



**Philippine Numismatic
&
Antiquarian Society**

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A Short History of Philippine Bird Books

Visayan Birds

PNAS Trademark

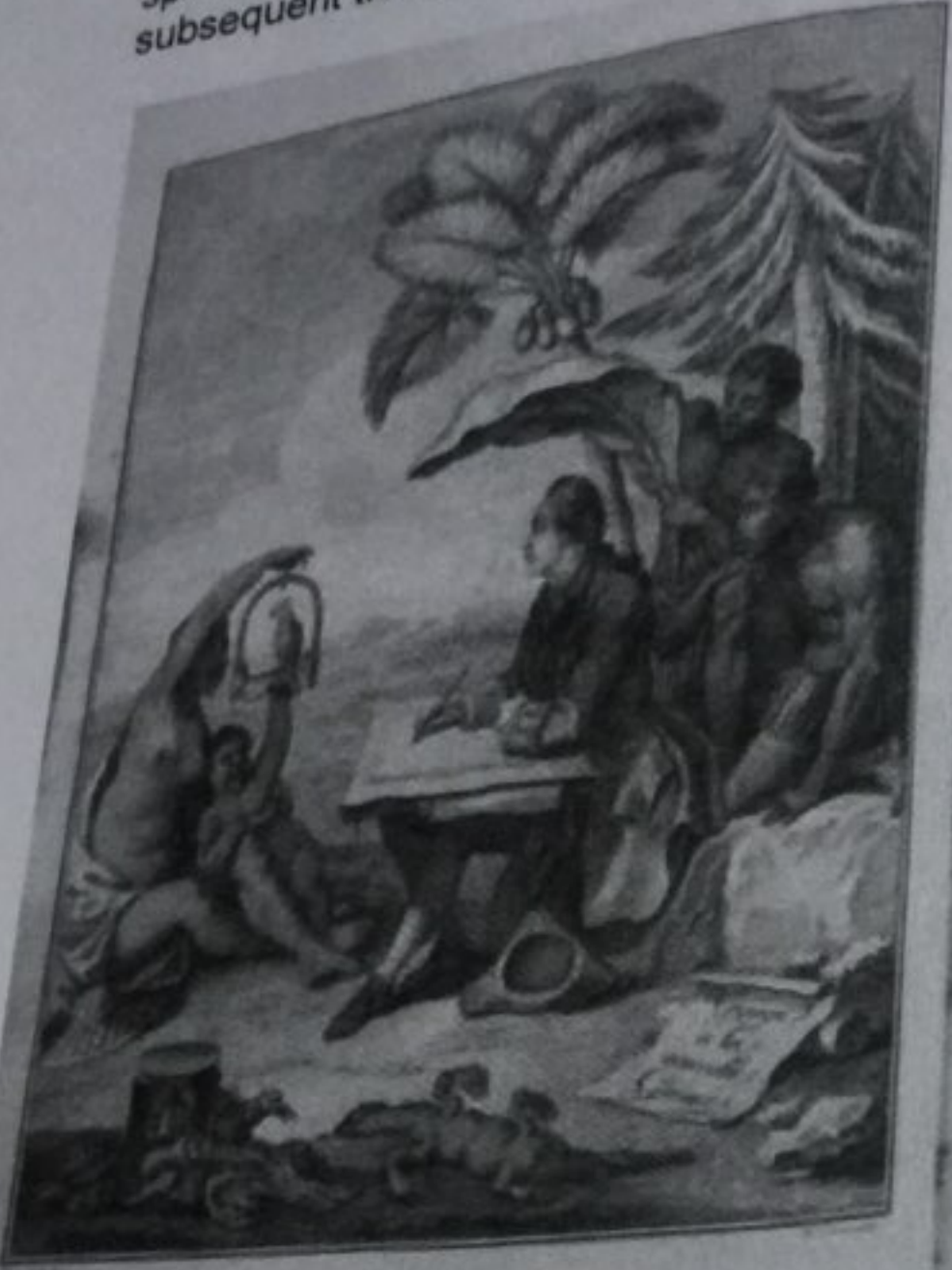
The Philippine Supreme Court

Club News



*Philippine
Birds*

behavior of similar European birds instead. He is often inaccurate with regard to location and erroneously describes as Philippine birds some specimens that were gathered from other parts of the world. Of the 57 Philippine birds described, about 25 have been identified as African or Indian species or have not been clearly identified. It is clear that the bird descriptions were written after his return to France from the specimens he brought with him. Many were specimens from Africa and India mislabeled as Philippines, perhaps gathered from previous or subsequent travels.



VOYAGE A LA NOUVELLE GUINÉE,

Dans lequel on trouve la description des Lieux, des Observations physiques & morales, & des détails relatifs à l'Histoire Naturelle dans le Règne Animal & le Règne Végétal.

Par M. SONNERAT, Sous-Commissaire de la Marine, Navire, Professeur de Bot, Correspondant de son Collège & de l'Académie Royale des Sciences de Paris, Affecté à celle des Sciences, Belles-Lettres & Arts de Lyon.

Enrichi de cent vingt Figures en taille douce.



A PARIS,
Chez RUAULT, Libraire, rue de la Harpe.
MDCCLXXVI

Title page of Sonnerat's "Voyage à la Nouvelle Guinée", Paris, 1776

the confirmed Philippine birds described in the book are, in that sequence: Luzon Bleeding-heart, Spotted Buttonquail, King Quail, White-breasted Woodswallow, Blue-headed Fantail, Yellow-vented Bulbul, White Wagtail, Olive-backed Sunbird, Purple-throated Sunbird, Collared Kingfisher, Guaiabero, Colasisi, Blue-naped Parrot, Pheasant-tailed Jacana, Little Ringed Plover, Whimbrel, Pink-necked Green Pigeon, Common Emerald Dove, Long-tailed Shrike, Green Glossy Starling, Barn Swallow, Philippine Pygmy Woodpecker, Asian Koel, Philippine Cuckoo, Plaintive Cuckoo, Visayan Hornbill, Bridled Tern, and Brown Noddy.

of the birds is "La Tourterelle grise ensanglantée de l'Isle de Luçon" (Grey Bleeding Dove of Luzon Island). His description fits perfectly that of the Luzon Bleeding-heart. Sonnerat also describes a bird he calls "La Tourterelle blanche ensanglantée de l'Isle de Luçon" (White Bleeding Dove of Luzon Island), a bird similar to the Bleeding-heart, except that it is all white with a bright red spot on the breast. It seems that Sonnerat observed an albino or a white morph of the Bleeding-heart. However I did not find any reference to an albino or a white morph of the Bleeding-heart in subsequent and modern sources.

Naturgeschichte der Vögel

Herrn von Buffons
aus dem Französischen übersetzt
mit Anmerkungen, Zusätzen und vielen Kupfern
vermehrt,
durch
Bernhard Christian Otto,
der Anatomie, Geburt der Vögel, Professor der Naturgeschichte
und Chirurgie, Rath der des Hofes, Garten in Berlin, des Königl.
Gärtlichen Gesellschafts, Bibliothek von Jena, und Könl.
Schulr. der Naturg. Histor. Mus., der Königl. Bibliothek,
u. der Berlin. u. Holl. Naturforsch. Gesellschaft Mitglied.

Vierzehnter Band.



Mit allergnädigstem Königl. Preuss. Privilegio.

Berlin, 1788.
Bei Joachim Pauli, Buchhändler.

Der blaue philippinische Fliegenschnapper

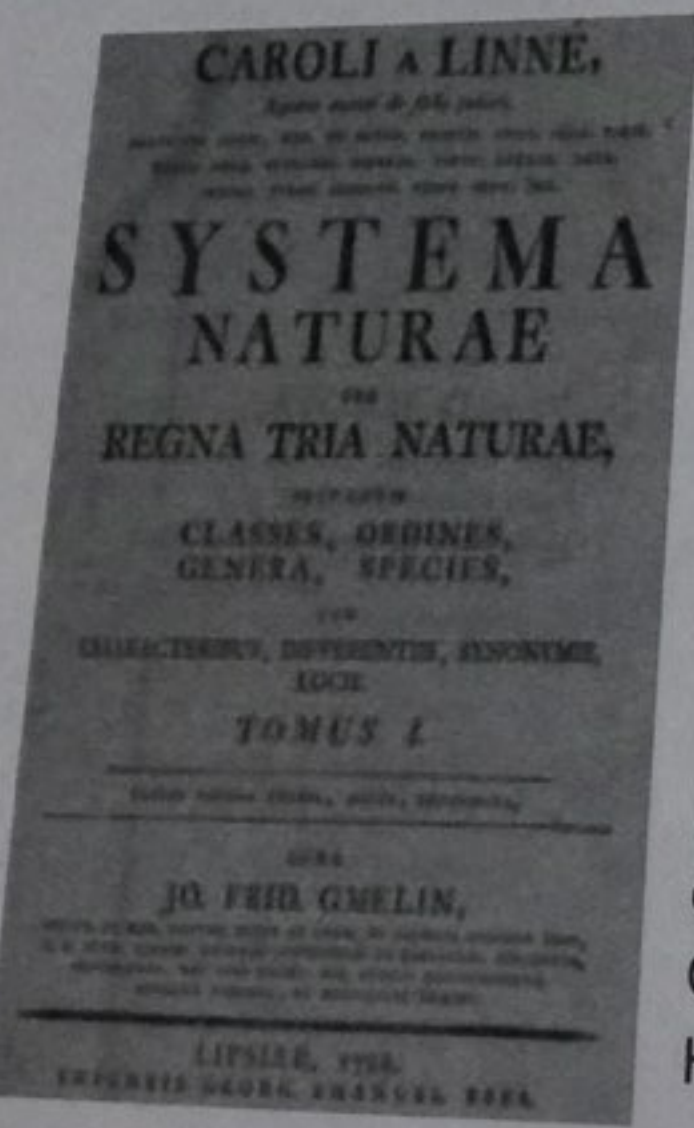


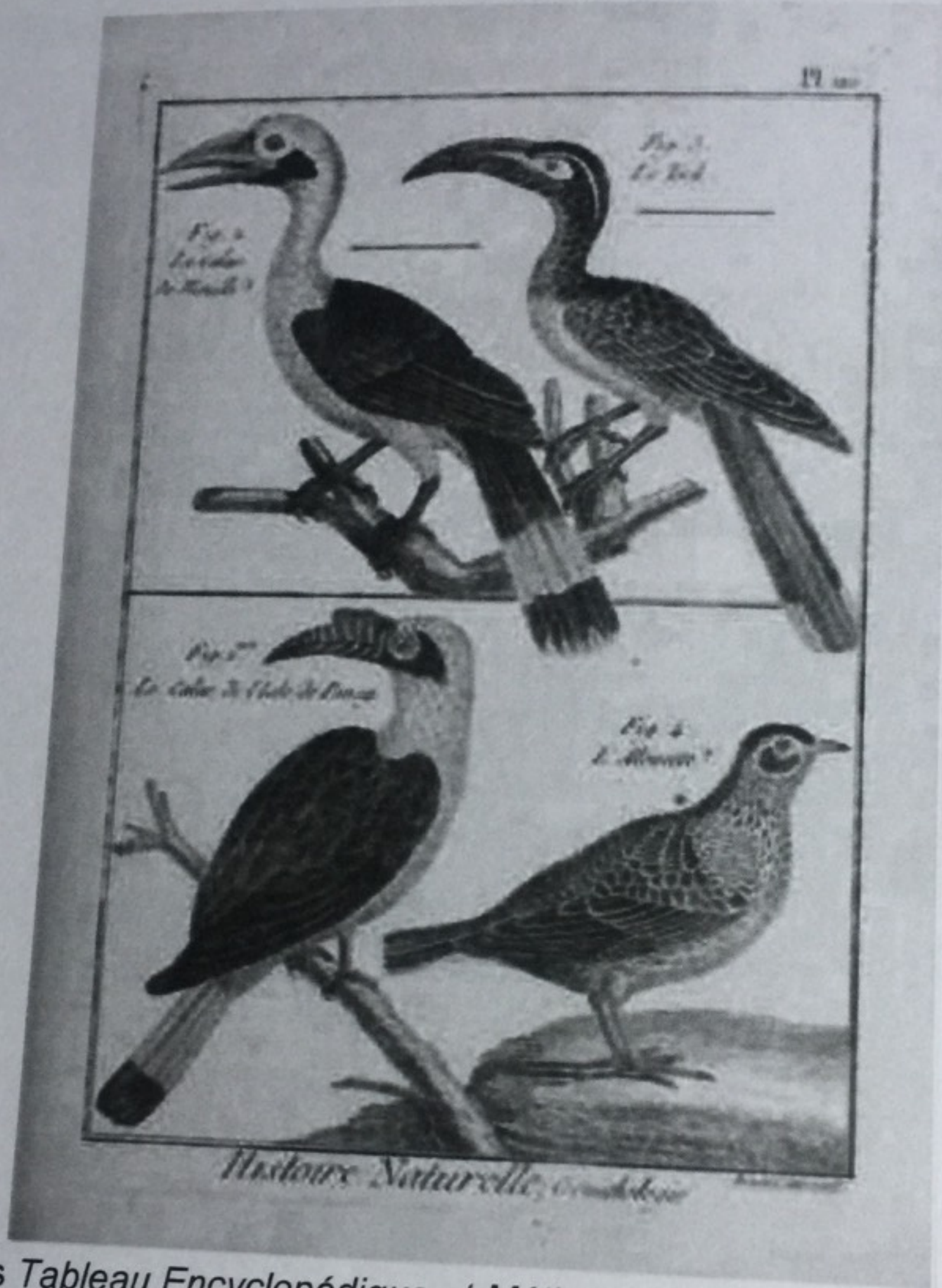
Naturgeschichte der Vögel: (left) title page of volume 15; (right) *Der blaue philippinische Fliegenschnapper* (literally Blue Philippine Flycatcher) - Black-naped Monarch

12. Gmelin: New Edition of *Systema Naturae* (1788)

Johann Friedrich Gmelin (1748–1804) was a German naturalist, botanist, entomologist and herpetologist. He published the 13th edition of Linnaeus' *Systema Naturae* in Leipzig, Germany from 1788 to 1793 where he gave scientific names to birds previously described but not named by Sonnerat, Buffon or Latham, following the Linnaean system. The well-known tree genus *Gmelina* was named after Gmelin by Linnaeus.

An example of a Philippine bird named by Gmelin is the Spot-billed Pelican, *Pelecanus philippensis* Gm. 1789, a bird that must have been quite common around Manila at the time, now extirpated. He named 28 of the 62 birds in the WBCP 2014 Checklist including Yellow Bittern, Cinnamon Bittern, Pacific Reef Heron, Spot-billed Pelican, Great Frigatebird, White-bellied Sea





Bonnaterre's *Tableau Encyclopédique et Méthodique*: (top left) *Le Calao de Manille* (Luzon Hornbill); (bottom left) *Le Calao de l'Isle de Panay* (Visayan Hornbill)

on

to a close this review of a century of ornithological publications with descriptions of Philippine birds. Of the 245 Philippine endemic species (meaning species found only in the Philippines) in the WBCP 2014 Checklist, 18 had been described and named by the end of the 18th century. Of these 18, 11 were described by European naturalists.



Fig. 2
Le ...
de ...

Fig. 3
Le ...

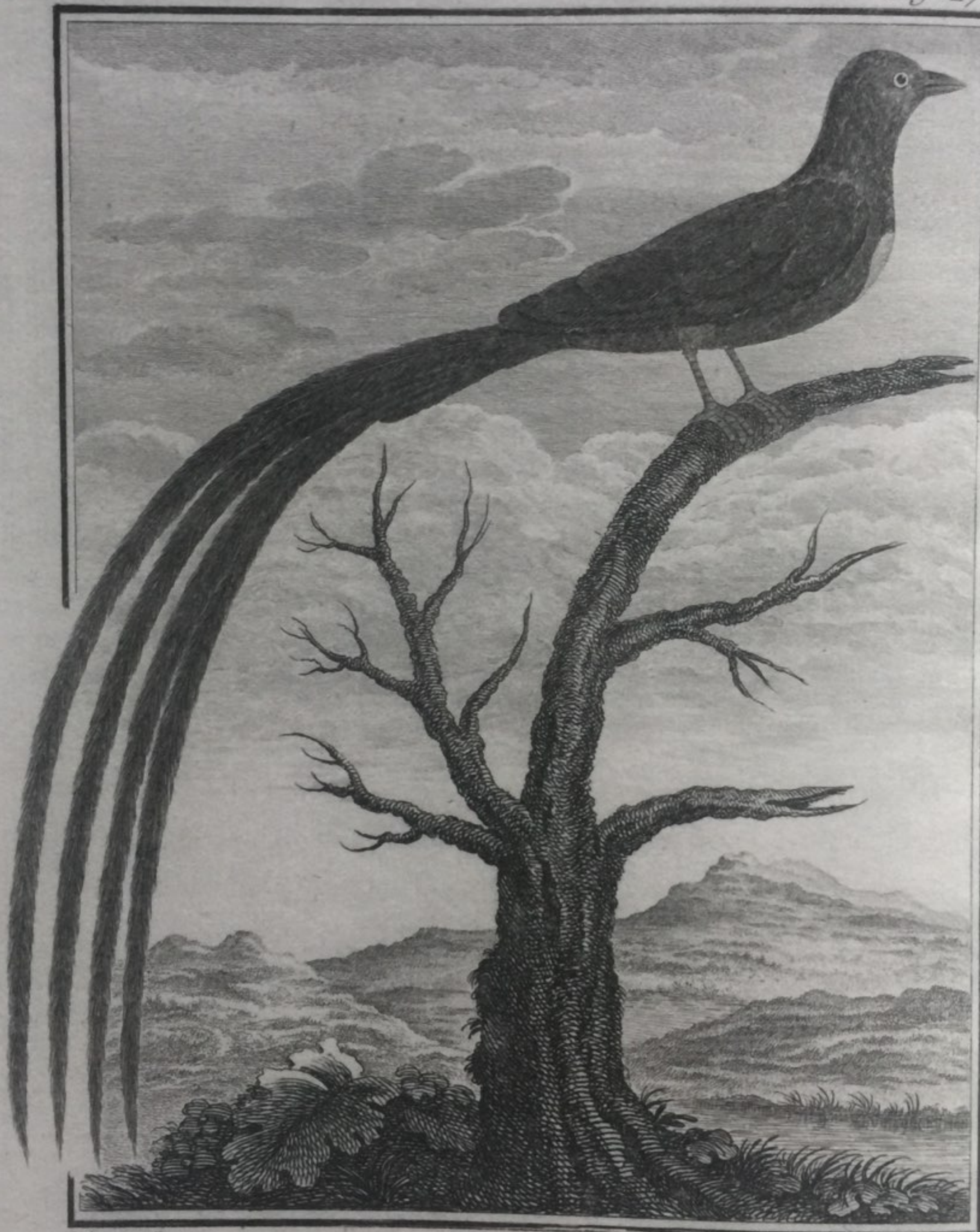


Fig. 4
Le ... de l'Isle de ...

Fig. 5
Le ...

Pl. 75.

Pag. 117.



P. Sonnerat Pinx.

C. Baquoy Sculp.

La Veuve de l'Isle Panay.

publications, and mentioned in the literature, or that had been wrongly attributed to Palawan and the Sulu Archipelago as part of the Philippines from a zoological point of view and did not include them in his list. The endemics Philippine Scops Owl *Otus megalotis* and Philippine Nightjar *Caprimulgus manillensis* were first named by Walden in this paper.

Trans. Acad. Sci. Phil. IX. PL. XXIV



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LOPHOTYX PHILIPPENSIS

Walden

s A List of Birds known to inhabit the Philippine Archipelago (1875): Philippine Hawk-Eagle



Walden's *A List of Birds known to inhabit the Philippine Archipelago* (1875): (top left) Philippine Eagle-Owl, Luzon Hawk-Owl and Philippine Scops Owl; (top right) Black-chinned Fruit Dove and Amethyst Brown Dove; (bottom left) Writhed Hornbill; (bottom right) Visayan Hornbill