

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

TWO NEW AFRICAN BIRDS.

BY JOHN C. PHILLIPS.

The two birds to be described were taken by Dr. G. M. Allen and the writer on a short collecting trip during the past winter up the Nile to Khartoum, and then up the Blue Nile and Dinder rivers in Semmar. Most of the time was spent in the latter province, a region known ornithologically for a long time through the work of Heuglin and Rüppell.

Caprimulgus eleanorae sp. nov.

Type, adult ♀ M. C. Z. No. 63,436, taken at Fazogli, Blue Nile, Sudan, 15 January, 1913.

Description.—Most nearly like *C. monticolus* of India, of which it appears to be the African representative. In general color very much like the gray examples of *C. monticolus*, but at once distinguished by the spots on the three outer primaries, being small and round and confined wholly to the inner web, instead of being large and extending across both webs of 2d, 3d, and 4th primaries. In the new species the spot on the first primary is only 7 mm. in diameter, while on the third primary it is about 12 mm. Wing, 185 mm.; culmen to base of forehead, 28 mm.; exposed culmen, 11 mm.; tarsus, 20 mm. The characters of the male are unknown.

Remarks.—This species differs from all African species of somewhat similar general coloration by its much larger size, equal in fact to *C. monticola*.

Passer domesticus chephreni subsp. nov.

Type, adult ♂ M. C. Z. No. 63,594, from Gizeh, near Cairo, Egypt, December 12, 1912.

Description.—Like *P. d. indicus* but cheeks and ear coverts much darker (smoke grey, Ridgway, 1912) instead of whitish. Size similar to

indicus. Adult female very similar to *indicus* but cheeks darker and greyer.

Remarks.—Hartert (Vögel der Palaarktischen Fauna, Vol. I, p. 151), left this lower Nile race without a name, his material being insufficient, but in a footnote in the list of species to the first volume he refers the Egyptian bird to *niloticus* of Nicoll & Bonhote (Bull. B. O. club. XXII, P. 161).

P. d. niloticus is apparently a local desert race closely resembling *P. d. arboreus* from Khartoum, and not the typical sparrow of lower Egypt, which Nicoll & Bonhote still refer to *P. d. indicus*.

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PRELIMINARY DIAGNOSES OF APPARENTLY NEW
BIRDS FROM TROPICAL AMERICA.

BY W. E. CLYDE TODD.

Since the publication of a paper by the writer entitled "Descriptions of Seventeen New Neotropical Birds" (Ann. Carnegie Mus., VIII, 1912, 198-214), the Carnegie Museum has received considerable new material from tropical America, while in addition four important families—Formicariidae, Furnariidae, Dendrocolaptidae, and Trochilidae—have been critically worked over, in all yielding a surprisingly large number of novelties. In order to make some of the results of these studies immediately available to ornithologists it has been thought best to publish brief diagnoses of the new forms at this time, leaving the detailed descriptions and critical notes to appear later in a series of more formal papers now in course of preparation.

For advice and assistance in making the necessary comparisons and in drawing up the descriptions the writer is much indebted to Mr. Harry C. Oberholser.

Catamenia oreophila sp. nov.

Adult female similar to the same sex of *Catamenia inornata minor* Berlepsch, but rump and upper tail-coverts dull grayish olive, almost concolor with the back, the latter with the dusky streaks less distinct; bill much smaller and more compressed; and tail relatively longer (60 mm.) and less emarginate.

Type, No. 37,723, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult female; San Lorenzo, Santa Marta, Colombia, June 11, 1911; M. A. Carriker, Jr.

Tanagra rufiventris colorata subsp. nov.

Similar to *Tanagra rufiventris rufiventris* (Vieillot), but yellow color of the sides of the breast more restricted, and lower breast (posterior to the

glossy blue-black area) much darker, more orange rufous, little paler than the abdomen.

Type, No. 38,400, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult male; Rio Turutu, Province del Sara, Bolivia, September 4, 1910; José Steinbach.

***Gymnostinops yuracares caurensis* subsp. nov.**

Colors in general darker than in *Gymnostinops yuracares yuracares* (D'Orbigny and Lafresnaye), and the bill decidedly weaker.

Type, No. 32,375, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult male; Rio Mocho, Rio Caura, Venezuela, November 29, 1909; M. A. Carriker, Jr.

***Basileuterus auricapillus viridescens* subsp. nov.**

Similar to *Basileuterus auricapillus auricapillus* (Swainson), but paler and more greenish, less olive brownish above, and paler yellowish below, with less greenish suffusion on the flanks.

Type, No. 38,376, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult female; Buenavista, Province del Sara, Bolivia, July 8, 1910; José Steinbach.

***Hemispingus basilicus* sp. nov.**

Differs from all the other known species of this genus in having the head black, with a conspicuous median crown-stripe of pale grayish white, which is strongly tinged with citron yellow anteriorly; broad superciliary stripe, suborbital and postauricular patches, and middle of throat white or grayish white, the latter flecked with dusky; otherwise, about as in *H. atripileus* (Lafresnaye).

Type, No. 37,991, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult male; San Lorenzo, Santa Marta, Colombia, July 28, 1911; M. A. Carriker, Jr.

***Pheugopedius genibarbis bolivianus* subsp. nov.**

Similar to *Pheugopedius genibarbis genibarbis* (Swainson), but more rufescent below, particularly on the posterior median portion, and somewhat duller rufous chestnut above.

Type, No. 38,224, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult male; Province del Sara, Bolivia, October 12, 1909; José Steinbach.

***Planesticus olivater sanctæ-martæ* subsp. nov.**

Similar to *Planesticus olivater olivater* (Lafresnaye), but size larger; upper parts darker, more olivaceous; under parts also darker, more brownish olive.

Type, No. 38,692, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult male; Cincinnati, Santa Marta, Colombia, April 12, 1912; M. A. Carriker, Jr.

***Todirostrum schistaceiceps griseolum* subsp. nov.**

Differs from *Todirostrum schistaceiceps schistaceiceps* Selater in its more grayish under parts, the greenish yellow on the sides, flanks, and under tail-coverts duller and more restricted.

Type, No. 36,292, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult male; El Hacha, Bolivar R. R., Venezuela, December 3, 1910; M. A. Carriker, Jr.

Rhynchocyclus flaviventris aurulentus subsp. nov.

Similar to *Rhynchocyclus flaviventris flaviventris* (Wied), but general coloration much brighter, more yellowish.

Type, No. 38,717, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult male; Mamotoco, Santa Marta, Colombia, April 19, 1912; M. A. Carriker, Jr.

Elæmia boliviana sp. nov.

Above plain dull grayish olivaceous, the pileum slightly but distinctly crested, without concealed white patch; wings and tail clove brown, with grayish or olivaceous edgings, the former with the lesser, middle, and greater coverts tipped with whitish and the inner secondaries edged externally with the same color; throat pale grayish white, deepening into gray on the breast, and passing into pale yellow on the abdomen and under tail-coverts. Wing, 86 mm.; tail, 79 mm.

Type, No. 31,278, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult female; Puerto Suarez, Bolivia, December 7, 1908; José Steinbach.

Leptopogon amaurocephalus diversus subsp. nov.

Similar to *Leptopogon amaurocephalus amaurocephalus* Cabanis, but smaller, the back slightly darker green, the cap very much darker brown, the under surface paler yellow posteriorly, and the rectrices edged internally with buffy.

Type, No. 38,712, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult male; Mamotoco, Santa Marta, Colombia, April 19, 1912; M. A. Carriker, Jr.

Myiarchus (?) fortirostris sp. nov.

Nearest *Myiarchus ferox ferocior* Cabanis in general coloration, but paler and more greenish above, with the wing-edgings somewhat more prominent. Bill much paler and very differently shaped, however, being shorter, stouter, and relatively higher, with the culmen more rounded and the tip less strongly hooked.

Type, No. 38,222, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult male; Province del Sara, Bolivia, October 18, 1909; José Steinbach.

Orodynastes striaticollis columbianus subsp. nov.

Similar to *Orodynastes striaticollis striaticollis* (Selater), but more olivaceous, less fulescent, brownish above, and the wings and tail darker, more blackish brown.

Type, No. 37,977, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult male; San Lorenzo, Santa Marta, Colombia, July 25, 1911; M. A. Carriker, Jr.

Microtriccus brunneicapillus dilutus subsp. nov.

Similar to *Microtriccus brunneicapillus brunneicapillus* (Lawrence), but decidedly duller and paler in general coloration.

Type, No. 34,605, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult male; Las Quignas, Venezuela, September 1, 1910; M. A. Carriker, Jr.

***Thamnophilus doliatus heteroleucus* subsp. nov.**

Similar to *Thamnophilus doliatus fraterculus* Berlepsch and Hartert, but general coloration much whiter, the white bands being broader above, and white predominating below; white spots on the tail also very large and prominent.

Type, No. 36,625, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult male; Tocuyo, Venezuela, January 24, 1911; M. A. Carriker, Jr.

***Ramphocænus melanurus pallidus* subsp. nov.**

Similar to *Ramphocænus melanurus trinitatis* Lesson, but much paler, nearly white, beneath, the sides and flanks very slightly shaded with buffy; upper parts less rufescent.

Type, No. 36,255, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult male; El Hacha, Bolívar R. R., Venezuela, November 30, 1910; M. A. Carriker, Jr.

***Hypocnemis flavescens humilis* subsp. nov.**

Similar to *Hypocnemis flavescens flavescens* Selater, but size smaller; outer margins of primaries and ground-color of back brighter gray; rump, tail, and inner remiges less rufescent; and breast less distinctly squamate.

Type, No. 32,108, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult male; La Lajita, Rio Caura, Venezuela, October 28, 1909; M. A. Carriker, Jr.

***Myrmeciza zeledoni affinis* subsp. nov.**

The adult female differs from that of *Myrmeciza zeledoni zeledoni* Ridgway in being much paler and duller in general coloration.

Type, No. 36,804, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult female; Guarico, Estado Lara, Venezuela, February 6, 1911; M. A. Carriker, Jr.

***Myrmeciza schistacea* sp. nov.**

Male almost uniform slaty above and below; wings and tail browner; wing-coverts black, tipped with white spots. Female mummy brown above, the head more dusky; below bright rufous brown, and the wing-coverts tipped with spots of the same color.

Type, No. 33,324, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult male; El Llagnal, Canra District, Venezuela, January 13, 1910; M. A. Carriker, Jr.

***Hylophylax consobrina* sp. nov.**

With a general resemblance to *Hylophylax nævia* (Gmelin), but breast not so densely streaked with black; back and tail tawny brown, the former with large buffy spots; feet pale.

Type, No. 32,380, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult male; Rio Mocho, Rio Caura, Venezuela, November 29, 1909; M. A. Carriker, Jr.

***Sclateria nævia diaphora* subsp. nov.**

Similar to *Sclateria nævia nævia* (Gmelin), but darker below, the streaking reduced in extent; white spots on the wing-coverts smaller.

Type, No. 32,421, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult male; Rio Mocho, Rio Caura, Venezuela, December 2, 1909; M. A. Carriker, Jr.

Xenops genibarbis neglectus subsp. nov.

Similar in general to *Xenops genibarbis mexicanus* Selater, but much paler, less rufescent throughout.

Type, No. 34,872, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult male; Las Quiguas, Venezuela, September 22, 1910; M. A. Carriker, Jr.

Xenicopsis striolatus sp. nov.

Related to *Xenicopsis guttulatus* Selater, but without distinct superciliaries; pileum distinctly streaked with buffy; and streaking on throat and sides of head not squamate.

Type, No. 37,105, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult female; Anzoategui, Estado Lara, Venezuela, March 2, 1911; M. A. Carriker, Jr.

Dendrocolaptes polyzonus sp. nov.

Differs from *Dendrocolaptes certhia certhia* (Boddaert) in being much darker and more rufescent brown, the pileum and hind neck with scarcely any indication of buffy or fulvous spotting, each feather being regularly barred (in concentric pattern) with dusky black.

Type, No. 38,380, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult; Provence del Sara, Bolivia, July 11, 1910; José Steinbach.

Picolaptes bivittatus certhiolus subsp. nov.

Similar to *Picolaptes bivittatus bivittatus* (Lichtenstein), but less suffused with buffy below; back and under wing-coverts less rufescent; and the superciliaries and streaks on the pileum paler, less buffy.

Type, No. 32,938, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult male; Curicke, Rio Grande, Bolivia, August 17, 1909; José Steinbach.

Phoethornis striigularis ignobilis subsp. nov.

Resembles *Phoethornis striigularis striigularis* Gould, but is paler below, the throat more uniform; rectrices with broader white edges and tips, the edgings of the outer rectrices more decidedly buffy; and the hind neck and rump paler cinnamonaceous.

Type, No. 34,813, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult male; Las Quiguas, Venezuela, September 19, 1910; M. A. Carriker, Jr.

Agyrtria hollandi sp. nov.

With a general resemblance to *Agyrtria milleri* (Bourcier), but crown bright blue (not greenish blue); under parts less extensively white; sides of the throat and breast prominently spangled with light blue; and upper parts much darker green.

Named for Dr. W. J. Holland, Director of the Carnegie Museum, in recognition of his interest in the acquisition of collections illustrating the neotropical avifauna.

Type, No. 33,938, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult male; El Dorado, Rio Cuyuni, Venezuela, April 16, 1910; M. A. Carriker, Jr.

***Saucerottia tobaci monticola* subsp. nov.**

Differs from *Saucerottia tobaci felicis* (Lesson), in being darker, less bronzy green, in general coloration.

Type, No. 36,841, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult male; Guarico, Estado Lara, Venezuela, February 8, 1911; M. A. Carriker, Jr.

***Metallura tyrianthina oreopola* subsp. nov.**

Similar to *Metallura tyrianthina tyrianthina* (Loddiges), but general coloration darker, and tail deep maroon purple, instead of bronzy or coppery.

Type, No. 37,217, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult male; Paramo de Rosas, Estado Lara, Venezuela, March 10, 1911; M. A. Carriker, Jr.

***Microstilbon* genus novum.**

With the size and general characters of *Chatoceerus* Gray, but tail of male very different, the two outer rectrices elongated (almost as long as the body), slightly expanded at the tips. *Type*, *Microstilbon insperatus* sp. nov.

***Microstilbon insperatus* sp. nov.**

Above dark shining green; wings dusky; tail dusky or bronzy violaceous; below grayish, throat paler, whitish, spangled with green, and sides also more or less green. Wing, 26 mm.; tail, 30.5 mm.; culmen, 12.5 mm.

Type, No. 38,387, Collection Carnegie Museum, male (probably not quite adult); Buenavista, Province del Sara, Bolivia, July 13, 1910; José Steinbach.

***Electron platyrhynchum medianum* subsp. nov.**

Similar to *Electron platyrhynchum pyrrolanum* Berlepsch and Stolzmann, but chin-spot more bluish and more conspicuous; posterior under parts and remiges somewhat less suffused with bluish; chestnut rufous areas slightly darker and duller.

Type, No. 38,346, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult female; Rio Turutu, Province del Sara, Bolivia, August 11, 1910; José Steinbach.

***Pyrrhura viridicata* sp. nov.**

Above green; wings externally bright blue; tail greenish above, coppery below; under surface mostly dull green; under wing-coverts orange; ear-coverts dull maroon; narrow frontlet scarlet.

Type, No. 37,987, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult male; San Lorenzo, Santa Marta, Colombia, July 27, 1911; M. A. Carriker, Jr.

***Rallus longirostris leucophæus* subsp. nov.**

Above similar to *Rallus longirostris waynei* Brewster, but very different below, being almost white, with a slight wash of ochraceous buff on the breast. Very much paler and whiter below even than *Rallus longirostris coryi*.

Type, No. 39,717, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult male; Majagua River, Isle of Pines, November 7, 1912; Gustav A. Link.