

was obliged to return the next day. But this very interesting locality furnished us on the same evening with several birds new to us. Very numerous up here were two Pigeons—the magnificent *Columba speciosa*, perhaps the brightest of the South-American species, and *Columba rufina*. Descending the river next morning I was much pleased with a flight of *Deroptus accipitrinus*, the Collar-Parrot, called “Anacã,” one of the most aberrant of the New-World psittacine forms, reminding one of an Australian Cockatoo. Everything is aberrant in this bird, even its cry, which is a loud *kía-kía-kía-güi-güi-güi*, and different from that of any other neotropical Parrot. I believe it is the first time that this species has been noted in the South-Guyana coast-region. At another cascade (a really remarkable place for Podostomaceæ, especially for the splendid *Mourera fluviatilis*) we collected examples of *Eurypyga helias* and *Aramus scolopaceus*.

Leaving our northern headquarters in Counany on the 24th October, the steamer ‘Adjudante’ brought us to Amapá, after a somewhat troublesome course along the coast. In Amapá we spent another fortnight. My remembrances of this unhappy and pestilential marsh-region are exceedingly disagreeable. Bad fevers struck down my companions one by one; out of six I had the luck to be the only one who escaped untouched. Though most of them recovered themselves slowly towards the end of our residence, I was seriously hindered in the execution of our programme, and my zoological researches suffered also. I regret it the more, as the region is interesting from the ornithological standpoint, and may be called very rich as regards the water-birds.

The village of Amapá (as will be seen by the map, p. 151) is distant from the coast between 70 and 80 kilomètres, and is situated on the right bank of the “Igarapé do Campo,” an affluent of the “Amapá pequeno.” The actual village, erected, as we discovered, on an old Indian burial-place, suffered very much from the recent armed invasion of some French soldiers and the subsequent massacre on the 15th May, 1895. On the front of it is a river, certainly 30 m. wide, but almost impracticable, even for canoes, during

greater part of the day; on both sides, right and left, lies interminable "siriúba"-forest mixed with "anhinga,"—hot, marshy, and inhabited by myriads of furiously biting mosquitoes. Behind the village is dry forest for a kilomètre or two, where reasonable collecting should be possible if mosquitoes were less numerous, and if the paths were not sown with spring-guns armed for the destruction of *entías* and *pacas*. The nearer part of this forest is somewhat lighter, and has the much promising name of "bosque."

Almost every morning and evening I visited the "bosque" and the neighbouring parts of the high forest. I observed regularly and collected there examples of *Ibycter chimachima*, +
Asturina magnirostris, *Chrysotis amazonica*, *Brotogerys vi-* +
rescens, *Bucco tamatia*, *Galbula viridis*, *Ceophlæus lineatus*, +
Chrysoptilus punctigula, *Celeus flavus*, *Dendrobates* sp. ind.,
Saltator superciliaris, *Turdus albiventris*, *T. gymnophthalmus*, +
Thryophilus leucotis, *Thamnophilus doliatus*, *Attila thamno-* +
philoides, *Formicivora grisea*, and *Glyphorhynchus cuneatus*. +
I noticed also the delicate *Polioptila buffoni*, *Lathria cineracea*, and a yellow-breasted *Trogon*, without getting good skins of them. Among the favourite spoils of native bird-hunters I often noted *Rhamphastos erythrorhynchus* and *Ortalida motmot*. Every night, especially when there was moonlight, the cry of *Nyctidromus guyanensis* was heard on the +
roads around the village, and that of *Nyctibius grandis* in +
the siriubál. Once I heard of some specimens of *Vanellus cayennensis* being in a plantation very near the village. The only species entirely new for me alive was *Turdus gymnophthalmus*. I had never before seen the "Bare-eyed Thrush," and I doubt whether it has been observed in any region southward of Trinidad and Cayenne. The naked space around the eye is yellow in life; it is impossible to confound this well-marked Thrush with any other neotropical species.

On the orange-trees in the village I saw and heard every moment, even during the hottest hours of the day, a number of common birds also met under similar circumstances in Pará, such as *Tityra cayana*, *Todirostrum maculatum*, *Myiodynastes audax*, *Empidonomus varius*, *Myopatis semifusca*,

Myiozetetes sulphureus, *M. similis*, *Tanagra episcopus*, and *Rhamphocaelus jacapa*. On the assahy-palms, banana-trees, and siriúbas along the river sat *Spermophila albigularis*, emitting its melodious *fi-fi-fi*; one or more individuals of *Ostinops decumanus*; and flights of always busy and chattering *Cassicus persicus*, which had a numerous colony on a high siriúba-tree near the harbour. From time to time I saw + flocks of *Brotogerys virescens*, the very sociable "Periquito estrella," so common all over Lower Amazonia and Southern Guyana. The bird, however, which most interested me was the *Pachynus brachyurus*, a short-tailed and corpulent green Parrot, of which a flight of some 20 individuals perched (the 30th October) on a siriúba. Unfortunately I got one specimen only of this species, which is not found, as I know well, after nearly three years' residence, in the vicinity of Pará.

In the neighbouring "anhinga," in the morning and evening, often was heard the song of the "Saracúra"—an *Aramides*, probably *A. chiricote*—and during the hours of low water there were always walking in the mud of both sides of the river White Herons and Scarlet Ibises, besides + the common "Urubú" Vultures (*Cathartes fætens*). Among + the Swallows we observed *Progne chalybæa* and *Progne tapera* in the village, and *Tachycineta albiventris* on the river.

A highly interesting excursion was made on the 4th and 5th November to the "Lago Grande do Amapá" (see map, p. 151). Leaving the village of Amapá in the morning on board of a large boat, transformed *ad hoc* into an Amazonian "igarité," we entered the "Rio dos Bagres" and crossed the large lake during the afternoon of the day. Scarlet Ibises, Cormorants (*Phalacrocorax brasiliensis*), Snake-necks (*Plotus anhinga*), and Herons, white and blue, were numerous along the river. Remarkably frequent were two small water-birds, forming clouds of thousands of individuals. One of these was a small Sandpiper (I think *Tringa minutilla*), the other a small but very pretty Shore-Plover (certainly *Ægialitis semipalmata*). It will give some idea of their multitudes to say that we obtained 182 individuals of these two species as

result of only seven shots, besides the number of wounded that escaped capture. Sandpipers, Plovers, and milk were our only articles of diet during these two days.

Crossing the lake, which is excessively shallow and studded with newly-made islands of marsh-grass, we were surprised with the incredible number of wild Ducks (*Dendrocygna discolor**, *D. viduata*, and *Cairina moschata*) which we saw. White Herons were here in swarms, and Blue Herons, Spoonbills (*Platalea ajaja*), and "Magoarýs" (*Ardea cocoi*) were disturbed every moment. Besides these arose flights of from 20 to 40 individuals of the Scarlet Ibis in every sort of plumage, the adult and quite red ones being usually separate from the younger and dark-coloured.

The borders of the lake were occupied with a large girdle of water-lilies (*Nymphæa rudgeana*), inhabited by many families of *Parra jacana*. It was not easy to get our boat through this girdle of leaves, and hours of hard rowing and all our united efforts were necessary to make a direct distance of a few kilomètres.

It was nearly evening when we reached the cattle-settlement of one of our guides and boatmen, two primitive cottages covered with palm-tree-leaves. We were struck with the resemblance of the landscape around this "sitio" with that of the campos-region in the eastern and northern part of the island of Marajó, and with the physical characters of the interior of Mexiana, as described by Wallace. The bird-life offered numerous similarities of parentage. Thousands of Ducks flew at different heights over our heads, endeavouring to regain the reedy meadows on the borders of the lake. Alternating with the Ducks passed flights of the large "Passarão" (*Tantalus loculator*), and Ibises and Spoonbills, these two generally observing a cuneiform arrangement. The Musky Duck (*Cairina moschata*) is common in this

* I have materials for a special note on the nesting of *D. discolor*, and I believe that their publication may be of interest to ornithologists, as the specific distinctness of *D. discolor* and *D. autumnalis* will become certain only on the elucidation of the whole life-history of both species.—E. A. G.



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