

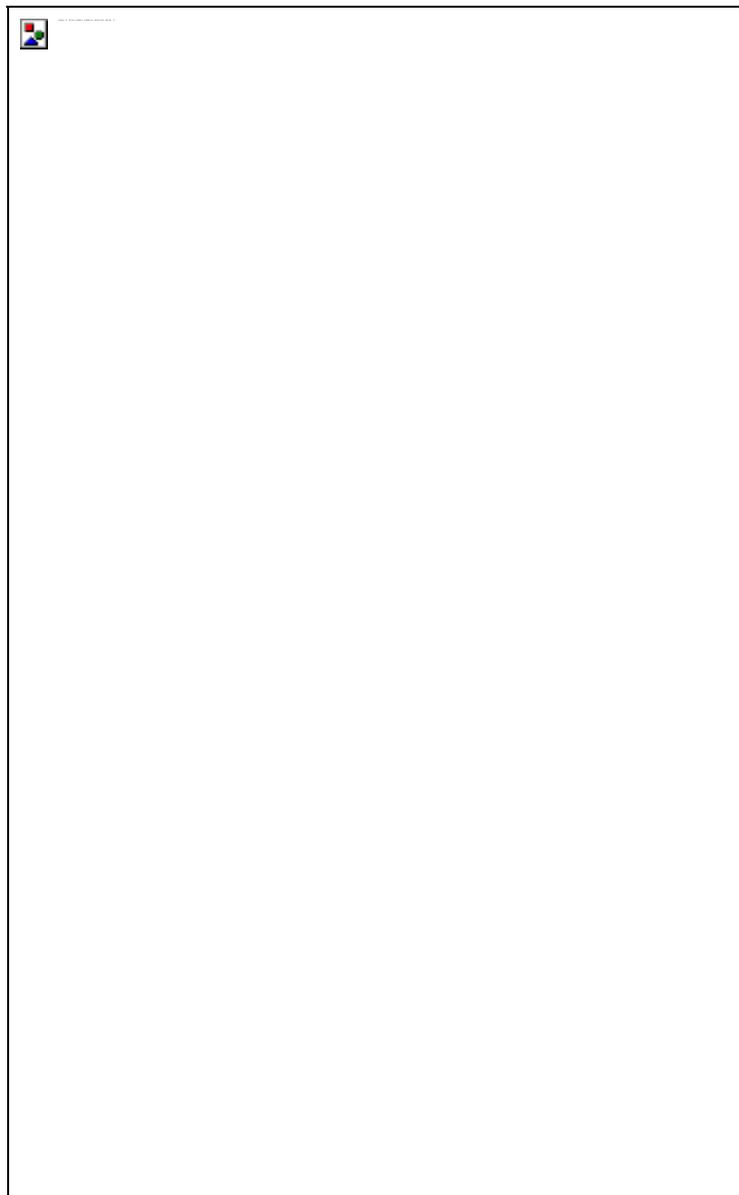
The Diaries of James Chapin: Book 2

Book 2: (July 18, 1909 to October 31, 1909)

DATE: 7/18/1909 (Sunday)

LOCALITY: Coming up the Congo.

Stopped overnight at Lukolela, where we arrived at noon, so we had all afternoon to go ashore. Below Lukolela this morning, in one place we saw some six or seven hippopotami in shallow water on a sand bar, sitting so that just the tops of their heads stuck out of water. We also saw many monkeys, mostly pure black ones (*Cercocebus*), but a few black and white, in some very high trees just above the BMS Mission at Lukolela. One *Haliaeetus vocifer* seen today. I went on shore about three o'clock. Mr. Van de Kerchove (Substitute) had just sent back a female red monkey (*Colobus*) he had shot. In the forest along the telegraph line to the north of the post we came upon a band of these same red monkeys, but I only succeeded in killing one very young one with my shot-gun, tho they were not very shy, and stayed around even after I had fired a number of shots. Later in the afternoon, near the same place, I saw some 6 or 7 plantain-eaters (*Corythacola cristata gigantea*), with a tuft of feathers on the crown, and yellow on the basal half of the tail feathers. When flying the crest is inclined backwards, but it stands up straight as soon as the bird alights. these birds made a loud cuckoo-like noise, "cow-cow-cow..." I wounded one, but it fell in the bush, and must have run off immediately. There were also 6 or 8 hornbills there, and one of them I succeeded in shooting. It was a male, with testes enlarged. Its stomach contained fruit, a very large dragon-fly, and a large ant-like insect. At Post 34 yesterday afternoon, we saw 5 or 6 of these same hornbills. As I was coming back to the steamer, soon after sunset, I saw a goat-sucker (*Macrodipteryx vexillarius*) flying around high over the forest. It had some of the wing-feathers greatly elongated, giving it a curious, most un-bird-like appearance in the twilight. I think it had white spots on the wings like the nighthawk, in America. (See Illustration)



DATE: 7/19/1909 (Monday)

LOCALITY: Left Lukolela early this morning and stopped late in the afternoon at Irebu. We touched at one wood-station about noon, but did not have time to go shooting.

This morning I saw a jacana (*Metopidius africanus*?) fly up out of some grass in a swamp. It was brown on the back, with blackish wing tips, and some white around the neck. I remember seeing the same bird on an island in Stanley Pool on July 12, but I was not sure at the time that it was a jacana. We saw one snake-bird today, one *Haliaetus vocifer*, several black and white kingfishers, some hornbills, and three geese. At Irebu I took a little stroll around the town, seeing 5 fruit pigeons (*Vinago*) and a number of other birds that have been common all the way up the river. These fruit pigeons are found at Leopoldville, tho we saw none, but I found a single feather on the

ground. They are known as "pigeon vert". Ario Guyon came aboard, with soldiers for Bumba. Also an Italian Captain

DATE: 7/20/1909 (Tuesday)

LOCALITY: We landed this afternoon at Inkingi (=Ikengo?), a wood station a little below Bolengi, and tied up for the night.

Today I saw two *Haliaetus vocifer*, two or three snake-birds, two white herons (*Cosmerodius albus*), and a flock of some 30 skimmers, on a sand bar. I shot two long-tailed weavers, a flycatcher, a dove, and one of the same goat-suckers (*M. vexillarius*) that I saw at Lukolela.

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Unfortunately it was so close by that the shot carried away its whole tail. I saw a paradise flycatcher, with black head, brown back, and two elongated white tail feathers, but could not get a shot at it. (*Terpsiphone viridis*).

DATE: 7/21/1909 (Wednesday)

LOCALITY: We stopped at Coquilhatville about noon today.

There I shot a very large resplendent starling, and a sun-bird, and saw a crow with a white band on its breast and the back of its neck. Later in the day we touched at a wood-post, where I saw a green fruit-pigeon, but shot nothing. On the river, from the steamer, we saw two skimmers today. In the early evening we tied up along the shore, but the forest was so dense, that at this time of day, it was too dark to hunt. At Coquilhatville Mr. Lang bought two large lung-fish from a native. As we were passing a swampy part of the shore today, I saw a jacana, walking on some dead grass. It was the same kind I saw on the 19th, with a white neck and brown back

DATE: 7/22/1909 (Thursday)

LOCALITY: Stopped at a wood station today for a very short time.

No birds were collected. 3 or 4 *Haliaetus vocifer*, 4 black and white vultures, and 4 aningas were seen today. One of the aningas was very prettily marked, with a white line running down the side of the neck, a light brown patch on the breast, and the feathers on the back streaked with whitish. Most of those we see are probably immature, for they have the neck merely grayish brown, and the rest of the plumage black. (See Illustration)



I saw a dove flying across the river today, rich light brown, with a gray head (*Calopelia brehmeri*). We stopped for the night at Malele, a small native village. Just before reaching there, we saw a flock of large red-breasted bee-eaters flying about over the river and dipping in the water like swallows. At Malele there was a flock of 150 or 200 sitting in the top of a dead tree, and we shot 8 of them. We have seen these bee-eaters almost every day since we passed Yumbi. In the top of a large tree on the shore today we saw 5 black monkeys (*Cercocebus*), with tufts of hair on the tops of their heads. they were of various sizes, and, I suppose, of various ages. Mr. Lang said he had seen one of the same sort in Lukolela, and that they have grayish beards. At malele I saw one of the metallic blue swallows (*H. nigrita*) that I saw at Kinshasa on the 12th. A day or two ago I saw 2 flying about over the river.

DATE: 7/23/1909 (Friday)

Today I saw a large kingfisher (*Ceryle*; *Ceryle maxima gigantea*?) with a slate blue back, speckled with white, a narrow white collar and chestnut belly. It was, I think, larger than our kingfisher at home (*Ceryle alcyon*), but reminded me of it very much. One skimmer (*R. flavirostris*?), one or two anhingas, and eight black and white vultures were seen today. We stopped for the night at Nouvelle Anvers.

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DATE: 7/24/1909 (Saturday)

LOCALITY: This morning we spent an hour on shore at Nouvelle Anvers, shooting.

I killed a coucal (*Centropus*), the first I have seen. We shot several kinds of weavers, and two finches that I think must be related to the house sparrow. In the evening we reached Mobeka, where we spent the night.

DATE: 7/25/1909 (Sunday)

LOCALITY: This morning we spent some time shooting in Mobeka.

Mr. Lang got a large frog, that was croaking in a small mud-hole. We spent the night at Ekaturaka, a large native town on the left bank of the river. Here I caught a large brownish green tree(?)-frog (*Rana albolabris*), in the woods behind the village. It was hopping on the ground, and when I came along jumped up onto a bush, and then down on the ground, where it sat perfectly still.

DATE: 7/26 to 31

LOCALITY: Lie - Lisala - Bumba - Barumbu - Basoko

On the 26th we stopped a little below Lie, on the 27th we reached Lisala, but spent the night further up the river, on the 28th we reached Bumba, and spent the night and part of the next morning there. On the 29th we tied up for the night along the shore, in the woods, the evening of the 30th we spent at a large native village. On the 31st we stopped at Barumbu, and Basoko, and tied up for the night along the wooded shore. During this time we saw a number of crocodiles, two or three almost everyday, sometimes swimming in the water, with just the top of the head exposed, sometimes sunning themselves on a log or a sandbank, with mouths wide open. The natives along this part of the river are great fishermen and we saw a great many fish, both fresh and smoked, but could preserve only a few small specimens because we had none of our tanks out. The natives have many fish traps in little coves along shore, and at the mouths of streams emptying into the river. Almost every evening we heard toads singing -not like they do at home, but with a prolonged croak, repeated over and over- and at one place we caught a number of them under a wood-pile. At Barumbu, on the 31st, there were many toad-tadpoles along the shore, and some young toads hopping around on the land. At Lisala two medium-sized antelopes were brought aboard. They had been skinned -with the exception of the head- but Mr. Lang secured the skulls and the skin of their heads. At Bumba two live antelopes were given to the ship, so the entire skin of both and their skulls and limb-bones, were preserved. In the night of the 31st, as we lay along shore, a hippo floated down-stream past us, coming to the surface occasionally to expel his breath with a loud snort. At these times, the top of his head, with his little ears sticking straight up, could be seen in the moonlight. Birds are not particularly abundant along this part of the river, and we found it easier to

collect around villages than in the dense forest, where they are not only rather scarce, but very hard to pursue thru the dense vegetation, where innumerable vines, of incredible strength, are always in one's way. No snake-birds, or pelicans were seen at this time (July 26-31). Herons and storks were not rare, and there is a small heron here very like our little green heron at home, but of a grayer color all over, tho it has the same yellow feet. On several occasions recently, I have seen (yes) the "Hammerhead" (*Scopus*) flying over the river, especially in the evening. Several times, too, ibises (*Hagedashia h. guincensis*) of a dark brownish color would fly out of the trees along the shore uttering a loud complaining cry. (See Oct. 6-10, 1909). Black and white vultures are rather common, often being seen in groups of four to eight, walking around on the sand bars. Near Lie I shot a brown

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vulture, evidently an immature example of the same species, for the brown individuals often accompany the black and white ones, and have the same size, proportions, and manner of flight. It was a great surprise, in the one I shot, to find the gizzard full of palm-nut pulp, certainly a strange meal for a bird of prey. There are three birds which we have seen practically all the way up from Stanley Pool, but which I have not yet mentioned in my notes. One of them is a lapwing (*Xiphidopterus albiceps*), with a great deal of white on it, and apparently with yellowish wattles on the throat. The other two are plover-like birds, one with a pearl gray back (*Glareola {Galachryisia} cinerea*, collected at Zambi in June 1915) on the wing-quills, dark lines about the head, and some pretty, buff coloration around the nape, while the other (*Glareola*, see Aug. 24, 1909) is a dark gray bird (*Galachryisia nuchalis*), with a white rump and a whitish line on the side of the head. These birds are both about the size of killdeers, with shorter tails, however; and are seen flying around the river and alighting on the sandbars, where flocks of a hundred or more are sometimes observed. On the 27th I saw another jacana fly up out of the grass in a swampy part of the shore. It had a light grayish bill and frontal shield, a feature which I had not been able to see on the others, tho they were undoubtedly of the same species. One day near Lisala we saw a flock of more than forty skimmers sitting on a sandbar. The large pigeon (*Streptopelia semitorquata*) with a black crescent on the back of the neck, is quite common up here, but the little brown dove like those shot in Leopoldville (*Turture afra*), Inkingi, etc, appears to be becomingly so. At Lie I shot a beautiful fruit pigeon, with a red frontal shield that reminds one of a gallinule, and a pretty, blue iris. On one occasion I saw a plantain-eater (*C. gigantea*) from the steamer, as it flew among the trees on shore. No more cuckoos or coucals have been noticed. Gray parrots are still common, and often seen from the steamer. At Barumbu two rollers, very much like the one shot at Maluku -if not the same- were seen. On this part of the river there are five kinds of kingfishers. Two of these are very small blue and brown species, with red bills and feet. One of them, *Conthornis cristata* (see no. 164), was nesting at Bumba, in a little burrow, some 2 feet long, dug at the side of a ditch. Then there is a larger blue and gray Halcyon, with the upper mandible red. It is fairly common, and four specimens have already been collected. Besides these species, of which we have examples, there are two others, which we see from the steamer. One of these is the black and white *Ceryle*, so common down the river, but less abundant up here. Lastly there is the large blue gray kingfisher (*Ceryle maxima*), with the belly chestnut, first observed on the 23rd. It is probably the least common of all, and thus far we have seen only about half a dozen of them. The large red-breasted bee-eater (Nos. 98 to 105) continues to be seen flying overhead, tho not in large numbers. None of the yellow-breasted bee-eaters, that were so numerous at Kwamouth have been seen for some time. Hornbills,

of 2 or 3 species, are seen flying across the river, and at Bumba Mr. Lang shot a small one. The flight of these hornbills is not at all swift, but gives one the impression of extreme lightness, and this idea is strengthened when one is skinned, so numerous are the air sacs, especially in the wings, They fly in a somewhat undulating fashion, first beating the wings several times, and rising a little, then following this with a descending swoop. [See drawing]. Before alighting they often sail for a considerable distance. Several times, in the evening, we have seen large birds that many have been owls, but as yet I have seen none with any degree of certainty. Curiously enough, no woodpeckers, nor anything that looked like one, have been observed. No goat-suckers have been seen since we left Inking, nor any colies for a long time. Black and white wagtails are pretty common, and at Basoko a young one, with the tail fully grown, was sitting on a boat on the river bank. Not many swallows have been noticed recently, tho at Ekaturaka I saw a few of the short-tailed ones with the breast, as well as the back, metallic blue. At Bumba two swallows were shot, one a male, and the other a female. The latter was gathering mud for a nest. They were of a kind not previously noticed, with black head, back and wings, brown rump, throat, and belly, and deeply forked tail. Quite a few flocks of resplendent starlings (like no. 95) have been noticed lately. In the evening of July 28, as we lay at Bumba, a noise was heard from an island out in the river that sounded almost like a waterfall. From its resemblance to the noise produced by a flock of blackbirds at home, I guessed it might be a flock of starlings at their roost (probably wrong). Early the next morning the same sound was audible, and while I was on shore at Bumba, a few minutes later, an immense flock of these

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same iridescent starlings came flying from the river. After this the noise ceased. (I am not sure they were the starlings, possibly *Hypsingnathus*). Two sun-birds have been collected here, one rather large, with a purple and red breast, and square tail, at Dobo, July 28th; and a smaller one, with the two middle rectrices greatly elongated, at Barumbu (*Nectarina congensis*), on the 31st Mr. Lang saw one of the latter at Bumba. Weaver-birds have been especially numerous. At almost all the villages large black-headed ones are nesting in the palms, as well as other trees, often with two or more other species. A beautiful orange and black weaver was collected at Dobo, and another seen at Bumba. At Bumba the long-tailed black and white one (*Vidua macroura*), was very common, and a pair was watched in the act of copulation. The brown female sat on a tall stalk of grass while the male hovered in the air beside her, with his wings beating jerkily, and his long tail hanging straight downward. Suddenly he dashed at his mate, and they fluttered down into the grass together. At most of the villages we have visited since we reached Nouvelle Anvers, we have seen a finch with gray head and brown wings (like nos. 109 and 110), that keeps near the houses, often feeding on the ground -in fact not only acting, but also chirping, just like a house sparrow, to which it must be closely related (*Passer griseus*).

DATE: 8/1/1909 (Sunday)

LOCALITY: Stopped at one wood post today, and reached Isangi late in the afternoon.

Today we saw the first cormorants (*P. africanus*) we have noticed on the Congo. There were three of them perched on posts along the bank, and one flying. The two in brightest plumage were shiny black all over, with the exception of the bill and the naked skin of the face, which were brownish yellow, and the back, where the feathers were margined with gray. The other two were much grayer, with a tinge of brown about the head. Fully 10 hornbills were seen today from the steamer,

at least 4 of them being the same as the one collected at Bumba, July 29. Black and white vultures were rather common -15 or 20 of them in all, today. Three great plantain-eaters (*C. gigantea*) were observed, 20 or 30 gray parrots, 3 green fruit-pigeons, three lapwings (*Xiphidopterus albiceps*), and five crows, with white breasts (at Isangi). At Isangi there were also a few resplendent starlings. At the wood post where we stopped today -Yambingi(?) it is called- there were two wagtails, and a number of weavers, the little long-tailed black and white one being especially conspicuous. There I also saw a long-tailed flycatcher, but this one had the tail brown, the same color as the back, and the black plumage of the head was continued down on to the belly (female or male immature). Several toads were singing this evening. Along this part of the river, and further down, as well, the natives have very interesting drums, made of hollow logs, usually from 4 to 6 feet in length, which are used for signaling and communicating with other villages. These drums are often placed upon special supports, as indicated, and are beaten with two short sticks, which have sometimes pieces of rubber bound to the end. They are struck on both sides of the long slot, one side producing a somewhat higher tone than the other.

DATE: 8/2/1909 (Monday)

LOCALITY: Left Isangi this morning, and stopped for the night at an island "Ile de Berthi", a few hours sail from Stanleyville.

At about 6pm we saw a flock of some 20 or 25 rollers (*Eurystomus*), and a great many large fruit-bats (*Eidolon helvum*) (1000 to 1500?). The latter were flying high overhead, in a westerly direction, as tho going out from their roost to feed. They kept passing over for at least 10 or 15 minutes, and as it grew dark a few lit in trees near where we were standings.

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DATE: 8/3/1909 (Tuesday)

LOCALITY: Arrived at Stanleyville about 11am.

The birds in Stanleyville are quite tame, for no shooting is allowed. Weaver-birds are numerous, including the small red-rumped species (like nos. 172-3), the red-faced one (like no. 93), two black-headed ones, one larger (like no. 113), the other small (like nos. 170-1). These small ones have nests here now, built of grass, and other similar material, and placed some 8 or 10 feet from the ground. The small short-tailed weaver (nos. 122-3) are very numerous, and very tame. A few of the large yellowish weavers, with black heads (nos. 139 to 144) have been seen. Finches, like nos. 109-110 are numerous, and bulbuls (no. 107) are one of the common birds here. Crows, with white breasts and necks, the same as those seen at Isangi and a few other places down the river, are numerous, and very tame, sitting in the trees and feeding, on the sand, along the shore. Five or six are sometimes seen in company. Only one kind of kingfisher, a *Halcyon* (like nos. 161 to 163) has been seen at Stanleyville, tho one or two black and white *Ceryles* were seen a little way below, on the river, in the morning of the 3rd.

DATE: 8/4/1909 (Wednesday)

Spent the day arranging our outfit.

DATE: 8/5/1909 (Thursday)

LOCALITY: The Minister of Colonies

arrived in Stanleyville today, reaching the railroad station, on the other side of the river about one o'clock, and crossing over to our side about 5:30pm.

This morning I shot two little red-rumped weavers and two warblers, the first we have seen of the latter, except perhaps at Ile de Berthe. They are common in the high grass and brush near the shore at Stanleyville, and have a little trill, with slight musical quality, to do duty for a song.

DATE: 8/6/1909 (Friday)

This afternoon I walked a little way up along the bank of the river, taking my gun as well as an insect net. In a small open swamp two jacanas, the same as those seen further down the river, were walking about on the mud and decaying vegetation, while on the shore were at least 15 or 20 pigeons, with black crescents on the back of the neck -like those shot in Leopoldville and in Bumba. The song of this pigeon, which I have heard many times now, is composed of six syllables, "coo-coo, cu-cu-coo-coo." The first two "coos" are the loudest, and the whole is repeated over and over indefinitely. Further up, in some shallows on the side of the river, I shot a small cormorant (female) of the same kind as those seen from the steamer near Isangi. Its stomach contained a great many small shrimp-like crustaceans and a few small fishbones and scales. A black and white kingfisher (*Ceryle*) and a sandpiper (*Actitis hypoleucis*?) very much like our spotted sandpiper were also seen. In a small puddle in the grass I caught four rather small brownish tree-frogs. The two smaller ones -males, I suppose- had patches of green on the upper part of the back, just behind the head. There were many of these little frogs singing there, the note reminding me of that of *Pseudacris triseriatus*, tho not quite so much of a rattle. Some natives brought us a *Genetta* today, which had been killed at only a short distance. It was a female, and had two scent glands, with much the same odor as a musk rat. The stomach

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contained the hair, bones and teeth of a rodent about the size of a small rat, and also a few pieces of a fairly large insect, with very spiny legs. We have seen many toads here lately, especially around the palm-oil lights which are set out in the evening to guide us on our way to the mess. A few of them have been collected, and they appear to be the same as those in Leopoldville. The song, at any rate, is exactly the same, a loud "cr-r-r-rk" repeated at intervals of about one second, anywhere from three to twenty or thirty times.

DATE: 8/7/1909 (Saturday)

The Minister of Colonies left Stanleyville about 9am today.

DATE: 8/8/1909 (Sunday)

In a small mango tree, a little way from our house, there were four or five bats this morning. Two were shot, and were found to be very different from all those we had already collected, the ears

being very long and the nose ornamented with several flaps of skin concealing a pit of considerable size (*Nycteris*). One of them, a female, had one embryo in the uterus; its mammal were, as usual, two in number and on the breast. A drawing was made of this one's face. The other -a male- was so mutilated by the shot that he was put in alcohol. We caught two lizards today, and two yesterday (nos. 51 to 54). So far, this is the only species we have seen at Stanleyville. The amount of rufous on the sides varies extremely, some being entirely without it. A native brought us a *Manis* today, rolled up in a ball, so as to be perfectly protected by its scales. By taking hold of the end of its tail, and shaking it, one could make it unroll itself a little; and if, at this stage of the proceedings, it were placed on the ground, it would get on its feet and shuffle away. At the slightest touch, however, it turned into a motionless ball again. One coucal (*Centropus*) was seen this morning. Two kinds of swallows are to be seen here, one much like *Hirundo rustica*, the other the same as those shot in Bumba, black on the back, with a rusty brown rump, throat and breast. There are likewise two swifts, a small blackish *Cypselus*, with deeply forked tail, and a larger swift, also blackish, but with white rump, and short square tail. While we were hunting bats this morning, Mr. Lang caught sight of a large green snake, sitting in the branches of a coffee bush, some 6 or 7 feet from the ground. It got down into the grass, but was captured. In its stomach there was a large brown tree-frog.

DATE: 8/9/1909 (Monday)

The *Manis* was photographed and killed and skinned this afternoon. Under its scales were a number of ticks, some of which we preserved, and there were two or 3 rather small *Nematodes* in its stomach. The remains of food in the alimentary tract consisted of the shells of small insects, probably ants, mixed with a quantity of sand. It was a male, but the testes were rather small. The tongue was of extraordinary length, and seemed to be attached to the long xiphoid cartilage, which ran back as far as the pelvis. The iris was dark brown, and the ear opened into a pit situated just behind the eye, there being no external ear. A flock of 30 cormorants, two jacanas, and a squirrel, like the one collected in Leopoldville, were seen today.

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DATE: 8/10/1909 (Tuesday)

This morning, before breakfast, I walked up along the bank of the river, seeing two jacanas in the same place as yesterday, three or four *Actitis* (*hypoleucus*?), and a large flock of the dark gray plover-like birds, of which we saw so many while coming up river. Near some grass along the shore, I shot at a large rail, the same species as one that a boy of ours had the other day. They are very dark bluish, with a black head. The beak is short, like that of a *Porzana*, without frontal shield, and of a light yellowish green color. The iris, as well as the edge of the eyelids, is red, and the feet are also pinkish red. I did succeed in killing a small kingfisher, with red bill and feet, and barred feathers in the crest. Yesterday I saw one of the other species, with the purplish tinge on the cheeks. [See drawing].

DATE: 8/11/1909 (Wednesday)

This afternoon I shot a jacana and one of the dark bluish rails such as I saw yesterday. The former was one of a pair, feeding in a little swamp near the river. These were probably the same two that I

have been seeing around there lately. A striped squirrel was collected in the same place that the one was seen on the ninth, in the coffee plantation mentioned on the next page.

DATE: 8/12-13/1909

Just a little way from our house in Stanleyville is an old coffee plantation, in which grass and bushes had been allowed to grow up. A week or two ago all this vegetation was cut down, and now a gang of women from the prison are cleaning it up, under the supervision of a couple of native soldiers. Two or three snakes have been killed and brought to us, and on these two days we received a number of rats, millipedes, frogs, and three large lizards. These last are greenish brown on the back, and on the sides salmon red, barred with black. They are looked upon with horror by the natives, who will not pick them up in the hand. One of the rats was especially interesting in the way the tail varied in different individuals. (See no. 30, etc). Some had the tail complete, it being then about 70mm long, less than 1/2 the total length. Others had no visible tail at all, and a few had bob-tails, that had obviously been broken off. The whole skin of these animals was extremely tender and easily torn; and one of the bob-tailed individuals (no. 41), when brought to us, had the skin of the tail broken in a complete circle. [See drawing]. Whether this would cause a piece of the tail to drop off I do not know.

DATE: 8/15/1909 (Sunday)

This afternoon I visited the falls, which lie some half or three-quarters of a mile above the part of the town where we are staying, tho the native quarter of the town reaches, with a few interruptions to a point above the falls. The most interesting thing to be seen is the way the natives have set out their apparatus for fishing. The falls themselves have the form of an arc, with a drop of not more than 8 feet, at this season at least; and one can walk out for some distance over the rocks, which are full of beetle holes and crevices worn by the water. These cavities in the rocks allow the natives to build rough structures of long poles and logs, bound together with strong vines, stretching all across the falls, save for a few breaks where there is too much water. In the water at the foot of the falls are long conical fish-traps, from 10 to 12 feet from

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en to end. There are also a few large nets, fastened to hoops of wood. these continuances are attached by vines to the wooden framework, about which the fishermen climb to arrange their apparatus. To paddle a canoe up to the foot of the falls must require considerable skill, but is done with great expertness by the natives, sometimes 15 or 18 in one boat. In a little pool in the grass along the shore we caught water-bugs of at least three kinds, including one like *Nepa*, and another resembling *Ranatra*.

DATE: 8/16/1909 (Monday)

This afternoon I walked up toward the falls again, and shot a few birds. Over the river below the falls there are always numbers of swallows, all of one kind, resembling *Hirundo rustica*, but with a less deeply forked tail. Some of these were alighting on the ground near the native houses, and one, and adult female, was collected. On the way back a small pure black swallow was also secured, one

of two or three that were going to roost in some high grass near the bank of the river. A tattler (*Helodromas* or *Totanus*?) was shot at a little rocky pool below the falls, and four large resplendent starlings were seen, but not collected.

DATE: 8/17 to 21, 1909

Our time during this period, was divided between packing our outfit at the magazine and preparing the animals which were brought in so abundantly by the natives. At least seven kinds of rats were thus secured, and several specimens of the striped squirrel, the latter being caught, we were told, by being surrounded in a small tree, and then shaken out of it on to the ground. We have decided that the small brown rat, so many of which have no tails, must lose them simply by their being broken off. Not only is the skin of the tail, as well as that of the whole body, very tender, but the attachments of the caudal vertebrae are very weak, so that the tail, in a dead specimen at least, breaks to pieces very easily. On Aug. 18th a small kite (no. 209) was brought to us by the natives. This is the first specimen I have seen up here, tho on June 23rd, between Banana and Boma, a kite very much like it was seen sitting in a tree on the river bank.

DATE: 8/22/1909 (Sunday)

On a long rocky point running out into the river, this morning, we watched a large flock of the small gray plover-like birds that we so often saw on sandbars down the river. The base of the bill, and the feet, we could see now, were respectively orange and orange red. There were considerably over 100 of them, sitting close together on the tops of the rocks, the posture being remarkably upright. they were not at all shy, allowing one to approach well within shotgun range before taking flight. (*Glareola emini*?; see august 24, 1909). Late this afternoon I walked out a little way on the road to Bafwaboli. Small black swallows, like no. 205, were common, some of them, probably immature, having very slightly forked tails. Four or five brown barbets, like no. 201, were sitting on a large dead tree, whence they flew out and returned as tho catching insects in the air. Once or twice they were seen to climb up a sloping branch in true woodpecker fashion. Five or six rollers (*Eurystomus*), three resplendent starlings and two large black and white hornbills were also noticed.

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DATE: 8/23/1909 (Monday)

This evening, by the light of a lantern, we watched some toads singing in a little brook near the magazine. they were not at all shy, but continued to sing with the lantern close to them. The larger individuals had much hoarser voices than the smaller ones. During each "crrrk" the vocal sac expands, and the sides of the body contract, the mouth, of course, being kept closed. During the succeeding interval of silence the body again expands, and the vocal sac contracts a little. Almost all of these toads were males, and several times small male individuals attempted to copulate with others of their own sex. The true breeding season is probably finished now, for we have several times seen young toads that had just emerged from the water. Early in the evening the croaking in the rook was loud and unbroken; but from 10 o'clock on there were frequent intervals of complete silence, after which the whole chorus would start almost simultaneously.

DATE: 8/24/1909 (Tuesday)

Early this morning I went out on the point where we watched the gray birds mentioned in last Sunday's notes, and shot two of them. They proved to be pratincoles (*Glareola*), and from what the "Cambridge Natural History" says, probably *G. emini*. A short distance from our house a red and black weaver-bird, with an enormous beak (*Pyrenestes*) was also collected. A bird of similar size and color was seen in the same place a week or so ago; but I did not notice its bill particularly. Here at Stanleyville, there is a thrush, of a dull brownish color, with a yellow bill, that sings exceedingly like the American robin. It is usually heard in the early morning and late afternoon. (See Nov. 15, 1909). A thrush, of probably the same species was noticed at Barumbu, and two at Isangi.

DATE: 8/25/1909 (Wednesday)

The natives continue to bring us insects, reptiles, rats and so. Today we received three small bats of one species, and one of another. The latter had exceedingly small wings, the skin of which was black near the body, but on the outer half of the wing almost unpigmented and very translucent.

DATE: 8/26/1909 (Thursday)

Among the things brought to us by the natives today were several rats, two beautiful snakes, with a pair of horns on the nose, some large grasshoppers, and a large green mantis. When I cut open the abdomen of this last-mentioned insect, out stuck part of a large Nematode worm, which had been coiled up inside. It was between 25 and 30cm long, and of a dark gray color, mottled with black, and with an exceedingly hard and stiff skin. It was preserved in alcohol.

DATE: 8/27-30/1909

Most of the time spent arranging our outfit, tho the natives continued to bring insects, snakes and so on.

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DATE: 8/31-9/3/1909

About 100 porters sent off on Sept. 2nd, 50 or 60 toads still remaining. Practically no collecting done. On the evening of the 2nd, about 100 feet back from the shore where the steamers land, there was an orthopterous insect, singing very loudly, a sort of a droning, buzzing hum. We finally located it -a large cricket-by lantern light, sitting at the entrance to a burrow about as big around as one's thumb. Its head was pointed toward the hole, its wings slightly opened, and apparently vibrating rapidly. It did not mind the light in the least, but when started by a slight noise, disappeared down the hole. We went off for a little while, and returning, found it singing again, but could not capture it, so that we had to dig it up. The burrow was about a foot long, running down at an angle of about 45 degree, and the insect was found at the bottom. The soil was sandy, but not very soft. Another insect of the same sort was heard near a small brook in the evening of Aug. 23, and again in the same place on Sept. 2, but the vegetation was too high to find just where it was

sitting. A man at Stanleyville now has a tame monkey, of the same species of which we saw 5 or 6 in a tree near Lukolela on July 18th. There is a tuft of black hair on the top of the head and gray whiskers sticking out from the cheeks. The rest of the pelage as well as the skin of the face is black (*Cercocebus* -see specimen purchased at Stanleyville in 1914).

DATE: 9/4/1909 (Saturday)

LOCALITY: Left Stanleyville at about 6pm with about 60 porters. We walked for about 45 minutes, stopping for the night at Mapruki.

DATE: 9/5/1909 (Sunday)

We walked for about 2 1/2 hours today thru country partly cleared by natives, who grow bananas, rice and corn. In a rather large tree standing in a clearing were two hawks, gray, with a dark stripe on the throat. One was standing in a crotch formed by four-limbs some 55 feet from the ground, where a few sticks had already been placed evidently the beginning of a nest. Both of them were shot and one was found to be a male and the other a female (nos. 224-5). The latter had a small right ovary, the ova of which were just as much enlarged as those of the left. There was, however, no right oviduct. A little later a honey buzzard came flying along, and lit in a tree. It was shot and proved to be a female, with a right ovary about 3/4 the size of the left. No right oviduct was visible, but the ovaries were not enlarged (no. 223). The crop and stomach contained pieces of the nest of some Hymenopterous insect, probably a wasp, many of the cells still containing larvae. A black shrike (no. 226) was also collected, one of two that flew across the road into some thick bushes. Its stomach contained beetles. This part of the road is well settled and we passed thru several villages. (Met our first 100 porters today).

DATE: 9/6/1909 (Monday)

LOCALITY: This afternoon we reached Lumatululu, the country passed thru being somewhat the same as yesterday, but more wooded.

Both, today and yesterday, there have been many brooks of pretty clear water.

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DATE: 9/7/1909 (Tuesday)

LOCALITY: From 6:15am to 2pm

we walked thru the unbroken forest from Lumatululu to Risimu. The road is little more than a wood path, shaded by the high trees of the forest over which run innumerable vines. Brooks are crossed either by rude wooden bridges, or simply on a tree trunk laid across the stream. Inside the forest one hears many birds, but sees few. Occasionally a large hornbill flies over, his wings making a "ck-ck-ck" as they beat the air, or at other times a band of monkeys go off jumping from tree to tree, exactly like monstrous squirrels. Butterflies, of great variety as well as beauty are very abundant along the road, numbers of them often settling down together upon a damp spot or a piece of excrement. An oriole (no. 227) and a bush-shrike (?) (no. 228) were the only birds collected today. In the villages and clearings thus far we have very often seen the finch (*Passer?*) which

occurs along the river from Nouvelle Anvers up. Black and white wagtails, of the same sort we have already collected are also to be seen near the houses, even in very dry situations. Grey parrots fly overhead, whistling and screaming. But the birds of the forest appear to be very different, in general, from those near the river.

DATE: 9/8/1909 (Wednesday)

LOCALITY: Left Risimu at 7am, and after walking about 2 hours, came to a large village where our porters laid down their loads saying they were tired out. As the next village, Rissaci, was some 4 hours distant, we stayed here the rest of the day.

In the afternoon Mr. Lang went out hunting monkeys, while I caught some butterflies and shot a few birds, a roller, a sun-bird, and a couple of others. One black and white vulture, like those seen on the river, seen here today. It was the first one observe since we arrived at Stanleyville.

DATE: 9/9/1909 (Thursday)

WEATHER: Rainy morning.

LOCALITY: We reached Risasi late in the afternoon, it having rained all morning, so that we could not start till afternoon.

DATE: 9/10/1909 (Friday)

LOCALITY: Soon after leaving Risasi this morning.

We came to a small but swift river, across which there were stretched two long vines, fastened to trees on both banks. By means of these vines a raft, holding about 15 porters and their loads could be puled across the stream. During the second on third trip one of the vines broke, but the men ran into the forest and quickly returned with another to replace it. It was here that I noticed for the first time a small gray flycatcher (collected later at Batama no. 248), of which several other specimens were seen later in the day. Stopped at Munie Katoto.

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DATE: 9/11/1909 (Saturday)

LOCALITY: Arrived at Bafwaboli about noon today.

DATE: 9/12/1909 (Sunday)

LOCALITY: Spent the day at Bafwaboli.

Caught two geckos in the evening on the side of a brick wall behind our house.

DATE: 9/13/1909 (Monday)

LOCALITY: Left Bafwaboli rather late in the morning and reached Babene before nightfall.

Today we climbed the steepest grade we have yet encountered, and crossed a river just before Babene by means of a raft and some long vines stretched across the river.

DATE: 9/14/1909 (Tuesday)

LOCALITY: We stopped for the night at Bafwamoko.

DATE: 9/15/1909 (Wednesday)

LOCALITY: Arrived at Batama, a state post, but without anyone in charge at present. Here we waited until the 19th for some loads we had left behind at Bafwaboli.

On the 16th I shot the first woodpecker I have seen in the Congo, a small greenish one, whose stomach was full of black ants. On the 18th I secured one of the large black hornbills that we have seen once or twice along the road (no. 255) as well as two very small ones, the first of the kind I had seen. The same day our boys brought in two large blue plantain-eaters (*Corythaeola?*), of which I had seen and heard a number since we left Bafwaboli. At Stanleyville, too, I saw some feathers of one that had been killed there. Our stops between Batama and Bafwasende are as follows: Sept. 19 Bafwalongo, Sept. 20 Lubila (?), Sept. 21 Kamunionge, Sept. 22 Boyulu, Sept. 23 Bafwasende. At Kamunionge I shot a small bird that looked very much like a very slender-billed weaver (no. 268). It was one of a pair (?) that were flitting about in the low bushes, and catching insects, as an examination of the stomach showed. There too, was a large patch of the white-flowered pea (*Tephrosia*) which is used to poison fish, with one single bush that bore purple flowers. At Boyulu our boys brought in a very beautiful bee-eater (*Mellitophagus gularis?*). As we were leaving Kamunionge in the morning we saw two green parrots on the top of a dead tree. They were not quite entirely green, the front of the head, the bend of the wing, and some feathers on the legs being reddish. One of the boys went after them and shot one (no. 273), a female. Up to this time the gray parrot had been the only one seen. At Bafwasende we saw our first piece of Okapi skin, a strip that was being used by a soldier as a sling for his albin. We did not leave Bafwasende until the 27th, but I got a fever on the 24th and did not notice much from that time until we reached Avakubi. For several days before arriving at Bafwasende, and most of the way from there to Avakubi we saw a great many elephant tracks, most of them very old, of course. Under the heaps of elephant dung there was a great variety of beetles, some of them with vertical horns, others without. The march from Bafwasende to

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Avakubi is supposed to take three days, but we did it in four, arriving at the latter post a little before noon on Sept. 30th.

DATE: 10/1 to 4

LOCALITY: We stopped in the house of the Chef de Secteur at Avakubi, but I went shooting only once, and then only a little way long the road.

Here, there were many examples of a little red-faced weaver we had not yet seen. It evidently replaces that found along the Congo (see no. 93, etc) but differs from it in having most of the plumage finely barred, and the breast suffused with rosy. The habits, however, are the same the birds feeding on the seeds of tall grasses, and usually being found in small flocks. Near some native houses a short distance south of the post there is a large tree covered with the nests of the same large yellow weavers, with black heads -in the males- that occur all the way up the river from Leopoldville at least (see nos. 293 to 299). Here at Avakubi we met again the same toad that we found all along the Congo from Leopoldville to Stanleyville. The toad of the forest, which we first

encountered the second day after leaving Stanleyville, is redder, rougher-skinned, and has the parotid glands narrowed and more widely separate. At Lumatulu, however, two of the gray toads were seen, but from there to Avakubi only the other species was taken. Late in the afternoon of the fourth, two swallows were seen sitting on a beam projecting from an unfinished house, and one of them was shot. It proved to be the metallic blue swallow, with a white spot on the throat and white patches on the rectrices, that we used to see from the boat while we were ascending the Congo.

DATE: 10/5/1909 (Tuesday)

LOCALITY: We pitched our tents near the bank of the Ituri, and left the Chef de Secteur to occupy his house alone.

Yesterday, I neglected to say, we shot a yellow-breasted wagtail on the ground where we later put up our tents. It was the first of the sort we had seen. The common black and white wagtail is, of course, abundant here, as it has been in nearly all the villages along the road from Stanleyville.

DATE: 10/6 to 10, 1909

A black and white vulture, the "aigle pecheur" of the French-speaking population, has been seen several times from our camp, as well as two large kingfishers, possibly the same as that observed on July 23rd last. On the 9th our hunters brought in an ibis (no. 337), and the same day I heard their loud complaining cries, like "hak-hak-ha-ak" from the other side of the river. To judge from the voice, this is the same ibis we saw on the Congo, but beyond this I can say nothing as to their identity (see July 26 to 31, 1909).

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DATE: 10/10 to 17, 1909

LOCALITY: Still camping at Avakubi.

I went out hunting on the 16th with some native guides, over to the opposite side of the river. Elephant tracks were extremely abundant, but not a single mammal, of any sort, presented itself for slaughter. It was no surprise for I found that I was accompanied by eight blacks. A few birds were shot, and more escaped, one of them a partridge (?) that got up within a few inches of the boys as they were catching a wounded weaver-bird, and another, a small cormorant that was seen sitting on a dead branch along the shore while we were returning in the canoes. In the afternoon of the 17th we went up the river a little way in a canoe with several officers who were going out to try to get a shot at elephants, and then walked back by land. On a tall dead tree along the road a woodpecker was working, and was mercilessly shot, for it was not only larger than the two specimens we already had, but was decidedly different in regard to the size of the bill, pattern of coloration and so on, tho it was still more or less greenish. This was only about the fourth woodpecker I have encountered in the Congo. One of our boys shot a beautiful black weaver, with the top of the head and the back of the neck bright red. Its stomach was filled with winged termites, a fact which would have surprised me, more had I not seen weavers of four different species (see catalog under no. 386), catching termites on the wing in the morning of the day previous, near our camp. Up to this time almost every weaver-bird whose stomach I had examined had been eating seeds, often of grasses, and not infrequently rice.

DATE: 10/18/1909 (Monday)

Today two flycatchers (*Terpsiphone*) were collected near our camp. They were both males, but not in full plumage. This is a bird I considered rather rare until I learned to recognize its song, a monotonous whistled "twee-twee-twee, twee-twee-twee, twee-twee". After that I found that they must be decidedly numerous near our camp, for after my shooting four males, two or three others can still be heard almost all thru the day. But when one tries to kill the singer, it turns out to be a rather difficult affair, so extremely shy he is. A kite (*Milvus*) (no. 390) was sent us today by the priest in charge of the mission. One was seen at Bafwalongo, Sept. 19, 1909, and one at Bafwasende Sept. 24.

DATE: 10/19/1909 (Tuesday)

A female falcon (*Tinnunculus*) was sent to us today by the priest, but we shot no birds ourselves. A goliath beetle was brought by a native, who said he had caught it on the way from Mawambi. When released from its bonds and placed on the ground, it was a great surprise to see how it spread out its legs and kept its body close to the ground, instead of walking in a more graceful and energetic fashion as expected. Almost every day since we have settled on the bank of the Ituri, some large bee-eaters have been heard, and sometimes seen, out over the river. The call is exactly like that of the large red-breasted bee-eaters collected at Malele, on July 22nd, and the bird is of about the same size, and has the middle tail feathers elongated. But the breast, instead of being rosy, is green.

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DATE: 10/20/1909 (Wednesday)

LOCALITY: Avakubi.

A pitta, the first one we have seen, was brought to us alive today by a native. It was wounded, and died before it could be photographed, but we had the opportunity to observe that it hopped, instead of walking, as one might expect from such a terrestrial bird. A number of green fruit pigeons were seen today, and several long-tailed flycatchers were heard singing.

DATE: 10/21/1909 (Thursday)

LOCALITY: Avakubi.

A kite (*Milvus*), a black and white vulture, two small cuckoos (like nos. 317 and 373), were among the more interesting birds seen today. Two plovers, a male and a female, were shot on the open square at the post, where they were walking on the ground together. When they took wing they uttered a whistled call almost precisely the same as that of the semi-palmated plover (*Aegialitis semipalmata*) which they also resembled somewhat in their size and plumage.

DATE: 10/22/1909 (Friday)

LOCALITY: Avakubi.

No birds collected today, for we are preparing for our trip to Macaba. Yesterday a female *Terpsiphone* was killed near our camp, where we have already collected four male examples, each one in a plumage a little duller than the one preceding. The plumage of this female was almost exactly like that of the last male collected, while the colors of her bill, eyelids, feet and iris were practically identical. She was accompanied by a male with a long white tail, and today a male, with a tail of the same size -probably the same bird- was back in the same place with another female.

DATE: 10/23/1909 (Saturday)

LOCALITY: Avakubi.

Today I found a nest of the common little red-breasted sun-bird in a young rubber tree, and directly over a path. It was suspended from the end of a small branch, about 17 feet from the ground. The entrance was at the side, and the interior was lined with some very soft white material, while the outside was woven of strips of soft bark. [See drawing]. Only the female was seen near the nest, but she even entered it once, tho there were no eggs as yet.

DATE: 10/24/1909 (Sunday)

This afternoon, near the mission, a pigeon (no. 401), of the species so common at Stanleyville, with a black crescent on the back of the neck. It was sitting alone in a high tree overlooking a banana plantation, and was heard to sing once, the notes being the same as with those observed in Stanleyville. This is the first pigeon of this species seen at Avakubi, and, in fact, the only one noticed since two or three days after we left Stanleyville. Its crop contained rice, with the hard outer covering still on, and four or five small empty snail shells, probably intended to aid in

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crushing the food. The gizzard also contained rice and a few small stones. Several rollers (*Eurystomus*), a great many small black swallows, like no. 205, and one flock of large swallows, like no. 389 were also seen near the mission late in the afternoon. Between there and the post a flycatcher (*Terpsiphone*) was heard singing, and a pair of coucals (*Centropus*) were both seen and heard.

DATE: 10/25/1909 (Monday)

Two of the large swallows, such as were seen yesterday were shot today by the priest and sent over to us. One was a young male and the other a young female, the latter still exhibiting some brownish plumage on the crown.

DATE: 10/26/1909 (Tuesday)

This morning a flock of large swifts, with short square tails, like those seen in Stanleyville, was feeding high in the air over our camp. Birds of the same species have already been watched here, usually in threes and fours, but almost always too high to be shot at. As in Stanleyville, there is also a smaller fork-tailed swift, but it is not very common. Three small sandpipers (*Pisobia*) were found feeding among the stones in a small stream this morning, where one or two *Actitis* (*hypoleucus*?)

were also picking up their breakfasts. Two of the small ones, both males, were collected, one of them having three very small snails in its esophagus (nos. 406-7). These birds, I guess, and the two plover taken last Thursday, must be migrants just arriving from the North, probably from Europe. Several small flocks of yellow-breasted wagtails (the same as no. 341) have also been seen flying by recently, and I am inclined to consider this as another winter visitor from farther North. A snake-bird was sitting on a dead branch along the river bank this afternoon, with tail spread and wings hangout to dry.

DATE: 10/27/1909 (Wednesday)

Some natives brought an immature gull (no. 410) this morning, our first and only specimen as yet. No gulls were observed as we ascended the Congo, nor have we noticed any ourselves on the Ituri.

DATE: 10/28/1909 (Thursday)

LOCALITY: Avakubi.

This afternoon the doctor and I went out toward the mission, thru part of the rubber plantation and a short bit of woods. Besides the ordinary small weavers, warblers and the like, and some birds in the woods which I could not identify, the following were seen, two gray hawks (same as no. 381), three or four green pigeons, (same as no. 392), one small hornbill (same as no. 333), six or seven hornbills like no. 379, a coucal (same as no. 359) and a number of the common small black swallows. The fruit pigeons were seen to sing, uttering a very soft whistle of several syllables, not at all like the notes of the other pigeons. The doctor shot a dove (Turtur) (no. 412), the first one I have seen, and the only one he has shot here, tho he tells me that "turtuelles" are very numerous on the plain, near Irumu and Kilo. An interesting sun-bird was also shot (no. 411),

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one of the very common ones (Cinnyris?), but a young male, in juvenile plumage, with a few metallic green feathers just coming in, showing that in this species at least the male may pass directly from the juvenile plumage to that of the adult male, without assuming a plumage like that of the female, as appears to be the case with some other sun-birds, as for example, no. 232. From our camp, today, we saw two large birds of prey, about the size of red-tailed hawks, circling around high over the river. Above, their whole plumage was black, with the exception of a large white patch on the primaries and of the tail, which was gray, barred with darker gray or black. The under wing-coverts, throat, breast and belly were black, while the secondary from below, looked grayish. [See drawing]. The bill and feet appeared to be lighter in color than the plumage. The only notes heard sounded like "kec-kec-kee-ee-ee".

DATE: 10/29/1909 (Friday)

LOCALITY: Avakubi.

No birds collected.

DATE: 10/30/1909 (Saturday)

A tiny blue-backed kingfisher was seen this noon. About 2 weeks ago I saw one here, it was the species with a blue wash on the cheeks, the crown not conspicuously barred, and the bill slightly depressed, the same as no. 71. Today's example may also have been the same, but was not seen well enough for me to be sure. Early this morning, during a shower, a flock of 20 or 25 small swallows (*Hirundo*) lit in some bare trees near our tents. An adult male and female, and two young males were collected (no. 414 to 417). These small swallows, very much like *H. rustica*, have been seen flying over, on several occasions, in flocks, and are perhaps migrants from the North. A similar swallow was breeding at Stanleyville when we were there, but it differed from those collected here in the length of the tail and the amount of white on the rectrices. A small green cuckoo (no. 413) was also taken in the same place. We had already one male and one female specimen, but tho the specimen secured today was bright green on the back, it proved to be a female. However it did differ from the male in having a brown iris and gray eyelids. Its stomach contained hairy caterpillars. This small cuckoo has a song (?) of about 5 short whistles, often given while the bird is on the wing. We hear it from our camp at all times of dry, and even this female gave these notes as it came flying over.

DATE: 10/31/1909 (Sunday)

The priests at the Mission presented us with another cuckoo (no. 418), somewhat larger than the one just mentioned, and blackish on the back, with barred feathers beneath. On our return late in the afternoon, a small flock of bee-eaters was occupying the trees near our camp. These were of the large green species which we so often see flying over. Two male examples were secured (nos. 420-21), one showing the elongated middle rectrices, much worn, the other having them broken off. The blue color on the wings and tail appears to be due either to wear or fading of the feathers, for the new quills that have just come in are perfectly green without a trace of blue.

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