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ART. I. TWO NEW PASSERINE BIRDS FROM ANGOLA

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During the years when Mr. Rudyerd Boulton was devoting special attention to the birds of Angola, he made several valuable collections there, for the American Museum of Natural History and for the Carnegie Museum. A number of the new forms he discovered were described by Mr. Boulton, but two more which deserved new names still remained in the Carnegie Museum collection. At the request of Mr. W. E. Clyde Todd, I have prepared the following diagnoses.

THE REPRESENTATIVE OF *BRADYPTERUS MARIAE* IN ANGOLA.

In the revisions of the genus *Bradypterus* by Mackworth-Praed and Grant (*Ibis*, 1941, pp. 441-455) and by J. Delacour (*Ibis*, 1943, pp. 31-40), there is no mention of any race of *B. mariæ* or *B. cinnamomeus* from the highlands of Angola. Yet the Carnegie Museum has long had three skins from that region which clearly represent *Bradypterus mariæ*. Two of them are immature birds, retaining a yellowish wash on the underparts, from 6,200-6,300 feet on Mount Moco, February, 1931; and the other is an adult female from Mombolo, around 5,000 feet, taken on March 7, 1931. All were collected by Rudyerd Boulton.

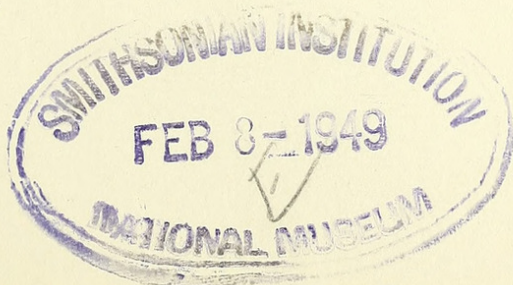
It might seem unwise to describe a new race with but one adult specimen, and I do it only because the Angola highland is so far removed from any district where a race of *B. mariæ* has hitherto been known to live. The new race is named in honor of my friend Rudyerd Boulton.

***Bradypterus mariæ boultoni*, subsp. nov.**

Type, No. 109,511, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult female; Mombolo, in the northwestern part of the Benguela highland, March 7, 1931; Rudyerd Boulton.

Subspecific characters.—Rather similar to *Bradypterus mariæ usambaræ* Reichenow of eastern Africa, but a little lighter brown on crown, back, and rump, somewhat lighter beneath, and more tinged with buff on breast and flanks. Somewhat larger than *B. m. camerunensis* Alexander of Mount Cameroon.

Measurements.—The type has the wing 62 mm.; tail 61; culmen to base 15.5; tarsus 25. Two immature females from Mount Moco have wings 63, 64; tails 59, 60; culmen to base 15, 16; tarsi 23, 24.5.



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Range.—This probably includes many more districts of Angola in addition to Mombolo and Mount Moco, at elevations above 5,000 feet, where suitable scrubby woods exist.

Remarks.—Both young individuals have 10 rectrices, but the tail of the type is incomplete. There is good reason to suppose that the *Bradypterus mariæ* group is conspecific with *B. barratti* Sharpe of South Africa, and the one specimen of *barratti* I have recently examined also had a tail of only 10 quills.

A NEW RACE OF TERPSIPHONE FROM NORTHWESTERN ANGOLA.

The Lower Congo district and the adjacent Loango Coast are the home of a Paradise Flycatcher with rather short crown-feathers, blackish head, underparts more grayish, and back, wings, and tail rufous, the median rectrices lengthened in adult males. It was named *Terpsiphone rufocinerea* by Cabanis in 1875, the type locality being Chinchoxo, a little north of Landana.¹

In 1857, Verreaux had described *Tchitrea melampyra* from the Gaboon,² and that name has often been supposed to antedate *rufocinerea*. But in 1938, Professor Erwin Stresemann informed me that he had examined the type of *melampyra* in the British Museum and found it to be a dull-colored example of some form of *T. viridis*.

Terpsiphone rufocinerea batesi Chapin³ is a well-marked race living in the forests of the Upper Congo and Cameroon, lighter and grayer on head and breast, with median rectrices never much longer than the rest of the tail. In 1921, I examined four specimens of nominate *rufocinerea* from Chinchoxo in the Berlin Museum, and compared with them an adult male I had myself collected at Boma on the lower Congo River. The range of this race seems to extend northward along the coast to the base of Mount Cameroon, and examples of intermediate nature are not uncommon in forested southern Cameroon.

To the southward, *rufocinerea* has been reported as extending to Ndala Tando and even Novo Redondo in Angola. Doctor D. A. Bannerman, in

¹ *Terpsiphone rufocinerea* Cabanis, 1875, Jour. Ornith., p. 236 (Chinchoxo, Loango Coast).

² *Tchitrea melampyra* Verreaux, 1857, in Hartlaub, System der Ornithologie Westafrika's, p. 90 (Gaboon).

³ *Terpsiphone batesi* Chapin, 1921, Amer. Mus. Novitates, no. 7, p. 6, fig. 3 (Medje, northeast Belgian Congo).

1936,⁴ discussed the possibility that specimens from Ndala Tando were different from those of the Loango Coast, but he regarded the name *rufocinerea* as a synonym of *melampyra*, and came to no final conclusion.

In March, 1931, at Ngara, some 30 kilometers northeast of Novo Redondo, Rudyerd Boulton collected two adult males which are plainly conspecific with *T. rufocinerea*, but distinctly grayer on head and throat than the nominate form, although retaining the bright rufous under tail-coverts. At the same locality, on September 29, 1939, he had also secured an adult male of *T. viridis plumbeiceps*. This does not prove that both birds nest there, for *plumbeiceps* is known to be migratory between April and October.

The two males of *T. rufocinerea*, taken in March, were noted as ready to breed, and they show that an unnamed race of that species does live in northwestern Angola. Doctor Bannerman found that eight specimens from Ndala Tando were lighter in color than all but one of those he had seen from farther north; and in the Rothschild Collection there is a female from Canhoca, Angola, which plainly represents the race I propose to name in honor of my friend David Bannerman.

***Terpsiphone rufocinerea bannermani*, subsp. nov.**

Type, No. 109,533, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult male; Ngara, northwestern Angola, March 10, 1931; Rudyerd Boulton.

Subspecific characters.—Similar to *Terpsiphone r. rufocinerea* Cabanis of the Loango Coast, but with head, throat, and breast lighter and grayer, much less glossy on throat. There is a slight crest in *bannermani*, and the whole crown is very dark gray, glossed with blue-green. The longest feathers in the crest measure 14-14.5 mm. The rufous coloration of back and tail is usually a little lighter than in nominate *rufocinerea*, the rufous of under tail-coverts not quite so deep. The under wing-coverts are whitish, washed with pale rufous, and becoming more rufous toward the outer edge of the wing.

Measurements.—The type has the wing 84 mm.; long median tail-feathers 252, next longest pair 122, and outermost rectrices 79 mm.; culmen to base 19.5; tarsus 15.5. The second male from Ngara has wing 84; median rectrices 227, next pair 94, outermost 75; culmen to base 19; tarsus 16. The female from Canhoca, wing 79; tail 84; culmen to base 18; tarsus 15.5.

⁴ D. A. Bannerman, 1936, *The Birds of Tropical West Africa*, vol. 4, p. 301.

Range.—Northwestern Angola, from the vicinity of Novo Redondo at least to Ndala Tando, probably to be found only in the more heavily wooded situations.

Remarks.—In this same region *Terpsiphone viridis plumbeiceps* is widely distributed; but it is readily distinguished by its better-developed crest, with feathers measuring 15 to 19 mm. in males, and by its pale under tail-coverts, which are either whitish or tinged only lightly with rufous.

In more ways than one, this new race, *bannermani*, is intermediate between *T. r. rufocinerea* and *T. v. plumbeiceps*. Yet it would be difficult to treat all three as conspecific, because from the interior of southern Cameroon to the forested Upper Congo *T. rufocinerea batesi* lives side by side with *T. viridis speciosa*, the former keeping to the heavy shade of primary forest, while the latter haunts second growth and leafy trees in clearings. A similar difference in haunts may well prevail in Angola, especially during the breeding season.



Chapin, James P. 1948. "Two new passerine birds from Angola." *Annals of the Carnegie Museum* 31, 1-4. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.215211>.

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