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Four New Birds from the Mountains of Central New Guinea

BY E. THOMAS GILLIARD

The present paper is preliminary to a report on the birds of the Victor Emanuel and Hindenburg Mountains (Gilliard and Le Croy, MS) in which all of the species collected by the American Museum of Natural History-National Geographic Society expedition of 1954 will be discussed.

Rallicula rubra telefolminensis, new subspecies

TYPE: A.M.N.H. No. 707649; [adult male]; Mt. Ifal, Victor Emanuel Mountains, Mandated Territory of New Guinea, 7200 feet; May 11, 1954; E. T. Gilliard.

DIAGNOSIS: Nearest to *klossi*, but averaging darker, more deep maroon, less rufous brown, particularly on lower back and exposed edges of wing coverts, secondaries, and scapulars. Compared with *subrubra*, the general dorsal coloration averages decidedly darker. Differs from *rubra* by having the bill averaging more slender, and by having the dark feather tipping of the nape less prominent.

MEASUREMENTS AND WEIGHT OF TYPE: Wing, 93 mm.; tail, 57; tarsus, 38; weight, 76 grams.

RANGE AND ABUNDANCE: Known only from the Victor Emanuel Mountains, Mandated Territory of New Guinea, and from the Hindenburg Mountains, Papua. Apparently quite uncommon.

TABLE 1
COMPARATIVE MEASUREMENTS (IN MILLIMETERS) OF THE WING OF MALES OF
Ralllicula rubra

	No. of Specimens	Wing
<i>rubra</i> ^a	—	95, 98
<i>klossi</i> ^a	7	90–93 (average, 92)
<i>subrubra</i> ^a	10	94–100 (average, 97.5)
<i>telefolminensis</i>	2	93, 94

^a From Rand (1940, p. 3).

REMARKS: In addition to the type from the Victor Emanuel Mountains, a subadult male was collected in the Hindenburg Mountains at an altitude of 7300 feet. The adult dorsal plumage which this specimen had begun to acquire is as dark as that of the type of *telefolminensis*, and therefore it seems safe to assume that the population of the Hindenburg Mountains is similar to that of the Victor Emanuels. These two mountains form adjacent and closely connected links in the chain of mountains dividing the north and south watersheds of New Guinea.

PERISHABLE COLORS: Type of *telefolminensis*: Iris brown; bill black with some gray at base; feet shining black. Subadult male: Bill dark reddish brown, with a gray tip and some gray at the base of the mandible; feet dark vinaceous brown.

***Pachycare flavogrisea randi*, new subspecies**

TYPE: A.M.N.H. No. 341464; field no. 9682; adult male; 6 kilometers southwest of Bernhard Camp ("1200 meters"), Idenburg River, Snow Mountains, Netherlands New Guinea; February 26, 1939; collected by A. L. Rand.

DIAGNOSIS: Nearest to *subaurantia*, but with the pale areas of the head, neck, chest, and upper flanks decidedly richer, more orange, less lemon yellow.

RANGE: North slope of the Snow Mountains between 850 and 1200 meters in the vicinity of the type locality.

MEASUREMENTS OF THE TYPE: Wing, 67.5 mm.; tail, 42; exposed culmen, 15; tarsus, 22.

It is with pleasure that we name this bird in honor of its discoverer, Dr. Austin L. Rand. It was not named by him because he thought it possible that the differences in color might be due to the aging of the skins (Rand, 1942, p. 487). However, at the present time, 21 years after its preparation, the Snow Mountain sample remains distinctly more orange than *subaurantia*, and, therefore, the differences are morphological and not due to post-mortem changes.

Astrapia splendidissima elliot-smithi, new subspecies

TYPE: A.M.N.H. No. 648726; adult male; Mt. Ifal, Victor Emanuel Mountains, Territory of New Guinea, 7200 feet; May 11, 1954; Margaret and E. Thomas Gilliard.

DIAGNOSIS: In a comparison of males, nearest to *helios*, but when viewed with the eye nearly parallel to the plumage, shoulders and back darker, more deep violet-purple or "plum" colored, less violet-purple washed with bronze. Below, the "green" abdomen, flanks, and sides of chest darker, with a deeper violet-blue, less yellowish green, cast. Spatulate tips of central tail feathers broader. Distinctly larger than *splendidissima* (see tables 2 and 3).

RANGE: Victor Emanuel Mountains, Mandated Territory of New Guinea, and Hindenburg Mountains, Papua; above 6500 feet.

TABLE 2
COMPARATIVE MEASUREMENTS (IN MILLIMETERS) OF THE WING IN
Astrapia splendidissima

<i>elliott-smithi</i>	
Hindenburg Mountains	
Male adults	134 (molt), 140
Male subadult	140 (molt)
Female adults	132, 134.5, 136, 138
Victor Emanuel Mountains	
Male adults	135.5, 137.5 (type), 137.5, 139
Male subadults	137, 137, 141.5
Females	132, 134.5, 135, 136, 136, 137.5, 138
<i>helios</i>	
Mt. Goliath	
Male adults ^a	137 (type), 139, 139 (138.3)
Four male subadults ^a	132-140 (137.3)
Five female adults ^a	133-143 (136.8)
Oranje or Snow Mountains	
Male adults ^b	136, 138, 138, 139, 141, 142 (139)
10 females ^b	129-137 (134.6)
<i>splendidissima</i>	
Weyland Mountains	
Five male adults ^a	130-134 (132.2)
Male adult	132 (type)
Nine male adults, trade skins ^a	129-139 (133.8)
Five male subadults ^a	133-139 (135.8)
Six females ^a	129-133 (130.7)
Wisselmeren	
Male subadult ^c	132
Female adults ^c	130, 130, 132, 133

^a Measurements from Mayr (1936, p. 4).

^b Measurements from Rand (1942, p. 496).

^c Measurements from Junge (1953, p. 61).

TABLE 3
COMPARATIVE MEASUREMENTS (IN MILLIMETERS) OF THE TAIL IN
Astrapia splendidissima

<i>elliott-smithi</i>	
Hindenburg Mountains	
Male subadult	212
Female adults	210, 212, 219.5, 241
Victor Emanuel Mountains	
Male adults	242.5, 245 (type), 245
Male subadults	220, 230.5, 235.5
Female adults	208, 219, 222.5, 248
<i>helios</i>	
Mt. Goliath	
Male adults ^a	234, 236, 236
Male adult	238 (type)
Male subadults ^a	215, 225 (220)
Snow Mountains	
Male adults ^b	218, 219, 225
<i>splendidissima</i>	
Weyland Mountains	
Five male adults ^a	193, 200, 200, —, —
Nine male adults, trade skins	181–223 (197.2)
Five male subadults ^a	204, 228, —, —, —
Wisselmeren	
Male subadult ^c	210
Female adults ^c	191, 197, 198, 202

^a Measurements from Mayr (1936, p. 4).

^b Measurements from Rand (1942, p. 496).

^c Measurements from Junge (1953, p. 61).

REMARKS: In the type of *helios* the tail spatula is 45 mm. in width, whereas in five measurable males of *elliott-smithi* the widths of the spatula are 47, 48, 50 (type), 51, and 54 mm.

It is with much pleasure that we name this new race in honor of our good friends Mr. and Mrs. Sydney Elliott-Smith. Without their deep interest and help in the Sepik District, we would have failed to reach the Victor Emanuel and Hindenburg Mountains.

Parotia carolae

This species is confined to the main body of New Guinea, where it is known from five distinct races. Geographically speaking, *chrysenia* of the Sepik Mountains (Lordberg and Hunsteinspitze) is the nearest to our population sample from Telefolmin on the northern watershed of the Victor Emanuel Mountains. However, morphologically speaking, *chrysenia* is very different, according to Stresemann (1934, p. 146). He

writes that it differs from all other races by having the long feathers emanating from the region of the lores (the feathers of which the most dorsal and longest plumes have a silken white border) iridescent or coppery gold, “. . . in the same color value as the area surrounding the eyes, and nearly as gold as the bird's crown.” In our Telefolmin series, as well as in the other known races, these feathers are deep black.

To the west of Telefolmin in the northern watershed occurs the race *chalcothorax* which, according to Stresemann (*ibid.*), has the over-all plumage of the back and wings dark brownish and the feathers of the neck with a sheen of coppery iridescence (similar to that of *berlepschi*). As the Telefolmin specimens have these areas jet black, *chalcothorax* is also eliminated from consideration.

Parotia c. berlepschi likewise differs from the Telefolmin birds by having the dark body plumage heavily bronzed, also by lacking the golden eye ring and by having the chin and throat black, not straw-colored.

Parotia c. meeki, the type and 10 topotypical examples of which are before me, also differs from the Telefolmin sample by having the mantle and the sides of the neck less deep black, the chin and upper throat whiskers brown and short, not buffy, to silvery and long, and the sides of the throat and malar region immediately posterior to the mandible, much darker, more dark brown, less buffy.

The nominate form from the Weyland Mountains, although geographically the most distant, is morphologically nearest to the Telefolmin birds. However, it also differs significantly, and therefore the Telefolmin population must be named.

***Parotia carolae clelandiae*, new subspecies**

TYPE: A.M.N.H. No. 708171; adult male; Telefolmin, Victor Emanuel Mountains, Mandated Territory of New Guinea, 5000 feet; May 13, 1954; Margaret and E. Thomas Gilliard.

DIAGNOSIS: Nearest to *carolae*, but with a much longer wing and somewhat longer spatula wires; also differing by having the chest shield somewhat more greenish, less pinkish; the chin with the “whiskers” much longer; and the upper mantle and sides of neck jet black, not suffused with blackish brown.

MEASUREMENTS AND WEIGHTS: Of type: Wing, 164 mm.; tail, 80; tarsus, 54; length of flag wires, 131.5; weight, 205 grams. Weight of topotypical male, 211 grams. Weight of topotypical female, 163 grams.

RANGE: Known only from the type locality.

PERISHABLE COLORS: Of type: Iris lemon yellow, with a narrow, tan, inner ring; bill black; feet brownish black; inside of mouth dark gray,

TABLE 4
COMPARATIVE MEASUREMENTS (IN MILLIMETERS) OF *Parotia carolae*

	Wing	Tail	Wires
<i>clelandiae</i>			
Telefolmin			
Males	164 (type), 164	80 (type), 82	124, 131.5 (type)
Female	145	93	—
<i>carolae</i>			
Weyland Mountains			
Males	151, 151, 152, 152, 153, 153, 153, 153, 154, 154, 154, 155, 155	72, 75, 75, 75, 75.5, 76, 76, 76, 76, 76, 80, 80, 80	108, 111, 114.5, 115, 116, 117, 118, 120, 123
Females	139, 141, 142, 142, 144	89, 91, 92, 94, 94+	—
<i>meeki</i>			
Snow Mountains			
Males	146, 147 (type), 150, 155, 157	75, 75, 79 (type), 80, 86	109 (type), 116, 118, 126
Females	131, 136, 140, 141, 142	86, 88, 88, 89, 90	—
<i>berlepschi</i>			
? Locality, male	149, 153	76, 88	114, 127
<i>chalcothorax</i>			
Idenburg R., female	143, 143, 144	92, 92, 93	—
<i>chrysenia</i>			
Lordberg, Sepik Mountains			
Female	149	95	—
Nondugl, Wahgi Valley			
Female	144	91	—

with flecks of aqua. Of a topotypical female: Iris lemon yellow; bill black; feet dark brown; gape light brown; inside of mouth lemon yellow.

It is with much pleasure that we name this new six-wired bird of paradise in honor of Brigadier and Mrs. Donald M. Cleland. Mr. Cleland, the Administrator of Papua and the Territory of New Guinea, is much interested in the ornithological exploration of New Guinea, and we owe to him and to Mrs. Cleland our deepest thanks for their help over many years.

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