

ARTICLE XIII.—*Further Notes on Maximilian Types of South American Birds.* By J. A. ALLEN.

Since the publication of my paper "On the Maximilian types of South American Birds in the American Museum of Natural History," in December, 1889,* the types of Maximilian's *Anthus pœcilopterus* have come to light, and it has been found that the type of Maximilian's *Myiothera ardesiaca* was wrongly referred to *Hypocnemis myiotherina* (Spix), from which it proves to be even generically distinct, and also not referable to any of the commonly recognized genera.

Rhopocichla, gen. nov.

Bill much compressed and attenuated; width and depth at nostrils equal; wings rounded, shorter than the graduated tail; tarsi long and slender, smooth, the scutes obsolete.

Type, *Myiothera ardesiaca* Wied.

This genus is allied to *Pyriglena*, but has the bill much more compressed, the tail relatively longer, as also the tarsi, which are not obviously scaled. The plumage is not black, and there is no concealed white at the base of the interscapulars.

Rhopocichla ardesiaca (Wied).

"*Myiothera ardesiaca* LICHT., MS. Mus. Berl."

Myiothera ardesiaca WIED, Beitr. Naturg. Bras., III, 2, 1831, p. 1055.

Myrmeciza ardesiaca WIED (MS., on label and in his MS. Catalogue).

Formicivora ardesiaca MÉNÉTR., Mém. Acad. St. Pétersb., sér. vi (Sci. Nat.), I, 1835, p. 507 (ex Wied).

Myrmonax ardesiaca BURM., Thiere Bras., III, 1856, p. 65 (in part).

Myrmonax myiotherinus CAB., Orn. Not. in Wieg. Arch., 1847, i, p. 210 (in part).

Formicarius (Myrmoborus) myiotherinus GRAY, Hand-l. Bds., I, 1869, p. 300, No. 4443 (in part).

Formicarius myiotherinus GIEBEL, Thes. Orn., I, 1875, p. 179 (in part).

Hypocnemis myiotherina TACZ., Orn. Pér., II, 1884, p. 65 (in part).—RIDGW. (MS. label).—ALLEN, Bull. Am. Mus. Nat. Hist., II, No. 3, Dec. 1889, pp. 255, 275.

Adult Male (No. 6827, Am. Mus. Nat. Hist.).—Above nearly uniform dark plumbeous, wings and tail (especially the latter) darker; below deep ash gray, a little lighter on the middle of the abdomen; whole throat including fore neck deep black, strictly limited laterally to the space between the mandibular rami;

* Bull. Am. Mus. Nat. Hist., Vol. II, No. 3, pp. 209-276.

cheeks, sides of face, including eye-region and ear-coverts, ash gray, like the lower parts; lesser, median, and greater wing-coverts black, broadly edged with pure white; outer web of first primary edged with white; rest of remiges edged with gray, and the rectrices with deep plumbeous, like the color of the back; axillaries and inner surface of wings gray, like the flanks. Bill dusky horn-color; feet lighter. "Iris carmine red" (*Wied*).

Length, 6.45 in.; wing, 2.95; tail, 3.12; culmen, .70; tarsus, 1.17; hind toe with claw, .67; middle toe with claw, .78.

Adult Female.—"Above pale grayish brown, shoulders, and upper back grayer; lower back and larger wing-coverts more washed with yellowish brown, the latter edged with a lighter tint of the same; lower parts pale reddish yellow, darkest on the breast; under wing-coverts reddish yellow" (*Wied*, l. c.).

Only the male, of the two birds described by *Wied*, is now in the collection of the American Museum.

This species has a curious history, and apparently has not been seen by any of the writers who have referred to it, it being thus far known only from *Wied's* description. While generally synonymized with what is now known as *Hypocnemis myiotherina* (*Spix*), it has no close relationship with it, the resemblance in color being by no means exact. While both are gray birds, with a black throat, the black in the present species is confined within the mandibular rami, while in the other it extends over the cheeks and the whole sides of the face to and including the region surrounding the eyes. While *H. myiotherina* has of course a short tail, the present species is one of the longest tailed forms of the subfamily. As early as 1847 *Cabanis* (l. c.) started the error of synonymizing the two species; *Burmeister* (l. c.), in 1856, strangely confounded the two birds in his description as well as in his text, the result being a hypothetical composite species.

Mr. Sclater, in 1858 (*P. Z. S.*, 1858, p. 288), placed *Wied's Myiothera ardesiaca* in his "list of species not recognized," but on p. 251 (l. c.), under *Hypocnemis myiotherina*, he says: "I do not believe *Myiothera ardesiaca* of *Prince Max. of Neuwied* to be the same as this species; but I have never seen specimens of it. It is referred here by *Cabanis* and *Burmeister*." In his late Catalogue of the *Formicariidae* (*Cat. Bds. Brit. Mus.*, Vol. XV, 1890) it is apparently not mentioned.

In the absence of proper material for comparison *Mr. Ridgway* and myself naturally followed previous authors in referring it to *Hypocnemis myiotherina*.

***Geobates pæcilopterus* (Wied).**

Anthus pæcilopterus WIED, Beitr. Naturg. Bras., III, i, 1830, p. 633.

Anthus, sp. incog. ALLEN, Bull. Am. Mus. Nat. Hist., II, No. 3, 1889, p. 215.

Geobates pæcilopterus SCL., P. Z. S., 1866, p. 205, pl. xxi; Cat. Bds. Brit. Mus., XV, 1890, p. 4.—ALLEN, Bull. Am. Mus. Nat. Hist., II, No. 4, 1890, p. viii.

Since my former note on this species, to the purport that the types were not in this Museum, the two original Maximilian specimens have come to light, and are fortunately in an excellent state of preservation, with, furthermore, the original Maximilian labels still attached to them. As before said, they are not entered in the Wied MS. Catalogue, and had been misplaced in the collection before it came under my charge.

The two birds agree respectively with Wied's "Beschreibung des männlichen Vogels," and with that designated as "Weibchen, welches noch jung schien," the latter being distinguished by having the feathers of the upper parts edged with pale reddish ("hell röthliche"). The birds are labeled with a small paper tag as follows: "No. 393, Fem. 393 Mas. J.," although in the "Beiträge" the sexes are reversed. A larger label (on ordinary writing paper, about $1\frac{3}{4}$ by $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in size, and apparently the original field label), covering both specimens, is inscribed, on one side "Ist mein *Anthus pæcilopterus*," the first two words being in German script. On the reverse, also in German script, is the following: "Ein junger Vogel aus dem ich nichts zu machen weiss. Selbst der genus ist schwer zu bestimmen. Am besten möchte er zu *Myiothera* stimmen. Aber im ausgefederten zustand könnte es auch ein *Anthus* sein."

Wied's specimens agree perfectly with Mr. Sclater's figure and description (l. c.), leaving no question of the correctness of the identification of Wied's species by von Pelzeln.

***Chætura cinereiventris* Scl.**

? *Cypselus acutus* WIED, Beitr. Naturg. Bras., III, i, 1830, p. 351.

Chætura cinereiventris ALLEN, Bull. Am. Mus. Nat. Hist., II, No. 3, Dec., 1889, p. 261.

Since my former reference to this species (l. c.) Wied's specimen has been found and proves to be an example of *Chætura cinereiventris* Scl., with which species Wied's *Cypselus acutus* has

been generally heretofore synonymized. The specimen (No. 5864 *bis*, "Mas.") is still in good preservation, and agrees well with his description. He seems to have had only the single male specimen, taken in the vicinity of Bahia.