
[Received December 1, 1874.]

(Plate LXXXIV.)

We have again a small but interesting collection of some thirty-two species collected by the Society's Corresponding Member, Mr. H. Whitely, in the Andes of Cuzco, to report upon.

The following is a list of the species in the present collection, and their localities. Amongst them are several (having their names marked with an asterisk) on which we have notes to offer.

1. Turdus gigantodes, Cab. Chachupata.
8. —— fruticeti. Paucartambo.
10. Agriornis pollens. Chachupata.

Spathura peruana, P. Z. S. 1873, p. 784.
Lesbia nuna, suprâ, p. 675.
Cynanthus mocca, P. Z. S. 1873, p. 188.
Pterophanes temmincki, P. Z. S. 1873, p. 190.
Aglaeactis caumanota, P. Z. S. 1873, p. 190.
—— castelnauï, P. Z. S. 1873, p. 190.
Oreonympha nobilis, suprâ, p. 676.
Ramphomicron ruficeps.
—— microrhynchum, P. Z. S. 1873, p. 190.
Metallura aenicauda, P. Z. S. 1873, p. 191.
—— smaragdinicolis, P. Z. S. 1873, p. 191.
Adelomyia inornata.
—— chlorospila, P. Z. S. 1873, p. 189.
Heliotrichus auritus, P. Z. S. 1873, p. 189.
Petrophora iolata, P. Z. S. 1873, p. 988, and 1873, p. 188.
—— cyanotus, P. Z. S. 1873, p. 784.
—— delphina, P. Z. S. 1873, p. 784.
Docimastes ensifer, P. Z. S. 1873, p. 189.
Helianthea osculans, P. Z. S. 1873, p. 191.
Helianthus anemysticalis.
Bourcieria inca, suprâ, p. 676.
Eriocnemis aline, P. Z. S. 1873, p. 784.
† For Part VII. see P. Z. S. 1873, p. 779.


17. Myiarchus, sp. inc. Ccachupata.


*20. — bifasciatus. Paucartambo.


*29. Penelope sclateri. Paucartambo.


3. Conirostrum ferrugineiventre, Sclater, P. Z. S. 1855, p. 74, Aves, pl. lxxxv.

This species was originally described by Sclater in 1855 from specimens transmitted to the Derby Museum from Bolivia. We have not since met with it, except the single example in Jelski’s Peruvian collections (see above p. 511).


Mr. Whitely’s skins are, in our opinion, certainly referable to this species, of which the specific characters are pointed out by Sclater, l. s. c. We suspect P. ignicrissa (Cab. J. f. O. 1873, p. 317) is not different; but nothing is said respecting the blue edgings of the wings. In P. lunulata from Columbia and P. atricrissa, Cab. J. f. O. 1866, p. 165, from Ecuador, there is no appearance of blue wing-edgings.


We have compared Mr. Whitely’s skins of this well-marked species with M. Taczanowski’s type.


Having now a skin of the true C. palliatus (Tsch.) from M. Jelski’s collection before us, we find that it is by no means identical with the present bird, as supposed possible (P. Z. S. 1873, p. 783). C. palliatus is larger, of a pure white below, has the lores black, and is darker on the wings and tail. But Tschudi’s figure, giving it a white end to the tail, is incorrect, only the two outer rectrices being slightly tipped with white.

We have compared Mr. Whitely’s skin of this species with the typical specimen.


A second example of this interesting species, obtained, like the former, at Paucartambo.

On reexamination we find that Sclater’s collection contains a skin of this little Parrot, received from M. Taczanowski as a duplicate of *Bolborhynchus orbignesius*. It was obtained by Jelski at Punamarca, Peru, in 1872.

29. **Penelope sclateri**, G. R. Gray.

Further examples of this species, already collected at Huasampilla by Mr. Whitely (P. Z. S. 1873, p. 780), and at Chilpes, Central Peru, by Jelski (anteà, p. 558). In our ‘Nomenclator’ we unfortunately allowed Mr. Gray’s name to be superseded by *rufiventris* of Tschudi, believing at the moment that Tschudi’s *Penelope rufiventris* was a synonym. But Salvin has recently examined a typical specimen of Tschudi’s bird, and has decided that our former reference of this doubtful species* was correct. See his remarks Ibis, 1874, p. 318.

31. **Merganetta leucogenys** (Tsch.).

Specimens in Mr. Whitely’s present collection rather resemble this form than *Merganetta turneri*, nobis (Ex. Orn. pl. 100); and we are not quite satisfied that the two species are really distinct. Mr. Whitely sends the following notice of the habits of this peculiar Duck.

This bird is found in almost all the rivers and small mountain-streams of the Upper Andes. It is a beautiful sight to come across a pair of them swimming about amongst the immense boulders in one of these mountain-torrents. It dives with great rapidity equally well up stream, against a strong current, as down stream. It climbs up large stones that, with the action of the water constantly passing over them, have become smooth as glass, and seems to be greatly aided in this by the stiff feathers in the tail.

I think the spikes on the wings are meant to assist the bird in diving rapidly, as I know of no enemy it has that would make them a formidable weapon to be used in attack or defence. Its food consists of grasses and sedges; and the flesh is said to be a great delicacy, though personally I have never made the trial. The males are much more plentiful than the females. I have not been able to find their breeding-ground, but should suspect it would be in some of the small caverns near the mountain-torrents.

32. **Nothoprocta taczanowskii**, sp. nov. (Plate LXXXIV.)

*Supra fusca, plumis nigro late transfasciatis et pallido cervino utrinque marginatis: subtus omnino diluitus, pectore cinereo* *P. Z. S. 1870, p. 531.*

Hab. Peruvia alta (Jelski et Whitely).

We have based this new species of our genus *Nothoprocta* upon a specimen collected by Jelski at Maraynioc in Central Peru, which M. Taczanowski sent us for examination†, and of which we also take this opportunity of giving a figure (Plate LXXXIV.).

Mr. Whitely’s two skins from Cchachupata, at first sight appear to belong to two distinct species; but comparing them with M. Jelski’s specimen we find that, though the latter agrees closely with the larger of Mr. Whitely’s birds in general coloration, it corresponds in dimensions with the smaller. We are disposed, therefore, to consider the smaller of Mr. Whitely’s two specimens to be in immature plumage, the difference of size, chiefly that of the bill, being attributable to individual variation, all three of the birds before us being marked as males.

This younger bird, if such it really is, differs chiefly in having the breast marked with dark spots with light edges, instead of oval light spots edged on their uppersides with black. The cross bars, too, of the adult birds seen on the chest are absent, and are only slightly shown on the flanks. The general colour of the breast of the young bird is fawn rather than grey. The upper surface is precisely alike in both.

In our ‘Nomenclator,’ p. 153, we assigned four species to *Nothoprocta*. To these we now have to add the species described above and M. Taczanowski’s *Nothoprocta branickii* (anted, p. 563).

The subjoined table may assist in the determination of the species of this difficult genus:

| Prim. ext. in pogonio interno transfasciatis | 1. taczanowskiii |
| Prim. ext. in pogonio interno unicoloribus | |
| Pectore cinereo, albido maculato. | |
| Secundariai nigro-fuscis, rufo transfasciatis | 2. perdicaria. |
| Secundariai nigro-fuscis, fascis fulvis notatis | 3. pentlandi. |
| Pectore cinereo, indistincte vermiculato. | |
| Major, teetr. alar. late transfasciatis | 4. ornata. |
| Minor, teetr. alar. minute fasciatis | 5. branickii. |
| Pectore rufescente | 6. curvirostris. |

† See anted, p. 564.

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