



## Type specimens and type localities of Siberian birds (Aves) described by Jean Cabanis

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### Abstract

From 1870 to 1872, Jean Cabanis described four species-group taxa of Siberian birds. These include *Gallinago heterocerca* (Scolopacidae), *Accentor erythropygus* (Prunellidae), *Parus obtectus* (Paridae), and *Pyrrhula cinerascens* (Fringillidae). In this paper we identified the types of these taxa, restricted their type localities, and checked their taxonomic identity with the following results: (1) We demonstrated that type specimens of all species-group taxa were deposited in the Berlin Museum and that there is no evidence that any type specimens were deposited in the Warszawa Museum; (2) we restricted type localities of *Gallinago heterocerca*, *Parus obtectus* and *Pyrrhula cineracea* to Kultuk, Russia; and (3) we restricted the type locality of *Accentor erythropygus* to Utulik brook above Utulik village, Russia.

**Key words:** Aves, nomenclature, taxonomy, Siberia, Russia, Jean Cabanis, Benedykt Dybowski, Władysław Taczanowski

### Introduction

Benedykt Dybowski (1833–1930), a Polish zoologist, was exiled to East Siberia from 1864–1877 (see Dybowski 1930; Domaniewski 1954; Kowalska & Miklaszewska-Mroczkowska 1960; Brzęk 1984; Mlíkovský 2007a). During his exile he collected many birds and other natural history specimens, which he sent to Władysław Taczanowski (1819–1890) in Warszawa, Poland (then part of the Russian Empire). Taczanowski, who since 1869 had been curator of zoological collections at the newly founded Varšavskij Imperatorskij Universitet (Imperial Warszawa University) (see e.g. Mlíkovský 2007b), published notes on some of Dybowski's Siberian specimens and described some taxa as new for science (see Mlíkovský 2007a), but also sold many specimens to other museums. One of the main purchasers from Taczanowski was Jean Cabanis (1816–1906), curator of birds at the Museum für Naturkunde in Berlin, Germany. In 1870–1872 Cabanis purchased at least 222 of Dybowski's specimens, according to the Accession Catalogue (B-Catalogue) of the Museum für Naturkunde (ZMB; catalogue deposited in the Ornithological Department).

Cabanis reported on these acquisitions in several papers (Cabanis 1870a,b,c,d; 1871a,b,c,d; 1872a,b), describing on the basis of this material four species as new for science (Cabanis 1870a,c; 1871b; 1872b). Cabanis usually did not specify type series upon which he based these species, and the extent of their type series thus remained unknown. Most or all of these types were likely deposited in the collections of the ZMB, but it is also known that Cabanis identified some Siberian birds for Taczanowski, thereafter returning them to Warszawa (see Kowalska *et al.* 1964: 177; Mlíkovský 2007a: 41). These shipments could have included syntypes of Cabanis's new bird species-group taxa. Taczanowski (1889) and Sztolcman and Domaniewski (1927) listed specimens in the collections of the Muzeum i Instytut Zoologii (MIZ) as “types” of Cabanis's four Siberian species. Their presence was reviewed by Mlíkovský (2007a), who, although finding no direct