

DESCRIPTION OF AN APPARENTLY NEW SPECIES OF PICOLAPTES,  
FROM THE LOWER AMAZON.

By ROBERT RIDGWAY.

*Picolaptes rikeri*, sp. nov.

SP. CHAR.—*Adult male*: Head and neck streaked with deep black and pure white, the streaks narrowest on auriculars, the white ones narrower on pileum and cervix, broader on chin and throat, where the black is reduced to a narrow edging to the feathers; remaining lower parts black, varied with white, the markings changing gradually from an irregular rhomboid and guttate longitudinal form on chests, to regular transverse bars on lower tail-coverts, where the white bars are decidedly narrower than the black ones; back, scapulars, wing-coverts, tertials, rump, upper tail-coverts, and tail, uniform bright rufous, the feathers of back with slightly paler shafts; secondaries with outer webs partly or wholly rufous; alula, primary-coverts, primaries, and inner webs of secondaries, plain dull black. Length (skin), 8 inches; wing, 4.10; tail, 3.65; culmen (exposed), 1.20; bill from nostril, .78; tarsus, .80.

Type, No. 109, 221, U. S. National Museum, Diamantina, near Santarem, Lower Amazons, August 1, 1884; C. B. Riker, collector.

This handsome species, of very striking appearance, is entirely different in coloration from any *Dendrocolaptine* bird with which I am acquainted or of which I have been able to find a description. The type specimen, the only one obtained, was kindly presented to the National Museum by Mr. C. B. Riker, of New York City, after whom I take pleasure in naming it.