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### XLVII.—On new forms of South-American birds

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like them, nor, as Dr. Hartert informed me, had they anything comparable in the fine series at Tring.

I propose, therefore, to distinguish this new form by the name of

*Pœcile atricapillus elenæ*, subsp. n.

*Adult.* Differs from *P. a. montanus* in having the upper parts smoky grey washed with olive-brown—the top of the head and the nape pure dull black, as compared with brownish black,—the white cheek-patches more restricted, and the black of the throat extending further on to the breast (as in *P. a. atricapillus*).

The underparts are greyer and the flanks only very faintly washed with fawn.

Freshly moulted wing- and tail-feathers in the adults are dark slaty in coloration, darker than in *P. a. borealis* and very much darker than in *P. a. montanus*.

In the four "birds of the year" the general coloration is still darker, the contrast between young examples of *P. a. elenæ* and *P. a. borealis* being very striking and obvious indeed (mantle dark olive-grey, as contrasted with pale grey-brown).

Young *P. a. elenæ* are very noticeably darker even than young birds of the Japanese form *P. a. restrictus*, while, as an indication of their dark coloration, they are darker than *P. palustris pœcilopsis*, Sharpe.

*Type* in Brit. Mus. ♀ juv. Breuil, Valtournanche, N. Italy, 27. vii. 21. Coll. P. R. Lowe. Reg. Brit. Mus. 1921. 8. 2. 7.

I note little in the measurements as between *P. a. borealis* and *P. a. elenæ*.

In choosing a juvenile example as the type, I do so because it seemed to be possible to gain a more accurate perception of colour-differences in fresh-plumaged juveniles, and it is just as easy to compare juveniles with juveniles as adults with adults of various races.

XLVII.—On new Forms of South-American Birds.

By C. CHUBB, M.B.O.U., F.Z.S.

*Sturnella magna monticola*, subsp. n.

*Adult male.* Differs from *S. magna meridionalis*, Sclater, and *S. magna paralius*, Bangs, in being chestnut-brown on the upper surface instead of blackish and the general measurements smaller.

Total length 230 mm., exposed culmen 32, wing 106, tail 70, tarsus 38, middle toe and claw 33.

*Adult female.* Similar to the adult male, but smaller. Wing 98 mm.

*Hab.* Mount Roraima, British Guiana.

The type, as also the female described, are both in the McConnell Collection, and were collected by Mr. McConnell at Mount Roraima during his expedition in Oct. 1898.

*Sturnella magna praticola*, subsp. n.

*Adult male.* Differs chiefly from *S. magna monticola* in its smaller size, brighter coloration on the under surface, and more white in the tail.

Total length 225 mm., exposed culmen 30, wing 101, tail 62, tarsus 38, middle toe and claw 33.

*Adult female.* Similar to the adult male, but smaller. Wing 93 mm.

*Hab.* Abary River, British Guiana.

The type and the female described are both in the McConnell Collection, and were collected on the Abary River in Sept. 1906.

*Saltator cayanus interjector*, subsp. n.

*Adult male.* Differs from *S. cayanus cayanus* in being paler grey on the sides of the face, sides of the neck, and sides of the body. It is darker, however, on these parts than *S. cayanus bolivianus*. "Bill bluish black; feet brown; iris dark blue" (*A. Robert*).

Total length 210 mm., exposed culmen 18, wing 96, tail 88, tarsus 26.

*Adult female.* Similar to the adult male. Wing 95 mm.

*Hab.* Matto Grosso, South Brazil.

The type, which is in the British Museum, was collected at Serra da Chapada (900 metres), Matto Grosso, in June 1902, by A. Robert, during the Percy Sladen Expedition to Brazil.

*Saltator cayanus bolivianus*, subsp. n.

*Adult male.* Differs from *S. cayanus cayanus* in being paler on the under surface, the lower throat cinnamon-buff instead of fawn-colour, the breast, sides of body, and thighs pale ash-grey instead of dark lead-grey, the abdomen cream-white instead of pale buff; the under tail-coverts and under wing-coverts are also much paler, and the white supraloral streak wider. "Bill black; feet slate-colour; iris dark brown" (*P. O. Simons*).

Total length 211 mm., exposed culmen 17, wing 103, tail 93, tarsus 25.

*Adult female.* Similar to the adult male. Wing 95 mm.

The type and female described, which are in the British Museum, were collected at Chulumani, Bolivia, 2000 metres, Jan. 1901, by P. O. Simons.

*Hab.* Bolivia.

*Saltator cayanus santaritensis*, subsp. n.

*Adult male.* Allied to *S. cayanus cayanus*, but differs in being paler in general coloration both on the upper and under surface, and differs from *S. cayanus bolivianus* in having the fawn-colour on the lower throat continued down the middle of the breast and middle of abdomen to the under tail-coverts.

Total length 217 mm., exposed culmen 17, wing 102, tail 99, tarsus 26.

*Adult female.* Similar to the adult male, but smaller. Wing 96 mm.

The type, which is also in the British Museum, was collected at Santa Rita, Ecuador, by "Villagomez per" C. Buckley, Salvin-Godman Collection.

*Hab.* Santa Rita, Ecuador.

*Piranga saira macconnelli*, subsp. n.

*Adult male.* Differs from *P. saira saira* in having the general coloration paler. General colour of the upper surface orange-red, somewhat brighter on the top of the head and upper tail-coverts, darker on the back, wings, and tail; inner webs of upper wing-coverts and bastard-wing dark brown, darker and inclining to black on the inner webs of the flight-quills, which have the margins rose-pink; inner webs of tail-feathers reddish brown; entire under surface bright scarlet-red, including the under wing-coverts and axillaries; under surface of flight-quills hair-brown with rose-pink edges; lower aspect of tail similar to its upper surface.

Total length 182 mm., exposed culmen 18, wing 97, tail 75, tarsus 23.

*Hab.* British Guiana.

The type is in the McConnell Collection, and was collected in the Upper Tukutu Mountains, 1908.

*Adult female.* General colour of the upper surface dull yellow, tinged with green on the back; inner webs of flight-quills dark brown margined with pale yellow; sides of face, throat, and underparts bright yellow. Wing 90 mm.

The female described was collected by the late Henry

Whitely at Quongo, November 18, 1887, and is now in the British Museum.

*Immature male.* Similar to the adult in its first plumage. The first signs of the male plumage in the present bird are the approach of orange-red feathers on the sides of the face, throat, abdomen, under tail-coverts, and tail.

The young male described is in the McConnell Collection, and was collected in the Takutu Mountains.

## BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTICE.

*The Life of Alfred Newton.* By A. F. R. WOLLASTON.

THERE must be few ornithologists of any standing within the British Empire who have not been waiting with what patience they might possess for a 'Life of Alfred Newton' to appear. And now, at last, after unavoidable delays, it has appeared, and Mr. A. F. R. Wollaston must be heartily congratulated on having drawn for us, out of the mass of facts and correspondence which it was his difficult task to sift and condense, a life-like sketch of the man as he was, and of the great influence which he exerted for the good of ornithology.

In his capacity as a Professor of Zoology in the University of Cambridge, Alfred Newton could never be said to have reached the high-water mark of academic fame; but as an English ornithologist he occupied an authoritative position which was not only somewhat peculiar, but which it is safe to say will never be surpassed for many a long day.

In the comparatively narrow circles of ornithology he made himself famous and ever memorable, first, by his 'Dictionary of Birds' and its masterly Introduction, probably one of the best things which has ever been written by an ornithologist; secondly, by his enormous correspondence and the unsparing, unselfish way in which he imparted his knowledge of birds, bird-lore, and bird-literature to those who sought his aid; thirdly, by his Sunday evening gatherings in his college rooms at Magdalen; and, fourthly, by his whimsicalities.

Newton did not suffer fools gladly, but once his friend you were always his friend. Like all notable men he had his little ways, his little peculiarities, and his little prejudices. It is probable that these only endeared him the more to those who really knew him. With his passing the curtain may be said to have been rung down upon a stage across which passed a school of leisured men who may be said to have revived the study of ornithology in the British Isles, and also by their indefatigable and enthusiastic efforts laid a sure and solid foundation upon which their younger and no less enthusiastic followers of the more modern school are surely building worthily and well. Of the older school, Newton may be said to have been the inspiration and the doyen. Not only did he travel