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BIRDS COLLECTED DURING THE WHITNEY SOUTH SEA EXPEDITION. VIII¹

NOTES ON BIRDS FROM THE SOLOMON ISLANDS

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Pandion haliaëtus cristatus (Vieillot)

Buteo cristatus VIEILLOT, 1816, 'Nouv. Dict. d'Hist. Nat.,' nouv. éd., IV, p. 481 (Australia, not Tasmania).

♂, ♀: Arnavon and Oua raha Islands; March and September, 1927.

Haliaëtus leucogaster (Gmelin)

Falco leucogaster GMELIN, 1788, 'Syst. Nat.,' I, pt. 1, p. 257 (no locality; restricted typical locality Australia, New South Wales).

♂, ♀, juv.: Vella Lavella and Arnavon Islands between Choiseul and Ysabel; September and November; Hamlin Coll.

No subspecies of this wide-spread species have hitherto been recognized, Mathews' "*Cuncuma leucogaster pallidus*" not being separable and no longer thought recognizable in 'The Birds of Australia,' V, p. 133 (1915), but upheld again, without any explanation, in 'Syst. Av. Australas.,' I, p. 254 (1927). In this list Mathews also enumerates a "*Cuncuma leucogaster oceanica*" Meyer and Wiglesworth, which he assigns to Celebes. There is, however, no valid reason for this action. Meyer and Wiglesworth did not mean to give the name "*Falco oceanica*," but quoted it as of Temminck, under his Plate XLIX in his 'Planches Coloriées,' by some error, as Temminck called it only by a French name, "Aigle océanique," nor is there any conceivable reason to relict that name to an imaginary Celebes subspecies.

This species is often called "*Cuncuma leucogaster*," but without giving convincing reasons. If *H. leucogaster* was separated generically, the same must be done with *pelagicus* and *leucoryphus*.

¹Previous papers in this series comprise American Museum Novitates, Nos. 115, 124, 149, 322, 337, 350, and 356.

***Aviceda subcristata gurneyi* (Ramsay)**

Baza gurneyi RAMSAY, 1880, Journ. Linn. Soc. London, XVI, p. 130 (Ugi Island, Solomon Islands).

Specimens from Ysabel, Bougainville, and Guadalcanar. Also one from Oua raha near San Cristobal (Bauro). This latter one has the underside unbarred, with only three narrow bars on each side on the chest. There is great individual variation in the barring, even in adults, though younger birds have narrower bars, but it is not known that the underside is sometimes quite unbarred. I know of no specimens from Bauro, and it is possible that an almost unbarred form of this bird exists there, but probably the specimen from Oua raha is an individual aberration.

The females are usually larger than the males, but this is not borne out by the sexing on all these skins, and the bird from Ysabel, sexed as a male, should in my opinion be a female.

I can see no valid reason why the eastern "Bazas" should be generically separated from *Aviceda*.

***Haliastur indus girrenera* (Vieillot)¹**

Haliastur girrenera VIEILLOT (and OUDART), 1825, 'Gal. Ois.,' I, p. 31, Pl. x, part (India and Australia. Restricted typical locality, Australia).

2 ♂, 1 ♀ ad., 1 ♀ juv.: Guadalcanar; April and June; Hicks Coll.

Mathews, in 'Syst. Av. Australas.,' I, p. 255 (1927), has given a list which seems to me misleading. He continues to call the Australian form *leucosternus* and distinguishes also a *subleucosternus*, which he restricts to Northern and Western Australia, but which is not separable. The form from "Celebes and Malay Archipelago" he calls *ambiguus*, but the name *intermedius* Gurney, Ibis, 1865, p. 28 (Java), is ten years older than *ambiguus*. There is in all these forms some variation; in fact, one of the Guadalcanar skins has narrow stripes, almost like *intermedius*, but the three races (*H. indus indus* (Boddaert) with wide stripes, from India; *H. indus intermedius* Gurney, from Java and Celebes to the Lesser Sunda Islands, with narrow stripes; and *H. indus girrenera*, usually without black lines) are well-marked in series.

***Accipiter luteoschistaceus* Rothschild and Hartert ? subspecies**

Accipiter luteoschistaceus ROTHSCHILD AND HARTERT, 1926, Bull. B. O. Club, XLVI, p. 53 (Talasea, New Britain).

A young male was obtained by David at Vella Lavella Island, November 9, 1927. This bird seems to be a young of *Accipiter luteoschista-*

¹Mr. Mathews rejected Vieillot's name *girrenera* and calls this form *leucosternus*, but there is no valid reason to reject *girrenera*, as explained in Nov. Zoöl., 1914, XXI, p. 210.

ceus, discovered by Eichhorn on New Britain, and of which we know only the two adult males, though it has since been rediscovered by Father Meyer. The upperside of this young bird is slaty brown with dull rufous edges to the feathers and concealed white bases. Side of head with narrow white streaks. Quills blackish brown, inner webs toward the base pale reddish cinnamon with blackish bars, and blackish toward the shaft. Underside creamy white, darker and more ochraceous-buff on belly and under tail-coverts, and brightest on the thighs. Chin, throat, and chest with blackish shaft-lines, sides and flanks with ochraceous spots. Under wing-coverts ochraceous-buff. Cere (in skin) orange-yellow. Bill somewhat wrongly described on label as "yellow, tip black," the cere only being yellow, the hard portion of the bill being entirely black. "Feet yellow." Testes small. Wing, 190 mm.

This bird probably belongs to a subspecies of *A. luteoschistaceus*, but this cannot be proven until we have specimens of old birds from the Solomon Islands.

***Accipiter albogularis* Gray**

Accipiter albogularis GRAY, 1870; Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., (4) V, p. 327 (San Cristobal).

Astur holomelas SHARPE, 1888, Proc. Zoöl. Soc. London, p. 182, (Guadalcanar. The melanistic variety).

Astur woodfordi SHARPE, 1888, Proc. Zoöl. Soc. London, p. 183 (Guadalcanar. Was specifically separated from *albogularis* because it had a vinous collar on the upperside).

Astur versicolor RAMSAY, 1882, Proc. Linn. Soc. N. S. Wales, VI, p. 718 (Ugi, near San Cristobal. Suggested in the description that it may be a melanistic *albogularis*).

2 ♀, ad.: Guadalcanar, June 2, 1927, R. H. Beck Coll.; Bougainville, January 25, 1928, Hamlin Coll. Both have the vinous-rufous collar on the upperside well developed.

♂ ad.: Fauro Island, December 1, 1927, R. H. Beck Coll. In this specimen the nuchal collar is duller and less visible.

♂, ad.: Bougainville; January 5, 1928, Richards Coll. This is a melanistic variety, being slate color all over, only the inner webs of the primaries and secondaries being more or less whitish.

In all these birds the iris is yellow or orange, and the cere (in skins) dull blackish or slate, while in the group of *pulchellus*, *bougainvillei*, *rufoschistaceus*, and *rubianæ* the iris is brown, while the cere is yellow. The development of the rufous nuchal collar varies very much. Cf. Nov. Zoöl., 1905, p. 249.

The Tring Museum had received this form from Guadalcanar, Choiseul, Kulambangra, New Georgia; also young ones, which vary much, but apparently belong to this form, from Vella Lavella, Rendova, and Treasury Island.

***Accipiter (novæhollandiæ) rufoschistaceus* (Rothschild and Hartert)**

Astur rufoschistaceus ROTHSCHILD AND HARTERT, 1902, Nov. Zoöl., IX, p. 590 (Ysabel Island).

♂, ♀, ad.: Ysabel; August, 1927; Drowne and Hicks Coll.

The hawks of this group are particularly interesting, because they are very local. It will be useful to review them hereafter. Dr. Stresemann considers them all to be subspecies of *A. novæhollandiæ*, and a thorough study of all these forms leads to that view, of which I thoroughly approve. As American ornithologists have not advanced to this wide view of species and subspecies, and would doubtless name *novæhollandiæ* and the Solomon Islands' group binomially, I have, therefore, placed the specific name, *novæhollandiæ*, in parenthesis, in order to call attention to possible different views.

The four hawks of this group, from the Solomon Islands, are as follows.

(a) ***Accipiter (novæhollandiæ) pulchellus* Ramsay**

*Astur pulchellus*¹ RAMSAY, 1883, Journ. Linn. Soc. London, XVI, p. 131 (Solomon Islands).

Astur shebæ SHARPE, 1888, Proc. Zoöl. Soc. London, p. 183 (Guadalcanar).

♂, ♀, ad.: Guadalcanar; May, 1927; Beck and Hicks Coll.

Distinguishable from the other forms by the paler, sometimes almost whitish thighs and more or less whitish under wing-coverts. Wings: ♂, 204, 206 mm.; ♀, about 220, 222 mm.

Meek sent only one specimen, a young bird, from Florida.

(b) ***Accipiter (novæhollandiæ) bougainvillei* (Rothschild and Hartert)**

Astur etorques bougainvillei ROTHSCHILD AND HARTERT, 1905, Nov. Zoöl., XII, p. 251 (Bougainville Island).

Under wing-coverts and thighs the color of the breast and abdomen. Wings: ♂, 195 to 200 mm.; ♀, 212, 219 mm.

¹This is not "a new name for *A. soloënsis*" (!) but for a specimen erroneously named *soloënsis* by the author. It was said to be from "Cape Pitt, Solomon Islands," but the only Cape Pitt known is the Cape on New Georgia. The specimen called *pulchellus*, however, cannot be from New Georgia, but, from its description, must be from Guadalcanar. As the collector, Cockerell, has in other cases been careless about localities, I restrict the name *pulchellus* to the Guadalcanar form. Thus an alteration in the accepted nomenclature is avoided.

Bougainville (and, apparently, Fauro in the Shortland group, from which place a young bird was received).

(c) **Accipiter (novæhollandiæ) rufoschistaceus** (Rothschild and Hartert)

Astur etorques rufoschistaceus ROTHSCHILD AND HARTERT, 1902, Nov. Zoöl., IX, p. 590 (Ysabel Island).

Very similar to *bougainvillei* but larger and the coloration slightly deeper. Wings: ♂, 214, 215, 219, in one specimen 225 mm.; ♀, 240, 244, 250, 254 mm.

Ysabel and Choiseul Islands.

(d) **Accipiter (novæhollandiæ) rubianæ** (Rothschild and Hartert)

Astur etorques rubianæ ROTHSCHILD AND HARTERT, 1905, Nov. Zoöl., XII, p. 250 (Rubiana (New Georgia) group; New Georgia, Rendova, Gizo).

Slightly deeper in color still than *rufoschistaceus*, and much smaller, in size more like *pulchellus*, but under wing-coverts and thighs like the breast. Wings: ♂, about 192 (worn), 196, 199 mm.; ♀, 208 (worn), 211, 213, 215 mm.

The western central group: New Georgia, Rendova, Gizo, Vella Lavella Islands.

Accipiter meyerianus (Sharpe)

Astur meyerianus SHARPE, 1877, Journ. Linn. Soc. London, XIII, p. 458, Pl. XXII (Jobi Island).

♀, ad.: Kulambangra; September 29, 1927; F. P. Drowne Coll.

“Iris reddish brown. Bill black, bluish, and yellow at base. Feet yellow. Sexual organ swollen.” Wing, 322 mm.

This is the second specimen of this very rare species from the Solomon Islands. Another, in moult from the juvenal to the adult plumage, was obtained on Guadalcanar by Woodford and labeled “*Astur albigularis*.” It is now in the British Museum. The distribution of this goshawk (considered by Kleinschmidt and Stresemann to be a subspecies of our *Accipiter gentilis* = *palumbarius*) is peculiar and it is strange that so few specimens are known. The reason is, perhaps, that much of the collecting in Papuan regions is done by natives, who are excellent collectors, but they cannot shoot flying birds—and goshawks are not easily shot! This species is now recorded from Jobi, Ceram, Ceramlaut, Vuatom, near New Britain, Halmahera, Guadalcanar, and Kulambangra, but it must occur in many other places. The bird from Vuatom was described by Reichenow as *Astur planes*, the one from

Ceram by Stresemann as *Accipiter planes maneho*. The latter is more heavily marked on the underside, and may possibly constitute a Molucan subspecies, but there is not sufficient reason to suppose this.

***Spiloglaux roseoaxillaris*, new species**

MALE.—Upperside rufous cinnamon, on the nape some small round light spots of a dull ochraceous-buff; quills rufous brown, inner webs darker and with a few white bars or roundish patches reaching across about the inner half of the web and not in all cases touching the inner margin, secondaries and inner primaries with roundish whitish spots on the outer webs, larger coverts also with a few whitish spots. Tail rufous brown like wings, inner webs with four to five irregular whitish cross-bars. Sides of face like back, on the throat, reaching up to the beak, a triangular white patch. Rest of underside cinnamon, lower abdomen, under tail-coverts and thighs lighter, sides of breast darker, the lower feathers with lighter, almost creamy cross-bars and spots. Axillaries pale pink, quills from underneath brown, crossed by irregular bars of white, which are tinged with pale pink toward the pale pink base; under wing-coverts light rufous. "Iris brown, bill horn, sexual organs small." Wing, 157; tail, 86; tarsus, 30; culmen from cere, 17 mm. The feathering of the tarsus is almost evanescent toward the toes which have a few bristles.

TYPE.—Male, adult; Bauro (San Cristobal); April 4, 1927; R. H. Beck Coll.; Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist. No. 217087.

This is the only specimen of this most interesting and quite peculiar new species. Further researches must show whether this owl is restricted to San Cristobal or spread over various islands.

***Spiloglaux jacquinoti jacquinoti* (Bonaparte)**

Athene jacquinoti BONAPARTE, 1850 'Consp. Gen. Av.,' I, p. 42, ('Oecanie,' ex Jacquinot, 'Voy. Pôle Sud.,' Pl. III, fig. 1).

Athene tæniata JACQUINOT AND PUCHERAN, 1853, 'Voy. Pôle Sud,' Zool., III, p. 50 (Saint George Island near Ysabel, Solomons. Based on the same bird which Bonaparte called *A. jacquinoti*).

♂, ♀: Florida Island; June 25, 1927; R. H. Beck Coll. ♂: Ysabel Island; August 24, 1927; David Coll.

These specimens agree with twelve collected on Ysabel by Meek and Eichhorn, and one from Florida shot by C. M. Woodford. There is a good deal of variation in these owls. The upperside is sometimes blacker, sometimes more rufous brown; the spots are more or less numerous; the central retrices are either barred or unbarred; the underside is whiter or browner, the bars on the sides of the breast are sometimes less distinct than usual. The wings of non-moulting specimens measure about 200–226 mm., the females being larger. Tails, about 106–120 mm.

The specimens from the northern islands, Bougainville, and Choiseul, fourteen of which I have before me, are smaller. The wings of unmoulting birds do not range up to 200 mm., being 185–197 mm., the tails, 10–15 mm. shorter. Bills slightly smaller.

This form might be distinguished from *S. j. jacquinoti* as *S. j. eichhorni*.

***Spiloglaux jacquinoti eichhorni*, new subspecies**

TYPE.—Male, adult; Choiseul; December 10, 1903; No. A 900; A. S. Meek Coll.

HABITAT.—Bougainville, Choiseul, and Treasury Islands.

***Spiloglaux granti* (Sharpe)**

Ninox granti SHARPE, 1888, Proc. Zool. Soc. London, p. 183 (Guadalcanar)

♂, ♀: Guadalcanar; July 26–27, 1927; Beck and Hicks Coll.

The amount of pale spotting on the head varies much. The loreal bristles are sometimes entirely black, sometimes white basally, with black distal portion.

***Hylochelidon nigricans nigricans* (Vieillot)**

Hirundo nigricans VIEILLOT, 1817, 'Nouv. Dict. d'Hist. Nat.,' XIV, p. 523. (Australia).

1 ♂: Guadalcanar; May 19, 1927; Beck Coll.

This Australian swallow is a migrant from Australia. Though it has not previously been known to occur on the Solomon Islands, this record is not very strange, as it has been recorded from New Guinea and New Britain.

***Hirundo (Hypurolepis) tahitica subfusca* Gould**

*Hirundo subfusca*¹ GOULD, 1856, Proc. Zool. Soc. London, p. 137 (Moala, Fiji Islands).

Guadalcanar; May, July; Drowne and Hicks Coll. Bauro; March 29, 1927; Kulambangra; October 17, 1927; Choiseul, November 28, 1927; Fauro, December 2, 1927; Hicks Coll. Oua raha near Bauro; March 14, 1927; F. P. Drowne Coll. Bagga Island; November 7, 1927; David Coll.

***Meliarchus sclateri* (Gray)**

Philemon sclateri GRAY, 1870, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., (4) V, p. 364 (San Cristobal).

3 ♂, 3 ♀: Bauro (San Cristobal); March and April, 1927; Hicks, Beck, and Drowne Coll.

¹For a long time this bird has been called *Hirundo tahitica*, but it is very different from the Tahiti form.

The wings of the males measure 133–138 mm.; of the adult females, 115–118 mm. The iris is described as straw-color, whitish, yellowish horn. Meek and Eichhorn called it gray.

GUADALCANARIA, new genus

This new bird belongs to the genus *Ptilotis* in its widest sense and is nearest to "*Meliphaga*" (*Ptilotis lewini*), having no naked space or wattles anywhere, but it has a longer bill and a tuft of yellow feathers on the sides of the neck, not behind the eye as in *M. (Trichodere) cockerelli*, and no bare skin-fold behind the gape as in *M. (Lichenostomus) cratitia*. It will therefore have to be treated as a new genus or subgenus.

TYPE.—*Guadalcanaria inexpectata*.

It certainly was unexpected to find such a striking and hitherto unknown species on Guadalcanar, and this and the discovery of other new forms on that island shows that the ornithological exploration of Guadalcanar has hitherto been very imperfect.

Guadalcanaria inexpectata, new species

ADULT MALE.—Bill black. Upperside slate-gray with a brownish tinge on the rump and upper tail-coverts. Quills slate-color, outer webs widely edged with greenish olive-yellow, inner webs with a narrow buff edge. Retrices brownish slate-color, outer webs edged like the wings. Ear-coverts glossy slaty gray. On the sides of the neck a tuft of pointed golden-yellow feathers, about 2 cm. long. Throat and foreneck grayish white with dark shaft-stripes, dark gray on the throat, blackish towards the breast. Breast and abdomen dark gray with blackish gray shaft-stripes, vent and under tail-coverts brownish gray, indistinctly striated. Under wing-coverts brownish gray, indistinctly striated. "Feet bluish, light bluish, gray, iris brown." Bill from forehead 31–32; wing, 104–111; metatarsus, 29–30; tail, 90–93 mm.

ADULT FEMALE.—Exactly like the male but smaller. Wing, 97, 98 mm.; bill, 27–28 mm.

TYPE.—Male adult; Guadalcanar; July 25, 1927; Mrs. R. H. Beck Coll.; Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist. No. 220323.

4♂, 2♀: Guadalcanar; July 25 and 27; Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Beck Coll.

Cinnyris jugularis flavigastra (Gould)

Nectarinia flavigastra GOULD, 1843, Proc. Zool. Soc. London, p. 104 (New Ireland).

1♂, 3♀: Guadalcanar; May, July. 2♂: Ysabel; August 29, 1927; Pavuvu, July 11, 1927; 1♀ (name of island unreadable on label); Drowne Coll. 1♂: Beagle Island; April 23, 1927; Hicks Coll. 1♂: Savo Island; June 4, 1927; Beck Coll.

Obviously, all the specimens from the Solomon and Bismarck archipelagos belong to the same form, the oldest name of which is *flavigastra* Gould.

***Dicæum tristrami* Sharpe**

Dicæum tristrami SHARPE, 1883, Proc. Zoöl. Soc. London, p. 579 (San Cristobal); 1908, Nov. Zoöl., XV, p. 364 (San Cristobal).

3 ♂, 3 ♀ : Bauro or San Cristobal; March and April, 1927.

***Dicæum æneum* Jacquinot and Pucheran**

Dicæum æneum JACQUINOT AND PUCHERAN, 1853, 'Voy. Pôle Sud,' Text Zool., III, Ois., p. 97 (Ex Pl. XXII, fig. 4. "San Jorge").

"San Jorge" doubtless means St. George Island near Ysabel, and therefore the name *æneum* must belong to the smaller northern form. Specimens from Guadalcanar are slightly larger (wing, ♂, 52-54.5 mm.), and the sides of the body are a shade more olivaceous in both sexes. The species may therefore be divided into two subspecies as follows.

(a) ***Dicæum æneum æneum* Jacquinot and Pucheran**

Inhabiting Bougainville, Choiseul, Ysabel, and St. George's Island. Wing: ♂, 49.5 (in one specimen), 50-52; ♀, 45-48 mm.

1 ♂, 2 ♀ : Choiseul; November, 1927; Drowne, Hicks, Coll. 1 ♂ : Ysabel; August 23, 1927; Beck Coll.

(b) ***Dicæum æneum becki*, new subspecies**

Guadalcanar, Tulagi. Wing: ♂, 52-54.5; ♀, 48 (in one specimen) to 50 mm. TYPE.—Male, adult; Guadalcanar; July 22, 1927; Hicks Coll.

1 ♀ : Tulagi; May 23, 1927; Hicks Coll. 2 ♂, 1 ♀ : Guadalcanar; May and July, 1927, Hicks and Drowne Coll.

***Myzomela pammelsæna tristrami* Ramsay**

(*Myzomela pammelsæna* SCLATER, 1877, Proc. Zoöl. Soc. London, p. 553. Admiralty Islands).

Myzomela tristrami RAMSAY, 1882, Proc. Linn. Soc. N. S. Wales, VI, p. 178 ("Solomon Islands"). 1908, Nov. Zoöl., XV, p. 364, San Cristobal.

2 ♂, 1 ♀ : Bauro or San Cristobal; March and April, 1927. 1 ♂, 2 ♀ : Awa Kaba Island; March 9 and 11, 1927; Drowne and Hicks Coll.

The latter specimens may possibly form a larger race, the wings measuring (♂) 71-72 mm., while in the Bauro specimens, the males range only up to 69 and 70 mm., but more material is required to confirm this slight difference.

Myzomela eichhorni eichhorni Rothschild and Hartert

Myzomela eichhorni ROTHSCHILD AND HARTERT, 1901, Nov. Zoöl., p. 181 (Kulambangra).

♂, ♀ : Kulambangra, October, 1927; Drowne and David Coll.

Myzomela eichhorni atrata Hartert

Myzomela eichhorni atrata HARTERT, 1908, Bull. B.O. Club, XXI, p. 105 (Vella Lavella).

♂, ♀ : Vella Lavella; October, 1927; Beck and Drowne Coll.

♂, ♀ : Ganonga Island; October, 1927; Drowne and David Coll.

Myzomela melanocephala (Ramsay)

Cinnyris melanocephalus RAMSAY, 1897, Nature, XX, p. 125 ("Guadalcana" = Guadalcanar). According to Mathews, this publication appeared a few weeks before that of *C. dubia*.

Cinnyris (?) *dubia* RAMSAY, 1897, Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S. Wales, IV, p. 83 (Savo, a little island close to Guadalcanar). Cf. ROTHSCHILD AND HARTERT, 1901, Nov. Zoöl., p. 181.

1 ♀ : Guadalcanar; April 20, 1927; R. H. Beck Coll.

Myzomela lafargei Jacquinet and Pucheran

Myzomela lafargei JACQUINOT AND PUCHERAN, 1853, 'Voy. Pôle Sud,' Zool., Ois., p. 98 (Solomon Islands); ROTHSCHILD AND HARTERT, 1902, Nov. Zoöl., p. 518 (Ysabel).

2 ♂, 2 ♀ : Ysabel; August, 1927; Beck and Drowne Coll.

1 ♂ : Choiseul; November 22, 1927; Drowne Coll.

Zosterops alberti alberti Rothschild and Hartert

Zosterops alberti ROTHSCHILD AND HARTERT, 1908, Nov. Zoöl., XV, p. 364 (San Cristobal Island).

1 ♂, ad.: Bauro = San Cristobal; April 8, 1927; R. H. Beck Coll.

The bird to be called *Z. ugiensis* (Ramsay), the *Z. salomonensis* of Finsch, 'Tierreich,' Lief. XV, 1901, p. 42, cannot be this form, as its description disagrees; Ramsay called it *Tephras* because its upperside was "uniform dull brown, washed with olive," and not green. Unfortunately, the little island of Ugi has thus far not been revisited by collectors. Although so near San Cristobal (Bauro), we know several different forms from Ugi.

Zosterops alberti oblita, new subspecies

Very much like *Z. a. alberti*, but the under tail-coverts are lemon yellow, lores and forehead like the back, not washed with dark brown. In *Z. a. alberti* the under tail-

coverts are white, sometimes slightly washed with yellow. Wing: ♂, 69 mm. (one not quite measurable); ♀, 67-71.5 mm.

TYPE.—Male adult; Guadalcanar; May 30, 1927; R. H. Beck Coll.; Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist. No. 218110.

2 ♂, 3 ♀: Guadalcanar; May and July, 1927; R. H. Beck and Hicks Coll.

***Zosterops metcalfei metcalfei* (Tristram)**

Zosterops metcalfei TRISTRAM, 1894, Ibis, p. 29, Pl. III (Bugotu, Ysabel Island).

We had this widespread form from Bougainville, Choiseul, and Ysabel. There are now in the Whitney Expedition Collection two males and one female from Ysabel, and one male and two females from the Shortland Islands.

***Zosterops metcalfei floridana* Rothschild and Hartert**

Zosterops floridana ROTHSCHILD AND HARTERT, 1901, Nov. Zoöl., VIII, p. 180, (Florida Island, Solomon Islands).

This form differs from *Z. metcalfei metcalfei* only in having no trace of the white orbital ring. In *Z. metcalfei metcalfei* that ring is always visible in cleanly prepared skins. In the series the upperside of *Z. m. floridana* is also a shade lighter. This is so obviously a subspecies of *metcalfei* that I have used trinomials for its denomination. In the other forms of *Zosterops* I have refrained from using trinomials, because it requires a thorough study of the genus to group them properly.

♂, ♀: Florida; May 26, 1927; Beck and Hicks Coll.

***Zosterops kulambangræ* Rothschild and Hartert**

Zosterops kulambangræ ROTHSCHILD AND HARTERT, 1901, Nov. Zoöl., VIII, p. 180 (Kulambangra Island).

1 ♂, 2 ♀: Kulambangra; October 5 and 10, 1927; F. P. Drowne Coll.

These specimens agree perfectly with those formerly collected by Meek. Bill entirely black and quite narrow, in not very carefully prepared specimens, hardly visible white eye-ring, lores blackish.

***Zosterops murphyi*, new species**

Bill black, basal half of under mandible "yellow" (whitish in skin). Eyes surrounded by a wide ring of white feathers, under the eye up to 2.5 mm. wide. Upper-side green with a yellow tinge, underside much lighter. Bill, ♂, from base, 19; wing, 64-66; ♀, 63-63.2 mm.

TYPE.—Male, adult; Kulambangra; October 13, 1927; Hicks Coll.; Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist. No. 220087.

3 ♂, 2 ♀, from Kulambangra.

This *Zosterops* is named in honor of Doctor Robert Cushman Murphy, in charge of the Whitney Expedition, to whom we are all indebted for many courtesies.

It is interesting to find two species of *Zosterops* on the small island of Kulambangra. The Santa Cruz species is much larger and much paler.

***Zosterops vellalavella* Hartert**

Zosterops vellalavella HARTERT, 1908, Bull. B. O. Club, XXI, p. 106 (Vella Lavella Island); 1908, Nov. Zoöl., p. 358.

2 ♂, 1 ♀, from Vella Lavella; ♂, ♀, Bagga Island, near Vella Lavella, all November, 1927; R. H. Beck and Hicks Coll.

***Zosterops luteirostris* Hartert**

Zosterops luteirostris HARTERT, 1904, Bull. B. O. Club, XIV, p. 61 (Island of Gizo).

Four males from Gizo, October and November, 1927. Meek described the iris as dark red, but Beck called it brown, and Drowne named it reddish-brown and brown.

***Zosterops splendida*, new species**

Forehead and lores black-brown, this color merging into the olive-yellow of the back, rump, upper tail-coverts and outer aspect of the wings; hidden portion of quills brownish black, inner edges white. A wide white ring around the eyes, narrowly interrupted in front. Underside from chin to under tail-coverts beautifully golden-yellow, sides of the breast pale olivaceous. Under wing-coverts lemon yellow. "Iris brown or orange, bill black, feet yellow." Sexual organs mostly enlarged. Male like female. Wing: ♂, 60-61.5; ♀, 51 mm. Bill, from base (forehead), 16-17 mm.

TYPE.—Male, adult; Island of Ganonga, Solomon Islands; October 24, 1927; R. H. Beck Coll.; Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist. No. 220020.

Four males and one female of this beautiful bird were sent by R. H. Beck.

***MOCHITHOPÆUS*, new genus**

This new bird reminds one at first glance of a *Phylloscopus* with a much stronger bill and somewhat short tail. At the gape are some short or moderate bristles; the nostrils are covered with an operculum, the pervious holes which one can see are evidently caused by threads being pulled through the nostrils. First primary about half of the second, fourth and fifth about equal and longest. No emarginations to the primaries. Tarsus covered by a lamina, which is broken up into scales only near the toes. Hind claw fairly strong, plumage soft.

TYPE.—*Mochithopæus amœnus*.

I believe that this peculiar new form is near to the genus *Phylloscopus*.

***Mochthopœus amœnus*, new species**

ADULT MALE.—Upside dark olive-brown, darker and almost blackish on the crown; there is an indistinct olive-yellow superciliary line, merely indicated; sides of head deep brown with dull yellow tips to the feathers. Quills blackish brown with narrow olive-yellow outer and yellowish flesh-colored inner margins. Greater series of upper wing-coverts with olive-yellowish tips. Tail uniform deep brown. Underside dull yellow, the feathers browner on the sides, causing a striped appearance. Sides olivaceous brown with a greenish tinge. Under wing-coverts brownish and yellow. Bill dark brown, lower mandible "yellowish" or "horn." "Iris brown. Feet grayish." Wing, 88.5—90; tail, 39; bill, 15; tarsus, 23 mm. A specimen marked "? ♀" is in moult, apparently from the first juvenal plumage, which in phylloscopine birds does not differ much from that of the adults.

TYPE.—Adult; Kulambangra; October 11, 1927; R. H. Beck Coll.; Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist. No. 220110.

A second male, shot the following day, when the moulting bird was obtained also, was sent. The testes of the two males were enlarged.

***Phylloscopus trivirgatus becki*, new subspecies**

This new form, overlooked by former collectors on Guadalcanar, is surprisingly near to *P. t. everetti* Hartert, from Buru, but the breast and abdomen are paler, the sides of the head are a shade lighter, and perhaps the yellowish tips to the greater upper wing-coverts are usually narrower. "Iris brown, bill brownish black, lower mandible brown, paler toward the base. Feet gray." Wing: ♂, 58, 59, 59 mm.; "♀?" 56 mm.

TYPE.—Male; Guadalcanar; July 20, 1927; R. H. Beck Coll.; Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist. No. 220107.

Named in honor of the collector, Mr. R. H. Beck. Three males and one female were sent.

Though some of these forms have no yellowish central line on the crown, they have been treated as subspecies of *Phylloscopus trivirgatus*, such as *giulianetti* from southeastern New Guinea, *everetti*, *matthiæ*, etc. The similarity between *everetti* and *becki* is surprising, as we find more different forms on New Guinea.

JUVENAL.—Upside even darker than in the male, underside as in the female, except the abdomen which is brownish ochre-yellow, more rufescent on the sides.

MALE (fere, adult): wing, 91; tail, 70 mm. ♀: wings, 87, 89; tails, 69, 71 mm.

TYPE.—Male (fere), adult; Guadalcanar; July 25, 1927; R. H. Beck Coll.; Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist. No. 218045.

***Pachycephala implicata*, new species**

Four specimens from Guadalcanar, July, 1927.

This bird, quite overlooked hitherto in spite of former collections made on Guadalcanar, is a very aberrant *Pachycephala*.

No. 27052 I take to be the nearly fully plumaged male; Nos. 27053 and 26855 must be adult females, though the latter is sexed "♂" and No. 27055 is juvenal.

ADULT MALE.—Crown and sides of head dark ashy gray with blackish shaft-stripes (possibly becoming more blackish with age?), rest of upperside olive-green with a yellow tinge; tail dark brown with olivaceous-green outer edges; quills dark brown with brownish olivaceous edges and brownish buff inner edges. Throat gray and white, the slaty gray feathers coming in, so that, apparently, the full plumage has the throat gray. Rest of underside brownish olive-yellow, sides dusky green. "Iris brown, bill black, feet gray. Testes small."

ADULT FEMALE.—Upperside as in the male, only a shade more brownish. Throat white with indistinct gray shades and a brownish gray shade toward the chest. Underside a shade lighter brownish yellow. Bill also black.

TYPE.—Male; Whitney Island¹; December 9, 1927; Hamlin Coll.; Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist. No. 219999.

This peculiar new form is nearest to *Pachycephala pectoralis dahl* Reichenow, from the Bismarck Archipelago, where it inhabits chiefly small outlying islands, there representing, as a rule, *Pachycephala pectoralis finschi*, the male of which is very much like that of *P. p. dahl*, but has the edges to the primaries more greenish, and has different dimensions and a different female. In *P. p. dahl*, however, the throat is invariably pure white, abdomen always bright yellow, bill slightly smaller. The female differs from that of *P. p. dahl* in having the back darker, more olivaceous, the head less in contrast to the back, the abdomen less bright yellow, with darker flanks. It is, however, a very close ally of *P. p. dahl*.

I have unhesitatingly treated *P. p. dahl*, *finschi*, and many others, as subspecies of the widespread *pectoralis*, while it would be hazardous to do this with *orioloides*, *melanonota*, and *christophori*. These latter three are for the present best treated as species. *P. melanonota* differs from the large *orioloides* in smaller size and absence of yellow collar on upperside, which is uniform black.

***Pachycephala pectoralis whitneyi*, new subspecies**

ADULT MALE.—Crown, sides of head and broad pectoral collar black; behind the black crown a yellow ring; back and rump and edges to secondaries olive-green, upper tail-coverts black in the middle of the feathers. Quills black, inner webs bordered with grayish white, outer ones with olivaceous-gray. Rectrices black, narrowly tipped with grayish-brown. Throat in specimen No. 29814 snow-white, in No. 29813 white, washed with lemon yellow, in No. 29865 lemon yellow, only chin whitish. Breast and abdomen in the first orange, in the second lemon yellow, in the third yellow with an orange wash. "Iris brown, bill black, feet gray or blackish gray."

¹Named in honor of Mr. Harry Payne Whitney, to whose generosity the Whitney Expedition was due.

ADULT FEMALE.—Upperside greenish olive, crown with a gray tinge. Throat dull white, the feathers with ashy-gray tips and subterminal spots; a vinaceous-gray (almost Ridgway's "ecru-drab") chest-band with gray stripes; abdomen and under tail-coverts pale lemon yellow with faint grayish shaft-stripes, flanks washed with grayish brown. "Iris brown, bill black, feet gray."

Wings: ♂, 89, 92.5, 95; ♀, 89, 90, 90 mm. Tail: ♂, 67, 67.5, 68; ♀, 66.5, 67.5, 68 mm. Bill, from forehead: ♂, 40, 41; ♀, 39, 39, 40 mm.

***Pachycephala christophori* Tristram**

Pachycephalus christophori TRISTRAM, 1879, Ibis, p. 441 (San Cristobal).

3 ♂, 3 ♀; Baurc or San Cristobal; March 29, April 4, 5, 6, and 14, 1927.

Neither of the males, though otherwise adult in plumage and having large testes, has a perfectly black crown, like some of those in the Tring Museum. No male from San Cristobal has a complete yellow ring around the neck, the collar only being indicated by two yellow patches on the sides which do not connect. Two of the females must be adult and they must have had enlarged ovaries, the third still has rufous patches on the jugulum and rufous edges to the secondaries, and the ovary was small.

The males have a shade of rufous-brown below the black pectoral band, which is rather wide.

***Pachycephala melanonota* Hartert**

Pachycephala melanonota HARTERT, 1908, Bull. B. O. Club, XXI, p. 106 (Vella Lavella, central group of Solomon Islands); 1918, Nov. Zoöl., p. 358.

2 ♂, ad.: Vella Lavella; November 15, 1927.

3 ♂, ad., 3 ♀, juv. (?): Ganonga Island; October 19-22, 1927; breeding.

The young birds are different from those I originally described as females which, however, must be young birds. They are much like the adult female, but they are all three marked as young males, and all three show signs of immaturity. I would willingly believe them to be young males, and our specimens young females, but one of our birds which has a bright yellow underside and chestnut-red head, olive back with black spots, shows the black pectoral band of the adult male. The specimens collected by R. H. Beck and F. P. Drowne have the under surface yellowish green with dusky spots, crown olivaceous with chestnut rufous, wings outside chestnut-red, and one has bright chestnut-red spots on the sides of the head and neck and on the chest. Could they be young females, and our former ones young males, though partially marked "♀"?

***Pachycephala orioloides* Jacquinot and Pucheran**

?*Pachycephala astrolabi* BONAPARTE, 1851 (?), 'Consp. Gen. Av.,' I, p. 329 (before February, 1851—Nomen nudum! This name has always been adopted, but Mathews calls my attention to the fact that it cannot possibly be accepted, as it is by no means clear to which of the six figures of Hombron and Jacquinot the name refers).

Pachycephala orioloides JACQUINOT AND PUCHERAN, 1853, 'Voy. Pôle Sud,' Zool., III, p. 57 (ex Hombron and Jacquinot, 'Voy. Pôle Sud.,' Pl. v, fig. 3. Island of San Jorge, or St. George, near Ysabel).

3 ♂, ad., 4 juv.: Guadalcanar; April, May, July, 1927. ♂, ad., ♀, ad.: Florida; May, June. ♂, ad.: Banika; August 1, 1927. ♂, ♀, ad.: Choiseul; November, 1927. 1 ♂, 2 ♀: Ysabel; August, 1927. ♂, juv.: Vella Lavella; November 14, 1927. ♂, ♀: Russell or Pavuvu Islands; August 3, 1927. Also 2 ♂, ad., 1 ♀ from an island which I cannot locate, for I cannot read the name on the label.

Rothschild and I have described the various plumages in Nov. Zoöl., 1901, p. 375; 1905, p. 265.

***Dicrurus (Dicruropsis) longirostris* Ramsay**

Dicrurus (Chibia) longirostris RAMSAY, 1883, Proc. Linn. Soc. N. S. Wales, VII, p. 300 (San Cristobal).

2 ♂, 2 ♀: Bauro (San Cristobal); March, 1927; Beck and Drowne Coll.

This long-billed form is very different from *D. meeki* Rothschild and Hartert, 1903, Nov. Zoöl., p. 110, of Guadalcanar. It has weaker bristles, a longer and more curved bill, lacks the "hackles" on the sides of the neck, and differs in other details. There are glossy tips to the feathers on the crown and on the chest, but not on the back. The iris is described as dark red by Meek and Eichhorn, while Drowne describes it as brown, which can hardly be quite correct. Wings: ♂, 146, 148; ♀, 142, 144 mm. Only known from San Cristobal and rare in collections.

***Aplonis (Calornis) metallica nitida* (Gray)**

Calornis nitida GRAY, 1858, Proc. Zoöl. London, p. 181 (New Ireland).

2 ♂, 1 ♀: Bauro (San Cristobal); March, April, 1927; Beck and Drowne Coll. ♀: Ramos Island; September 5, 1927; David Coll. I cannot give the locality of two additional specimens as I am unable to decipher the label.

Aplonis cantoroides cantoroides (Gray)

Calornis cantoroides GRAY, 1861, Proc. Zoöl. Soc. London, p. 431 (Mysol).

This widespread form is rare on the Solomon Islands. Meek and Eichhorn sent skins from Gizo, Choiseul, and Bougainville, also two from Guadalcanar. An old and a young specimen were received from the latter island. They were collected by Mr. R. H. Beck in April and May.

Aplonis (Lamprocorax) grandis (Salvadori)

Lamprotornis fulvipennis (not of Swainson, 1837) HOMBRON AND JACQUINOT, 1853, 'Voy. Pôle Sud,' Zool., III, Ois., p. 81 (Ysabel Island).

Lamprocorax grandis SALVADORI, 1881, 'Orn. Pap. e Molucce,' II, p. 460 (new name for *fulvipennis*, because it was preoccupied and "not suitable").

Calornis maxima TRISTRAM, 1895, Ibis, p. 375 (Ysabel).

2 ♂, 1 ♀: Guadalcanar; April, 1927; Drowne and Hicks Coll.
♀: Ysabel; August 22, 1927.

Aplonis (Lamprocorax) dichroa Tristram

Sturnoides minor (not *Calornis minor* Bonaparte, 1851) RAMSAY, 1882, Proc. Linn. Soc. N. S. Wales, VI, p. 726 (San Cristobal).

Calornis dichroa TRISTRAM, 1895, Ibis, p. 376 (new name for *C. minor*, as it is preoccupied).

2 ♂, 2 ♀: Bauro (San Cristobal); March and April, 1927; Beck and Hicks Coll.

This form represents *A. grandis*, but considering the great difference in size, the brown instead of metallic black INNER remiges, and the more square tail, it is better kept as a species and not as a subspecies of *grandis*.

Mino dumonti krefti Sclater

Mino krefti SCLATER, 1869, Proc. Zoöl. Soc. London, Pl. IX, p. 120 ("Solomon Islands").

Unfortunately, the type locality is uncertain, no exact island being indicated, and Brown (the collector) did not carefully label his specimens, some being from New Britain or Duke of York Islands, though described from the Solomon Islands. Mr. Kinnear and I have carefully compared the type and have no doubt that it is a specimen of the common Solomon Islands form, but it is not from Guadalcanar. Its wing measures 160; bill from frontal feathers, 21; width of upper mandible over nostrils, 10.5; wing-bar on outer web of fifth primary, 21 mm. These measurements are not very large, but the wing-bar is too wide for the average New Britain specimens.

A specimen from Russel or Pavuvu Island in the Solomon group, No. 218472 of the Whitney Expedition, collected by R. H. Beck, has the abdominal patch not yellow, but orange, like *M. dumonti dumonti*. It is also very large; wing, 175 mm.

This might be a different subspecies, but the orange color of the abdomen might be aberrant, and the wing alone cannot serve as a differentiating character, as single specimens with a similarly long wing, 175 mm., are also extant in Tring from Florida and New Hanover, while males from Bougainville have sometimes a wing measurement of 170 mm.; from the Shortland Islands, 170 mm. While the male from Florida has a wing of 175 mm., the female wing is 163 mm. only. Thus females are usually smaller than males, and some specimens, in which this is not the case, may be wrongly sexed.

Skins from New Hanover, New Ireland, Bougainville, Ysabel, Shortland Islands, Vella Lavella, Kulambangra, and Choiseul usually have the following measurements. Wing: ♂, 167, 167, 162, 166, 166, 169, 157 (?), 167, 165, 165, 172, 160, 169, 168, 165.5, 172, 155 (? ♀), 165 mm.; ♀, 166, 158, 160, 156, 164, 163, 165, 160, 163, 162, 164, 157, 154, 152, 154, 154 mm. This would make males 160–170, 172, rarely 175 mm.—probably specimens with wings under 160 mm. are females. Females, 152–166 mm., but specimens with wings over 160 mm. may be males.

Unfortunately, not many specimens are available from Guadalcanar. There is only one pair in the Whitney Expedition collection; these were shot April, 1927. The supposed male has a wing of 149 mm. The female wing (worn) measures about 152 mm. We have five Guadalcanar examples in Tring. Three of them are labeled as males and have wings of 157 and 158 mm., while the females' wings are 147 and 150 mm. Moreover, the Guadalcanar birds have more slender, more gracile bills, the width of the bill over the nostrils being 9–10 mm., in the others, 10–12 mm.

Therefore, it seems evident to me that Guadalcanar harbors a smaller subspecies, which I propose to call *Mino dumontii sanfordi*, in honor of the energetic furtherer of ornithological collecting by the American Museum.

***Mino dumontii sanfordi*, new subspecies**

TYPE.—“Male,” Guadalcanar; April 28, 1901; A. S. Meek Coll.; No. 3028 in the Tring Museum.

I consider *kreffti* as a subspecies of *dumontii* and distinguish therefore:

Mino dumontii dumontii LESSON, 1830: New Guinea, Jobi, Waigiu, Salwatti, and Batanta. (*Mino dumonti violaceus* BERLEPSCH, 1911, is a synonym.)

Mino dumontii aruensis STRESEMANN, 1922: Aru Islands.

Mino dumontii krefftii SCLATER, 1869: Solomon Islands, New Hanover, New Ireland. (*Gracula gnathoptila* CABANIS AND REICHENOW, 1876, is a synonym. It was not described as differing from real *krefftii*, but compared with specimens of *dumontii*, which were erroneously believed to be *krefftii*).

Mino dumontii gilian STRESEMANN, 1922: New Britain.

Mino dumontii sanfordi HARTERT: Guadalcanar Island.

Corvus (Macrocorax) woodfordi woodfordi Grant

Macrocorax woodfordi GRANT, 1887, Proc. Zoöl. Soc. London, p. 332 (Guadalcanar).

Topotypical *woodfordi* were obtained in May. Measurements of wings cannot well be given, as the wings are distorted, the shoulder joint being straightened out.

Corvus (Macrocorax) woodfordi vegetus Tristram

Macrocorax vegetus TRISTRAM, 1894, Ibis, p. 30 (Bugotu = Ysabel Island).

A male from Ysabel Island; August 13, 1927.

Corvus (Macrocorax) woodfordi, subspecies

A female from Choiseul is somewhat smaller than females of *C. w. vegetus*. Wing, 275 mm. Our three specimens, collected by Meek and Eichhorn, have wings of 291 (♂), and 287 (♀) mm.; the third has a worn wing (see the measurements given in Nov. Zoöl., 1902, p. 584). Rothschild and Hartert have enumerated the Choiseul specimens as *vegetus*, while Meinertzhagen, Nov. Zoöl., XXXIII, 1926, p. 74, has called them *C. woodfordi woodfordi*. A larger series will probably show that they are intermediate between the two, but at present it would be rash to decide what they are. Where subspecies have developed, we do not find them alike on Guadalcanar and Choiseul, while the Ysabel form differs (cf. Nov. Zoöl., 1905, pp. 243, 244).

