

Article V.—NOTICE OF SOME VENEZUELAN BIRDS,  
COLLECTED BY MRS. H. H. SMITH.

By J. A. ALLEN.

The present small collection, which has recently come into the possession of the Museum, was made by Mrs. H. H. Smith during a brief vacation trip to the northern coast of Venezuela.

The localities visited were Carúpano, on the coast, and El Pilar, a little way in the interior, the time spent at these points being less than ten days—Oct. 30 to Nov. 6, 1891. Although the collection numbers only about 60 specimens, 48 species are represented, several of which appear to be undescribed, and others not previously recorded from Venezuela. For this reason it seems desirable to give a complete list of the species, since the specimens are labeled with the locality and date of capture. It will be of further interest for comparison with Messrs. Sclater and Salvin's list of birds collected at the same points and at the same season of the year by Mr. A. Goering in 1866 (P. Z. S., 1868, pp. 165-173).

1. *Merula fumigata* (Licht.).—El Pilar, ♂ ad., Nov. 3.
2. *Poliophtila leucogastra* (Wied).—Carúpano, ♂ ad., Nov. 5.
3. *Dendroica æstiva* (Gmel.).—Carúpano, ♀, Nov. 5.
4. *Setophaga ruticilla* (Linn.).—El Pilar, ♀ ad., Nov. 3.
5. *Euphonia trinitatis* Strickl.—♂ ad.
6. *Tanagra glaucocolpa* (Cab.).—Carúpano, ♂, Nov. 5.
7. *Ramphocelus atrosericus capitalis*, subsp. nov.

*Adult Male*.—Similar to *R. atrosericus* but smaller, the crimson of head, neck and breast much lighter, and extending much lower on the chest, with a distinct wash of crimson over the whole dorsal and ventral surfaces, nearly as in very dull-colored examples of *R. jacapa*; wings and tail velvety black, darker than in *R. atrosericus*.

*Adult Female*.—Similar to the female of *R. atrosericus*, but the lower parts and rump of a much stronger, clearer red, and the dusky portions of the plumage darker.

*Measurements.*—*Male*: Length, 6.55 in.; wing, 3.15; tail, 3.05; culmen, .60. *Female*: Length, 6.80 (skin evidently too long); wing, 3.15; tail, 3.08; culmen, .62.

Types, No. 56,195, ♂ ad., and 56,196, ♀ ad., El Pilar, Venezuela, Nov. 5, 1891; Mrs. H. H. Smith.

This subspecies is in some respects intermediate between *R. jacapa* and *R. atrosericeus*, agreeing with the former in size, and somewhat in the faint wash of crimson over the whole dorsal and ventral surfaces, but in general features is more decidedly allied to *R. atrosericeus*, with the differences of coloration distinguishing this species from *R. jacapa* more strongly emphasized. The red of the throat and head is much lighter (scarlet rather than crimson), giving greater contrast between the color of the head and back, thus suggesting the name *capitatis* selected for its designation. Its close affinity with *R. atrosericeus* is thus unquestionable, the color differences in other respects suggesting an exceedingly high-colored, small *R. atrosericeus*. The coast of Venezuela, however, is far to the northward of any point whence any form of *atrosericeus* has hitherto been reported, the habitat of this species being given as Bolivia and southern Peru. It also extends eastward into Matto Grosso, Brazil.

8. **Tachyphonus rufus** (*Bodd.*) = *T. melaleucus* auct. (See Bull. Am. Mus. Nat. Hist., III, No. 2, 1891, p. 359.) Carúpano, ♂ ad., Nov. 1, ♀ ad., Oct. 31; El Pilar, Nov. 3.—These specimens differ from our large Chapada (Matto Grosso) series in being much smaller with an absolutely larger bill; the male is more lustrous, with the white at the base of the inner webs of the wing-quills much more restricted. Doubtless a large series would show a well-defined average difference.

9. **Nemosia guira** (*Linn.*).—El Pilar, ♂ ad., Nov. 3.
10. **Buarremon**, sp. nov.?—Carúpano, juv., Nov. 5.
11. **Saltator olivaceus** *Cab.*—El Pilar, ♂, Nov. 5.
12. **Saltator albicollis** *Vieill.*—Carúpano, ♀, Nov. 1.
13. **Euetheia bicolor** (*Linn.*).—Carúpano, ♂, Nov. 5.
14. **Cardinalis phœniceus** *Bon.*—Carúpano, ♀, Nov. 5.

15. *Coryphospingus pileatus* (Wied).—Carúpano, two females, Nov. 1.

16. *Cassicus persicus* (Linn.).—El Pilar, ♂ ad., Nov. 6.

17. *Icterus xanthornus* (Gmel.).—Carúpano, ♂ and ♀ ad., Nov. 1.

18. *Lamprosar tanagrinus* (Spix).—El Pilar, “♂” and “♀,” Nov. 5.

These specimens measure as follows: Length (skin), 7.50–7.75; wing, 3.50–3.55; tail, 3.40; culmen, .68. Two specimens labeled “Napo,” in the Lawrence Collection (the only other specimens I have), measure as follows: Length (skin), 8.50; wing, 4.20–4.45; tail, 4.25–4.30; culmen, .80. The El Pilar birds are thus nearly one-third smaller than the Napo specimens (wings and tail nearly one inch shorter); they also differ in color, the El Pilar birds being nearly uniform deep black, with a slight greenish tinge, instead of the slight purplish cast seen in the Napo specimens. The tail also is much less graduated. There is thus about the same difference in size, and much more difference in color, between these two forms as there is between *Molothrus cabanisi* and *C. atronitens*. Whether these differences are simply individual, or perhaps sexual, or whether they characterize well-marked geographical forms, can not be determined without access to much additional material. Should the two forms prove separable, the Napo form will require a new name, as *Lamprosar guianensis* Cab. is without doubt a synonym of *L. tanagrinus*.

19. *Lophotriccus subcristatus*, sp. nov.

Allied to *L. spicifer* (Lafres.) of upper Amazonia, but much smaller (wing 1.65 instead of 2.00, tail 1.40 instead of 1.60), elongated blackish crest feathers shorter and edged with grayish green instead of grayish white, and the general coloration more greenish above, and more greenish yellow below. One specimen (sexed ♀) El Pilar, Nov. 3.

20. *Hapalocercus fulviceps*? (ScL).

One adult specimen, sexed ♂, in molt, Carúpano, Nov. 5. Size of *H. fulviceps* or slightly smaller; wing-coverts and quills more broadly edged with fulvous, but apparently not otherwise

different. If the same as *H. fulviceps* it extends the known range of the species far to the eastward and northward of previous records (western Ecuador and Peru).

21. **Mionectes oleagineus** (*Licht.*).—Two males, El Pilar, Nov. 5. Apparently not different from Bogota specimens.

22. **Ornithion pusillum** (*Cab. & Heine*).—Carúpano, Nov. 5. Two specimens, adult and young, both rather larger than the measurements usually given for this species. Wing, 2.12 and 2.25; tail, 1.90 and 1.92; culmen, .34 and .38; tarsus .66. The younger specimen is the larger, and differs much from the other in color, the general color above being more brownish olive, and the wing bars very much broader, and strong buff instead of clear whitish. The adult is in worn plumage, the young bird in fresh unworn plumage, which apparently satisfactorily explains the difference in coloration. The bill in the young bird, however, is much broader and deeper than in any example of *Ornithion* I have seen (compared with a series of 26 specimens).

23. **Sublegatus glaber** *Sc.*.—Two specimens, Carúpano, Nov. 1 and 5. Provisionally referred to this species. Throat and whole breast pure deep gray, scarcely appreciably lighter on the throat; whole belly, crissum and under wing-coverts bright sulphur yellow; above with a strong wash of olive; wing-coverts and quills and outer tail-feathers edged with olivaceous gray, the former very broadly. These specimens are in fresh plumage, which may account for their strong tints, both above and below. The gray of the breast and throat and the yellow of the under parts is much purer and deeper than on the corresponding parts of *Elænea affinis* *Burm.*

24. **Myiozetetes texensis** (*Giraud*).—El Pilar, ♂, Nov. 5.

25. **Rhynchocyclus sulphurescens** (*Spix*).—El Pilar, ♂, Nov. 5.

26. **Pitangus sulphuratus** (*Linn.*).—El Pilar, ♀, Nov. 5.

27. **Myiodynastes audax** (*Gmel.*).—El Pilar, Nov. 5, one specimen.

28. **Contopus brachytarsus** (*Sc.*).—Carúpano, ♂, Oct. 30.

29. *Pipra aureola* Linn.—El Pilar, ♂, Nov. 6. “Legs and feet light purple.”
30. *Tityra cayana* (Linn.).—El Pilar, ♀ ad., Nov. 3.
31. *Pachyrhamphus niger* Spix.—El Pilar, ♂, Nov. 3.
32. *Dendroornis susurrans* (Jard.).—El Pilar, Nov. 5, one specimen.
33. *Thamnophilus major* Vieill.—El Pilar, ♂, Nov. 3.
34. *Thamnophilus doliatus* (Linn.).—Carúpano, ♂ juv., Oct. 30.
35. *Formicivora intermedia* Cab.—Carúpano, Oct. 30 and Nov. 3, one ♂ ad. and two females.
36. *Doleromya fallax* (Bourc.).—Carúpano, ♂, Nov. 5.
37. *Chrysolampis moschitus* (Linn.).—Carúpano, ♂ juv., Nov. 6.
38. *Amazilia erythronota* (Less.).—Carúpano, two specimens, Nov. 5 and 6.
39. *Melanerpes subelegans* (Bon.)=*Picus tricolor* Wagler, 1829, not *Picus tricolor* Gmel., 1788).—Carúpano, ♂, Oct. 30.
40. *Dryobates kirki* (Mahl.).—El Pilar, ♀, Nov. 6.

41. *Picumnus obsoletus*, sp. nov.

*Adult Male*.—Above yellowish olive-brown, with faint subapical very narrow dark brown bars; wing-coverts olive brown, lighter yellowish apically and narrowly tipped with blackish; quills dark brown, the secondaries broadly edged externally with light greenish yellow; nasal plumes soiled white tipped with black; whole upper surface of head black, the crown spotted with orange red and the occiput with minute rounded spots of white, extending forward on sides to eyes; below yellowish, lighter or more whitish on the throat, each feather edged apically with a very narrow bar of black, nearly obsolete except on the breast; under wing-coverts strongly buffy white.

Length (skin), 3.35 in.; wing, 1.95; tail, 1.05; culmen, .46; tarsus, .50.

Type, No. 56,158, ♂ ad., El Pilar, Nov. 5, 1891; Mrs. H. H. Smith.

This species finds its nearest ally in *P. squamulatus* Lafr., from which it differs in smaller size, much more yellowish coloration, both above and below, and in the nearly obsolete squamation

of both the upper and lower surface, resulting in a very strongly pronounced difference in general coloration. (Compared with Bogota specimens of *P. squamulatus*.) Its next nearest ally is doubtless *P. undulatus* Hargitt, from which, however, it seems obviously distinct.

42. *Galbula ruficauda* *Cuv.*—Carúpano, ♂, Oct. 30.
43. *Bucco macrorhynchus* (*Gmel.*)—El Pilar, ♂, Nov. 2.
44. *Trogon viridis* *Linn.*—El Pilar, ♂, Nov. 3.
45. *Ceryle americana* (*Gm.*)—El Pilar, ♀, Nov. 5.
46. *Psittacula guianensis* (*Swain.*)—Carúpano, ♀, Nov. 5.
47. *Scardafella squamosa* (*Temm.*)—Carúpano, ♀, Nov. 6.
48. *Columbigallina passerina* (*Linn.*)—Carúpano, ♂, Nov. 5.