomon Islands (J.C.) Type of the sp. EPR". Although specimen B.28151 in Museum Victoria and specimen B.2222a in the Macleay Museum were clearly both collected by Cockerell, they cannot be types, as only one specimen was referred to in Ramsay's description. Stanbury (1969) erroneously considered the Macleay Museum specimen a possible type. Salvadori (1880) noted that Ramsay had written him a letter indicating that Ramsay intended to name this taxon *Macropygia castanea*. If early *Abstracts* of the *Proceedings* can be found, it is possible they could antedate Tristram's *M. arossi*, as Ramsay named *M. rufocastanea* at the meeting of 25 June 1879. This may well be the case as in 1882 Ramsay used the name *rufocastanea* and placed *arossi* in synonymy (Ramsay, 1882f). However, *rufocastanea* would be an unused senior synonym and not available.

Ptilopus lewisii Ramsay, 1882, *Nature* 25: 282.

[= *Ptilinopus viridis lewisii* (Ramsay, 1882)]

Australian Museum. Two syntypes: A.3924, A.11558.

A.3924, does not have an original label. The register lists "Ptilopus viridis var. probably new species, Guadalcanar, Solomon Islds, Captain Brodie and Cockerell".

A.11558, the oldest label notes that it is "Ptilopus lewisi, Hab. Ugi Isld, sex female" and the register notes that it was collected by Alex Morton on Ugi and is a type. The locality of Ugi is incorrect for this species, and obviously is in error, even though this specimen was registered with other specimens of *Ptilinopus eugeniae* from Ugi.

Part of the confusion may result from Ramsay referring to specimens of "*Ptilopus eugeniae*" being collected at Ugi in his description of *P. lewisi* in the *Proceedings* (1882d), however this was only in the context of pointing out that *P. eugeniae* was not the same as *P. lewisi*. Ramsay (1882f) noted that *P. lewisi* was represented in Cockerell's collections. Furthermore, when Ramsay described the taxon, he specifically noted that it was included amongst Cockerell's specimens referred to in the first 1879 *Proceedings* paper

(Ramsay, 1879b, 1882c). Ramsay (1882d) later restricted the type locality of the taxon as “Florida and Malaya”, two islands that Cockerell did not visit. Ramsay’s diaries list the specimens brought back from the Solomon Islands in mid-1881 by the Australian Museum collector, Alex Morton (Mitchell Library ML.MSS 2278 Add on 544). Included in this listing are specimens of “*Ptilopus* sp nov (viridis) Florida & Malatta”. These specimens were evidently some of those used to describe *Ptilopus lewisii*, and the source of the locality given in Ramsay’s paper. As there were at least two specimens collected by Morton there is evidently a type specimen missing.

Macleay Museum. One syntype: B.2094.

Labelled as “*Ptilinopus lewisi*, Rams. Male. Solomon Is.” by Masters. This specimen is of a typical Cockerell make and was overlooked as a type by Stanbury (1969).

Two specimens from Alex Morton’s series of “*Ptilinopus eugeniae*” from Ugi were sent to Salvadori in 1883. One of these specimens is now in the Museo Regionale di Scienze Naturali, Torino. The specimen, A.11549 (now = 6221) has a white head and is thus definitely a *Ptilinopus eugeniae* and is not a type (pers. obs., 1 September 1994; confirmed by C. Pulcher in litt., 1 July 2003). Salvadori sent the other specimen to Doria in Genova. Specimen A.11552 (now = CE 22541) is still in the collections of the Museo Civico di Storia Naturale “Giacomo Doria”, but is also not a type of *P. lewisi* (pers. obs., 30 August 1994; confirmed by E. Borgo in litt., 18 September 2003).

Baza gurneyi Ramsay, 1882, *Journal of the Linnean Society (London)* 16: 130.

[= *Aviceda subcristata gurneyi* (Ramsay, 1882)]

Australian Museum. Lectotype: A.10962.

The specimen lacks an original label. The register lists the specimen as coming from Ugi and being bought from “J. Stephens party”. Longmore (1991) selected this specimen as the lectotype. This taxon was described by Ramsay from specimens collected at Ugi by Reverend George Brown, and at Cape Pitt by Cockerell (Ramsay, 1882b). On this basis there could be some doubt as the selection of the lectotype. Nevertheless, it appears Ramsay made an error with the collector of the Ugi specimens. His diary records a small collection received from Brown in mid-1881 (Ramsay diaries, Mitchell Library ML.MSS 2278 Add on 544). This collection includes specimens from Ugi, but there are no birds of prey amongst them and so it appears the specimen from Ugi came from another source. Although it seems that Longmore’s selection of the lectotype was correct, the specimens he considered paralectotypes cannot have that status. Five of those in the Australian Museum; A.11486, A.11487, A.11489, A.11490, and A.11491, lack original tags. The register notes that these specimens were collected by Alex Morton at Ugi and were registered in December 1881. It is clear from the paper in which *Baza gurneyi* was named that Alex Morton was still collecting for Ramsay in the Solomon Islands at the time the paper was sent to London, so none of these specimens can be types (Ramsay, 1882b). This also is the case for Queensland Museum specimen

O.17872, previously A.11488 in the Australian Museum collection, which was exchanged with the Queensland Museum in June 1883 (H. Janetzki, in litt.). This specimen was referred to by Longmore (1991) though no details were given. In addition Australian Museum specimen O.22343, collected by Cockerell, was claimed by Longmore (1991) to be a type, but it is from New Britain and is not part of the type series (see also below).

Macleay Museum. One paralectotype: B.2937.

Labelled as “Baza? Reinwardti, Solomon Islands” in Masters’ hand, this specimen is of a typical Cockerell make. Ramsay (1879b) noted that there was a single specimen in Cockerell’s collection from the Solomon Islands from “Cape Pitt”, in the New Georgia group, which at the time he considered indistinguishable from specimens from Port Moresby in New Guinea. Mayr (1945b) pointed out that birds from New Georgia were similar to an undescribed taxon from the Bougainville and Shortland groups, which he named *proxima*. Mayr considered that Ramsay had been in error in associating Cape Pitt birds with *gurneyi* as Mayr considered they were found from Guadalcanal eastwards (a view still held in Mayr & Diamond, 2001). Nevertheless, Schodde (1977) disagreed with Mayr’s assessment and considered there was only one subspecies found in the Solomon Islands, *Aviceda subcristata gurneyi*. In Schodde’s view then, although the type locality was restricted to Ugi by Mayr (1945b), the bird collected by Cockerell at Cape Pitt was the subspecies *gurneyi*. Ferguson-Lees *et al.* (2001) followed Mayr in recognition of *proxima*, though Dickinson (2003), Dutton (2011) and Dickinson & Christidis (2014) followed Schodde (1977). Longmore (1991) solved the problem of the type locality by selecting the lectotype from Ugi. He identified a specimen of *Aviceda subcristata* collected by Cockerell on New Britain as being the specimen from Cape Pitt. However, Ramsay does not state that Cockerell’s Cape Pitt specimen was actually in his possession when he described the taxon. Given that B.2937 was collected by Cockerell in the Solomons, and that only one specimen was said by Ramsay (1879b) to be in Cockerell’s collection from these islands, the Australian Museum specimen from New Britain cannot have any type status. The Macleay Museum specimen was overlooked as a type by Stanbury (1969) and Longmore (1991).

Astur pulchellus Ramsay, 1882, *Journal of the Linnean Society (London)* 16: 131.

[= *Accipiter hiogaster pulchellus* (Ramsay, 1882)]

Australian Museum. Holotype: A.3813.

This specimen lacks an original label and was originally registered under the name “*Astur soloensis*” though this entry was replaced with “*A. pulchellus*” in the register. The register lists it as the type specimen and as a male from “Guadalcanar”, bought from “Capt Brodie & Cockerell”. Salvadori (1880) suggested that Ramsay’s use of *Astur soloensis* in his first 1879 *Proceedings* paper was incorrect. This may have prompted Ramsay to re-examine the specimen. Note that Schodde (1977) and Ferguson-Lees *et al.* (2001) considered *pulchellus* to be part of the *Accipiter hiogaster* species complex.

Cinnyris melanocephalus Ramsay, 1879, *Nature* 20: 125, (5 June 1879) and

Cinnyris (?) *dubius* Ramsay, 1879, *Proceedings* 4: 83–84, (16 June 1879).

[= *Myzomela melanocephala* (Ramsay, 1879)]

This species was named by Ramsay in his first paper that used Cockerell's collections, at a time where he had viewed the entire collection. Any specimens of this taxon that can be identified as collected by Cockerell are thus types.

Australian Museum. Five syntypes: O.18738, O.18739, A.3918, A.3919, A.3920, as recorded by Longmore (1991). O.18738, ex Dobroyde collection, registered 1912. Labelled as a type of "*Cinnyris dubius*" and a male. O.18739, ex Dobroyde collection, registered 1912. Labelled as a type of "*Cinnyris dubius*" and a probable female. A.3918, A.3919 and A.3920 do not have original labels. The register notes that all three are types of "*Cinnyris melanocephalus*" and were collected by "Capt. Brodie & Cockerell".

Museum Victoria. Three syntypes: B.19563, B.19564, B.19565. All three are labelled on another tag: Cockerell's Solomon Isds Coll.; Jan.23/79. The specimens have the following details on the strip wrapping: B.19563, Solomon Isl., Oct 78, male; B.19564, Solomon Isl., Oct 78, female; B.19565, Solomon Isl., Oct 77 [sic, lapsus for 78], female.

Macleay Museum. Two syntypes: B.2849; B.2850. Both are labelled "*Cinnyris melanocephala*, Ramsay, Solomon Is." by Masters. These specimens are both of a typical Cockerell make and were overlooked as types by Stanbury (1969).

Graucalus pusillus Ramsay, 1879, *Proceedings* 4: 71, and

Graucalus solomonensis Ramsay, 1879, *Proceedings* 4: 314 (replacement name for *G. pusillus*).

[= *Coracina lineata pusilla* (Ramsay, 1879)]

Australian Museum. Lectotype: O.18714. This specimen is from the Dobroyde collection and was registered in 1912. It was labelled by Ramsay as a type of *Graucalus pusillus* from the Solomons and as a possible adult male. One paralectotype: O.18713.

Also from the Dobroyde collection and registered in 1912, this specimen was labelled by Ramsay as a type of *Graucalus pusillus* from the Solomons. The sex was not noted.

Schodde (1977) designated the lectotype, but did not note the paralectotype which was found later by Longmore (1991). Ramsay (1879c) gave it the replacement name of *G. solomonensis*. Ramsay evidently believed the replacement name was necessary as Sharpe (1879) had referred to "*Campephaga pusilla* Blyth". Sharpe referred to Gray (1869) as the source of Blyth's name. Several authors (e.g., Mathews, 1930; Mayr, 1945a; Galbraith & Galbraith, 1962) have followed Ramsay, but as pointed out by Schodde (1977) the name as published in Gray is a *nomen nudum* and no other reference by Blyth to the name as quoted by Gray is known. Consequently the valid name must remain as *Coracina lineata pusilla*.

Graucalus elegans Ramsay, 1881, *Nature* 24: 277.

[= *Coracina papuensis elegans* (Ramsay, 1881)]

Ramsay originally did not give the source of the specimens from which he named this taxon. In his following *Proceedings* paper (Ramsay, 1881b) he noted that most of the taxa were provided by Lieutenant Richards. However, *Graucalus elegans* was collected by Cockerell on "Guadalcanar". After his listing of the scientific name Ramsay referred to "*Graucalus hypoleucus*, Ramsay, P.L.S., of N.S.W.". This is a clear reference to Ramsay's first *Proceedings* paper of 1879 where Ramsay commented on Cockerell's specimens from Guadalcanal under the name *Graucalus hypoleucus*. Ramsay had seen all Cockerell's Solomons specimens before writing the 1879 paper and thus Ramsay's reference to this paper in his 1881 account means that the specimens in Museum Victoria, the Macleay Museum and Milan are also syntypes.

Australian Museum. Three syntypes: A.3822, A.3824, A.3825. A.3822, labelled as a male "*Graucalus hypoleucus* Gould" from "Guadalcanar". A.3824, labelled as a male "*Graucalus hypoleucus* Gould" from "Guadalcanar". A.3825, labelled as a female "*Graucalus hypoleucus* Gould" from "Guadalcanar". The register notes that all three were collected by "Capt. Brodie & Cockerell".

These specimens were identified as syntypes by Longmore (1991). Specimen A.3823 was also registered with the same details but has not been located. This missing specimen was probably exchanged with Finsch and now in the collection in Milan. Even though at least three of these four specimens were in front of Ramsay at the time of the description of *Graucalus elegans*, neither the labels nor the register were adjusted to show these specimens were types.

Museum Victoria. Four syntypes: B.19570, B.19571, B.19572, B.19573. These specimens have the following details on the strip wrapping: B.19570, Solomon Isl., Oct 78, male; B.19571, Guadalcanar [= Guadalcanal], Solomon Island[s], No^r 78, female; B.19572, Solomon Island[s], No^r 78, female; B.19573, Lanio, Solomon Isld, female. All four are labelled on additional tags: "Cockerell's Solomon Isds Coll.; Jan.23/79".

Macleay Museum. Three syntypes: B.4892, B.4893, B.4894. These three specimens were labelled by Masters "*Graucalus*, Solomon Is.". They are of typical Cockerell make and although not sexed are adults, and were overlooked as types by Stanbury (1969).

Museo Civico di Storia Naturale, Milano. One syntype. In the Museo Civico di Storia Naturale, Milano there is a specimen of this taxon of Cockerell make which came to the Museum in 1882, undoubtedly being originally acquired from Ramsay by Otto Finsch (McAllan *et al.*, 2005). It is labelled as a male "*Graucalus elegans* or *minor* Ramsay, sp. nov. Ramsay" with the locality "Guadalcanal' (pers. obs., 2 September 1994). Ramsay kept a visitors book at the Australian Museum now lodged with the Mitchell Library (in uncatalogued material). Finsch visited the Australian Museum on 29 August 1881. Although there is no account of the visit, the letter from Finsch to Ramsay indicates duplicate specimens were exchanged between them at this meeting (McAllan *et al.*, 2005). Ramsay named the taxon at a meeting of the Linnean Society of NSW on 23 February 1881, and it first appeared in print in *Nature* on 21 July 1881, though it

did not appear in the *Proceedings* until 12 September 1881. Thus the form was still a novelty when Finsch visited, and it is likely that Ramsay would have shown Finsch specimens of this taxon.

P[seudorectes] cinnamomeum Ramsay, 1879, *Nature* 20: 125.

[= *Pachycephala orioloides cinnamomea* (Ramsay, 1879)]

Australian Museum. Two syntypes: A.3831, A.3832. Both these specimens have labels in the hand of Ramsay as being “*Pachycephala orioloides*” and coming from “Guadalcanar”, A.3831 is labelled as a juvenile male and A.3832 as a female. The register notes that both were collected by “Capt. Brodie ‘Ariel’ & Cockerell”. Ramsay described a bird with female plumage in *Nature*, but did not note the sex of the bird described. He did not describe the taxon in his first 1879 *Proceedings* paper where he gave a description of a female *Pachycephala* from Guadalcanar under the name “*Pachycephala orioloides*”. Longmore (1991) listed A.3832 as an adult male, however it is a female and thus still a type. The immature male has a similar plumage to the female.

Museum Victoria. One syntype: 45732.

This specimen is a mount in female plumage. The socle on the mount is labelled “*Pachycephala astrolabi* Bp. Solomon Islds.” The register notes it as having been collected by Cockerell in the Solomons with the date January 1879, obviously the date of acquisition by the Museum. It was registered in May 1884, originally under the name “*Pachycephala oriolus*”. This was crossed out in the register and replaced by “*orioloides*” and again replaced by “*astrolabi*”. There are an additional four male specimens sent by Cockerell to Museum Victoria (B.9945–9). Three of these are in adult male plumage and cannot be types. The other specimen, B.9949 is an immature bird which was identified as not being *cinnamomea* by “I.C.J.G.” (= Ian Galbraith, the author of a revision of the *Pachycephala pectoralis* superspecies [Galbraith, 1956]). Yet the locality of “Gaudalcanar” on the strip wrapping tag alone, as well as the fact that Cockerell only collected within the range of *cinnamomea*, suggests that this comment is incorrect. This specimen was collected when the bird was in the process of acquiring adult plumage and has a yellow wash to the belly and vent and so cannot be a type.

S[auloprocta] cockerellii Ramsay, 1879, *Nature* 20: 125, (5 June 1879) and

Sauloprocta (?) *cockerelli* Ramsay, 1879, *Proceedings* 4: 81–82, (16 June 1879).

[= *Rhipidura cockerellii cockerellii* (Ramsay, 1879)]

As with *Cinnyris melanocephalus*, this species was named after Ramsay had already viewed Cockerell’s entire collection. Any specimens of this taxon that can be identified as collected by Cockerell are thus types. Dickinson & Christidis (2014) considered that Ramsay acted as first revisor. However, Dickinson & Christidis did not give any

reference to the paper in which this occurred. It was not in the following *Proceedings* paper where there was no mention of the paper in *Nature*.

Australian Museum. Three syntypes: O.18716, A.3848, A.3849. O.18716, ex Dobroyde collection, registered 1912. This specimen was labelled by Ramsay as a type from the Solomons with the sex as “male”. A.3848 and A.3849, are labelled in Ramsay’s hand as types of the species from “Guadalcanar”. Both are marked as “male?”.

Museum Victoria. Three syntypes: B.19549, B.19550, B.19551. These specimens have the following details on the strip wrapping: B.19549, Solomon Isl., Oct 77 [sic, lapsus for 78], female; B.19550, Solomon Isl., Oct/ 78/ male; B.19551, Solomon Isl., Oct 78, male. All three are labelled on additional tags: “Cockerell’s Solomon Isds Coll.; Jan.23/79”.

Macleay Museum. Two syntypes: B.7131, B.7132.

Both specimens were labelled by Masters “*Sauloprocta Cockerellii*, Ramsay. Solomon Is.” and are of a typical Cockerell make. Stanbury (1969) referred to both specimens as possible types.

R[hissidura] rufifronta Ramsay, 1879, *Nature* 20: 125, (5 June 1879) and

Rhipidura (?) *rubrofrontata* Ramsay, 1879, *Proceedings* 4: 82–83, (16 June 1879).

[= *Rhipidura rufifrons rubrofrontata* (Ramsay, 1879)]

Ramsay corrected the spelling to *rubrofrontata* in 1881 (Ramsay, 1881b), specifically mentioning his 1879 *Nature* paper (see also Longmore, 1991). Consequently it can be considered a valid emendation under the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN, 1999) and stands with the corrected spelling (*contra* Dickinson, 2003 and Dickinson & Christidis, 2014). Note this is different from the other changes in names between papers in *Nature* and their immediately analogous *Proceedings* papers where there is no reference to the earlier papers.

Australian Museum. One syntype: A.3851.

This specimen is labelled in Ramsay’s hand as a type of *Rhipidura rubrofrontata* from “Guadalcanar” and a possible adult male.

Museum Victoria. Two syntypes: B.19561, B.19562.

Both are labelled on the strip wrapping as coming from the Solomon Islands and as males. The date “Oct 78” is also written on both. They are labelled on additional tags, “Cockerell’s Solomon Isds Coll.; Jan.23/79”.

Macleay Museum. One syntype: B.7090.

This specimen was labelled by Masters “*Rhipidura rufifrontata*, Ramsay. Solomon Is.”. It is of a typical Cockerell make and was overlooked as a —type by Stanbury (1969).

The Natural History Museum. One syntype: 1895.12.21.136. Warren & Harrison (1971) claimed this specimen was a holotype, however Ramsay did not designate a type, as noted by Longmore (1991). Furthermore, as noted above, Ramsay saw Cockerell’s full collection before describing this taxon in the first paper. Warren & Harrison note that the

specimen came from "Lango, Guadalcanar". This locality is given on the early British Museum label, but not on the oldest label attached to the specimen which simply notes "Solomon Islands" (M. Walters, in litt.). The latter locality is also written in the register. The specimen was "received in exchange" from Ramsay, but there is no indication of any such exchange in the Australian Museum registers, and so the specimen evidently came from the Dobroyde collection.

M[yiagra] ferocyanea Ramsay, 1879, *Nature* 20: 125, (5 June 1879) and

Myiagra (?) *ferro-cyanea* Ramsay, 1879, *Proceedings* 4: 78–79, (16 June 1879).

[= *Myiagra ferrocyanea ferrocyanea* Ramsay, 1879]

Ramsay initially named this species *M. ferocyanea* in *Nature*, but in his following paper in the *Proceedings* he used the spelling *M. ferro-cyanea* (Ramsay, 1879b). Ingram (1987) and Longmore (1991) suggested this act was an emendation by Ramsay. This is not strictly true, as Ramsay never mentioned the *Nature* paper in his 1879 *Proceedings* account. Nevertheless, it appears Ramsay sent the paper to *Nature*. Later Ramsay used the spelling *M. ferrocyanea* and referred to the 1879 *Proceedings* paper (Ramsay, 1882f). Elsewhere in this 1882 paper he used the name *Cinnyris melanocephalus* as used in *Nature* and not *C. dubius* which was listed in synonymy. In his 1881 *Proceedings* paper he specifically mentioned the 1879 paper in *Nature*. This indicates that he was aware of the 1879 *Nature* paper and thus the spelling of *M. ferrocyanea* as used in the 1882 paper was a valid emendation under the ICZN (1999).

As early as his first 1879 *Proceedings* paper Ramsay suggested that his *M. pallida* may refer to females of *M. ferrocyanea*. Salvadori (1880) merely noted Ramsay's indecision about this taxon. Tristram (1882) again suggested that these could be the same species, but did not make a definite decision. Later Tristram (1892) noted a female specimen of *M. ferrocyanea* in a collection from the Solomons, but did not say how he disposed of the name *M. pallida* and so did not act as first revisor as required by the ICZN (1999). It was not until 1901 that Rothschild & Hartert finally acted as first revisors by noting under the heading *Myiagra ferrocyanea*, "There is no doubt that *Myiagra pallida* of Ramsay is the female of *M. ferrocyanea*" (Rothschild & Hartert, 1901).

Australian Museum. Four syntypes: O.18720, A.3833, A.3835, A.3837. O.18720, ex Dobroyde collection, registered 1912. This specimen was labelled by Ramsay supposedly in December 1878, though as the ship did not arrive in Sydney until 6 January 1879, this is presumably an error for the collection date. It is labelled as a type of *Myiagra ferrocyanea* from the Solomons. The sex was given as "male?". A.3833, labelled by Ramsay as a type from "Guadalcanar" and a male. A.3835, labelled by Ramsay as a type from "Guadalcanar" and a probable male. A.3837, labelled by Ramsay as a type from "Guadalcanar" and a possible female. This was evidently an error by Ramsay as he had named the females of this species *Myiagra pallida* (see below). The last three specimens are listed in the register as having been collected by "Capt Brodie 'Ariel' & Cockerell".

Museum Victoria. Five syntypes: B.19552, B.19553, B.19554, B.19555, B.19556. These specimens have the following details on the strip wrapping: B.19552, Solomon Isl., Oct 78, male; B.19553, Solomon Isl., Oct 78, male; B.19554, Solomon Isl., Oct/78/ male; B.19555, G [= Guadalcanar], Solomon Isl., Dec 77 [the second 7 crossed out], male; B.19556, Solomon Isl., Oct 77 [the second 7 crossed out], male. The first four are labelled on additional tags: "Cockerell's Solomon Isds Coll.; Jan.23/79", but B.19556 has no additional tag.

Macleay Museum. Four syntypes: B.7265, B.7266, B.7267, B.7268. All four specimens were labelled by Masters "Myiagra ferro-cyanea. male. Solomon Is." and are of typical Cockerell make. Stanbury (1969) referred to these specimens as possible types.

Queensland Museum. One syntype: O.20855.

Longmore (in Ingram, 1987) noted that Ramsay sent a syntype (Australian Museum specimen A.3834) on exchange to the Queensland Museum. A mounted specimen in the Queensland Museum, number O.20855, was believed by Ingram (1987) to be the specimen in question.

The Natural History Museum. One syntype: 1884.1.19.10. According to Warren & Harrison (1971) this specimen came from "Guadalcanar, Solomons" with the date "Dec. 1879". The specimen is actually labelled "Solomon Islands", as is the register, with no mention of "Guadalcanar" (M. Walters, in litt.). The label also notes "ex P.R. 12.1879", though it may be that "ex P.R." refers to E. P. Ramsay. The date is after the description of the taxon and may be the date of receipt (M. Walters, in litt.). The specimen was purchased by The Natural History Museum directly from Cockerell. Given the date of receipt it is evident that the specimen was part of the original collection and thus seen by Ramsay.

M[yiagra] pallida Ramsay, 1879, *Nature* 20: 125.

[= *Myiagra ferrocyanea ferrocyanea* Ramsay, 1879, see Rothschild & Hartert (1901)]

Australian Museum. Four syntypes: O.18722, A.3838, A.3839, A.3840. O.18722, ex Dobroyde collection, registered 1912. This specimen was labelled by Ramsay supposedly in December 1878, though this could be the date of collection. It is labelled as a type of *Myiagra pallida* from the Solomons. The sex of this specimen was not recorded. A.3838, labelled by Ramsay as a type from "Guadalcanar" and a probable male. A.3839, labelled by Ramsay as a type from "Guadalcanar" with sex initially not determined and then replaced with male. A.3840, labelled by Ramsay as a type from "Guadalcanar" and a probable female.

As with *M. ferrocyanea* the sexes of A.3838 and A.3839 are incorrect, as *M. pallida* should only refer to females. This incorrect sexing of the specimens of both *M. ferrocyanea* and *M. pallida* by Cockerell evidently resulted in Ramsay never being fully convinced that only one species was involved.

Museum Victoria. Four syntypes: B.19557, B.19558, B.19559, B.19560. All four have tags labelled: "Cockerell's Solomon Isds Coll.; Jan.23/79". B.19557, notes on the strip

wrapping, Solomon Isl., Oct 78, female. B.19558, notes on the strip wrapping, G. [= Guadalcanal] Solomon Isl., Oct 77 [sic, lapsus for 78], female. This specimen has the additional note “Myiagra ferrocyanea feminina, L.W. Filewood det 5/4/[19]76” on the reverse of the attached tag, although this identification is clearly incorrect on the basis of the collecting locality alone. B.19559 and B.19560 both lack the original strip wrapping, but are of typical Cockerell make.

Macleay Museum. Two syntypes: B.7269, B.7270. Both specimens were labelled by Masters “Myiagra pallida, Ramsay. Solomon Is.” with later annotation in pencil that the specimens are female. They are both of a typical Cockerell make and Stanbury (1969) referred to them as possible types.

The Natural History Museum. One syntype: 1884.1.19.11. According to Warren & Harrison (1971) this specimen came from “Guadalcanar, Solomons” and has “Jan. 1879” written on an attached label. This date corresponds with the date of the meeting of the Linnean Society of NSW at which the bird was described. The register and labels on the specimen simply state that the bird came from the Solomon Islands (M. Walters, in litt.). The specimen was purchased by The Natural History Museum directly from Cockerell.

M[onarcha] barbata Ramsay, 1879, *Nature* 20: 125, (5 June 1879) and

Monarcha (?) *brodiei* Ramsay, 1879, *Proceedings* 4: 80–81, (16 June 1879).
[= *Symposiarchus barbatus* (Ramsay, 1879)]

Australian Museum. Four syntypes: O.18723, O.18724, O.18725, A.3847. O.18723, ex Dobroyde collection, registered 1912. Labelled by Ramsay as type of *Monarcha brodiei* from the Solomons and also as “? male juv.” and “Type of sp. female”. It is an immature bird with one black feather on the throat indicating it is moulting into adult plumage. O.18724, ex Dobroyde collection, registered 1912. Labelled by Ramsay as type of *Monarcha brodiei* from the Solomons and also as “Type of species male”. It is an adult bird. O.18725, ex Dobroyde collection, registered 1912. Labelled by Ramsay as type of *Monarcha brodiei* from the Solomons and also as “Type of species juv male”. It is also an immature bird with one black feather on the throat indicating it is moulting into adult plumage. A.3847 is an immature bird with some black feathers on the throat indicating it is moulting into adult plumage. Half of Ramsay’s tag is missing, though it does indicate that it is a *Monarcha* from Guadalcanal. The register notes it is a juvenile male and a type of “*Monarcha barbata*”, the latter being crossed out and replaced with “*brodiei*”.

When Ramsay named *Monarcha barbatus* there was no description of juvenile or immature plumage, merely noting “*M. barbata*, with elongated black plumes from the throat, belonging to the *M. loricata* and *M. leucotis* section”. In this sense all four specimens could conceivably be considered syntypes of *M. barbatus* as all have at least one black feather on the throat, and such a view was taken by Longmore (1991). However, if a more strict view is taken,

that Ramsay was only referring to adults, the three immature birds could still be considered syntypes of *M. brodiei* which did include descriptions of “Adult female and young male” and “Progress towards maturity”.

Macleay Museum. One syntype: B.7224.

Ramsay described birds with black feathers on the throat of *M. barbatus* in his paper in *Nature*. B.7224, an adult bird and labelled by Masters “*Monarcha Brodiei*, Ramsay. Solomon Is.”. Another specimen, B.7225, is an immature bird, lacking black feathers on the throat. It was labelled by Masters as “*Monarcha barbata*, (young?) Solomon Is.”, and although it cannot be considered a type of *M. barbatus*, it still qualifies as a syntype of *M. brodiei*. Both specimens are of a typical Cockerell make. Stanbury (1969) only referred to one type in the collection, presumably B.7224.

M[onarcha] rufocastanea Ramsay, 1879, *Nature* 20: 125.

[= *Monarcha castaneiventris castaneiventris* Verreaux, 1858]

Australian Museum. Seven syntypes: O.18726, O.18727, A.3841, A.3845, A.3846, and two further specimens.

O.18726, ex Dobroyde collection, registered 1912. This specimen was labelled by Ramsay with the date December 1878. Given the *Ariel* left the Solomons on 21 December 1878 this may refer to the collection date. It is labelled as a type from the Solomons and an adult male. O.18727, ex Dobroyde collection, registered 1912. This specimen was labelled by Ramsay in December 1878 as above. It was labelled as a type from the Solomons and a juvenile male. A.3841, no original label. The register notes this specimen as an adult, sex possibly male. A.3845, no original label. The register notes this specimen as an adult female. A.3846, no original label. The register notes this specimen as an adult sex possibly female.

The last three specimens were not noted by Longmore (1991). The register notes that these three specimens were types of “*Monarcha rufocastanea*” and collected on “Guadalcanar” by “Capt Brodie ‘Ariel’ & Cockerell”. The scientific name was crossed out and replaced with “*Pomarea castaneiventris* Verr.”. Ramsay discovered that *Monarcha castaneiventris* had priority over *M. rufocastanea* soon after he described it (Ramsay, 1879c).

At the time this paper was originally written, three specimens listed in the register as being types could not be found. The specimens, A.3842, A.3843 and A.3844 were not recorded as exchanged or destroyed. Subsequently a large number of specimens in the bird collection were discovered to have been misappropriated by a former AM employee. Two of the specimens recovered by the NSW Police were of this taxon and are of a Cockerell make. However, their original tags were mutilated and their registration numbers removed. As the registration numbers are unlikely to be resolved, the specimens may ultimately need to be re-registered into the Australian Museum collection with new numbers.

Museum Victoria. Four syntypes: B.19545, B.19546, B.19547, B.19548. These specimens have the following details on the strip wrapping: B.19545, Solomon Isl., No/78, female; B.19546, Solomon Isl., Oct 77 [the second 7 has been crossed out], female, Gaudal [= Guadalcanal]; B.19547, Guadalcana [= Guadalcanal], Solomon Isl., Oct 77 [the second 7 has been crossed out and replaced with an 8], male; B.19548, Solomon Isl., Oct/79/ male. All four are labelled on another tag: "Cockerell's Solomon Isds Coll.; Jan.23/79".

Macleay Museum. Four syntypes: B.7194, B.7915, B.7196, B.7197. All four specimens were labelled by Masters "Monarcha castaneiventris Verr. Solomon Is." and are of typical Cockerell make. These specimens were overlooked as types by Stanbury (1969).

[*Calornis solomonensis* Ramsay, 1879, *Nature* 20: 125.]

[= *Aplonis cantoroides* (Gray, 1862)]

Longmore (1991) noted a type of this taxon in the Australian Museum. However, the specimen so designated, A.3862, is an immature bird with black streaking on a white undersurface. Ramsay's original description noted that *solomonensis* was "a uniform bright steel green" which strongly suggests that an adult bird was used in the description. No such bird is found in the known surviving Cockerell material. Ramsay did not describe this taxon in his first 1879 *Proceedings* paper, though he listed *Calornis cantoroides* and noted both adult male and "female" [sic = immature] birds.

In summary, type specimens collected by Cockerell and named by Ramsay were dispersed to six museums, with significant numbers being in the Australian Museum, Museum Victoria and the Macleay Museum as shown in Table 3.

Table 3. Numbers of specimens of Ramsay's types collected by Cockerell in different museums. * = valid taxa. AM, Australian Museum; NMV, Museum Victoria; MM, Macleay Museum, the University of Sydney; QM, Queensland Museum; BMNH, The Natural History Museum, Tring, UK; MSNM, Museo Civico di Storia Naturale, Milano, Italy. Figures in square brackets are missing specimens. Specimens of *Myiagra brodiei* in the Macleay Museum are distinguished from those of *M. barbata* in the listings but not the totals.

Ramsay's names for the taxa	AM	NMV	MM	QM	BMNH	MSNM	Total
<i>Macropygia rufocastanea</i>	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
* <i>Ptilopus lewisii</i>	1 [1]	—	1	—	—	—	2 [1]
* <i>Baza gurneyi</i>	1	—	1	—	—	—	2
* <i>Astur pulchellus</i>	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
* <i>Cinnyris melanocephalus</i>	5	3	2	—	—	—	10
* <i>Graucalus pusillus</i>	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
* <i>Graucalus elegans</i>	3 [1]	4	3	—	—	1	11+[1]
* <i>Pseudorectes cinnamomeum</i>	2	1	—	—	—	—	3
* <i>Sauloprocta cockerellii</i>	3	3	2	—	—	—	8
* <i>Rhipidura rubrofrontata</i>	1	2	1	—	1	—	5
* <i>Myiagra ferrocyanea</i>	4	5	4	1	1	—	15
<i>Myiagra pallida</i>	4	4	2	—	1	—	11
* <i>Monarcha barbata</i> (<i>M. brodiei</i>)	5	—	1 (2)	—	—	—	7
<i>Monarcha rufocastanea</i>	7 [1]	4	4	—	—	—	15 [1]
<i>Calornis solomonensis</i>	1?	—	—	—	—	—	1?
Total	40 [3]+1?	26	22	1	3	1	93 [3]+1?

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