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STUDIES OF PERUVIAN BIRDS. NO. XL¹

NOTES ON THE GENUS *VENILIORNIS*

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I am greatly indebted to Director Clifford C. Gregg and Mr. Emmet R. Blake of Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, for the loan of certain critical specimens used in the present study.

Names of colors are capitalized when direct comparison has been made with Ridgway's "Color Standards and Color Nomenclature."

Veniliornis passerinus agilis (Cabanis and Heine)

C(ampias) agilis CABANIS AND HEINE, 1863, Mus. Hein., IV, Sect. 2, p. 147—?Inneres des nordwestlichen Süd-America's; Rio Napo; eotypes in Mus. Halberstadt.

One of the best characters for the differentiation of this form from its conspecifics is the degree of development of the whitish malar and superciliary stripes, here at their greatest prominence. The spots on the upper wing-coverts are prominent and there is often a considerable amount of pale spotting on the back, while the males have the forehead only narrowly brown. The throat is extensively whitish with dark spots and the pale bars on the chest tend to broaden at the shaft to form sagittate markings; the pale barring of the belly is relatively broad though narrower than the dark interspaces.

In a number of these respects, particularly the pattern of the head, there is an approach toward the characters of *V. frontalis* of the Tucumán region of Argentina which is approached on the other side by certain examples of *V. p. olivinus*. It may be found desirable some day to unite

frontalis with the *passerinus* group but at present it is inadvisable to propose this formally. I have at hand two specimens collected at Vermejo, Prov. Santa Cruz, Bolivia, which argue against such proposal. Of these two birds, one (sexed as a female but probably an immature male since it has considerable red on the top of the head) agrees with *frontalis* in every respect. The other, a male, is not *frontalis* but agrees with *olivinus* in nearly all respects, differing only by having the forehead more narrowly brown. This is a character of immaturity in *olivinus* but the Vermejo skin is not immature, judging by the broadly rounded outer rectrices. The narrow ventral barring on a relatively darker ground, the lack of prominent facial stripes, and the very small spots of the upper wing-coverts prevent assignment to *agilis* and show a closer relationship to *olivinus*. However, the apparent occurrence of *frontalis* at the same locality, unless there has been a transposition of labels, necessitates maintaining *frontalis* as a species.

Peruvian records of *agilis* are from Iquitos, Moyobamba, and Bellavista.

A single specimen from Ayacucho, upper Orinoco, Venezuela, shows considerable resemblance to *agilis* as well as to *fidelis* of eastern Colombia. It is a little paler than *fidelis* on the under parts and has the pectoral spots more transverse than linear but the facial markings of *agilis* are only suggested. For the present I assign the specimen to *fidelis* until a series is available to determine any more accurate assignment.

The present form, *agilis*, has been recorded from the Rio Purús, western Brazil, but a small series from the neigh-

¹ Earlier papers in this series comprise American Museum Novitates, Nos. 500, 509, 523, 524, 538, 545, 558, 584, 646, 647, 668, 703, 728, 753, 756, 757, 785, 819, 860, 861, 862, 889, 893, 894, 917, 930, 962, 963, 994, 1042, 1043, 1044, 1045, 1066, 1095, 1108, 1109, 1126, and 1127.

borhood of the lower Rio Madeira is quite different as is described below.

Farther down the Amazon, on the right bank of the Rio Xingú, still another form is found which I believe is too close to typical *passerinus* to warrant a separate name. Three birds from the Xingú agree with thirteen skins from French Guiana in considerable detail although they have an average longer bill (culmen from base, ♂, 21, 23; ♀, 20; *passerinus*, ♂, 19–21.5; ♀, 19–19.5). Other measurements are not different in the two areas.

I have had considerable difficulty distinguishing *transfluvialis* from *olivinus*. Through the kindness of Mr. E. R. Blake, of Field Museum of Natural History, I have been able to examine the type of *transfluvialis* and several other of the specimens referred to this form by its author. The type and a female topotype, from Macaco Secco, western Bahia, are distinguishable from most examples of *olivinus* by the slightly broader pale barring of the under parts, although this barring is quite noticeably narrower than in *taenionotus* to which *transfluvialis* was compared in respect to that character. The transverse pale bars on the back are much less pronounced than in most examples of *taenionotus* although they are sometimes greatly reduced in this form, but some specimens of *olivinus* from near the type locality of that form are almost as prominently marked as the Macaco Secco birds. Goyaz examples, referred by Hellmayr to *transfluvialis*, are no different from the average *olivinus*. Maranhão specimens, of which I have adult males, prove to belong to *taenionotus*, not to *transfluvialis*. The Field Museum specimens were said to be females (of which I have examined one) and a young male. All the Maranhão specimens now examined have the ventral barring broader than in the type of *transfluvialis*, agreeing with birds from Piahy, Ceará, and eastern Bahia, and "Bahia" trade skins. I am unable to find any distinctions with respect to lighter yellow dorsum in any of these areas other than as individual variation.

A young male from Rio Amambahy,

southeastern Matto Grosso, is a very good match for the type of *transfluvialis* except that the forehead still has the immature red feathers that are lost in the adult plumage of the type. Most of the specimens of *olivinus* that show strong, pale bars on the back are young birds; adult birds from Goyaz, as from the Matto Grosso region, have very little of this marking although it may not be entirely lost. The type of *transfluvialis* appears to be adult, judging by the shape of the outer rectrices. In its combination of characters, therefore, it stands a little apart from all the other specimens and, with its female topotype, may be taken to represent a form intermediate between *olivinus* and *taenionotus*. More material from western Bahia is urgently needed to determine its final standing.

Compared with central Matto Grosso specimens, *transfluvialis* has the pale spots on the upper wing-coverts somewhat larger than the average, in which respect it is matched by skins from Paraguay, southeastern Matto Grosso, São Paulo, and Goyaz. The character is open to question, however, since it is found in some examples from central Matto Grosso and eastern Bolivia. It may be found possible to recognize *transfluvialis* as ranging over this southern area although it would require some redefinition of characters. These southern birds appear to be so poorly distinguished from *olivinus* that I doubt the wisdom of such arrangement. Two birds from Mocoví, Argentina, near the Paraguay River, would not agree with such distinction although their locality might be expected to fall within the range of a Paraguayan form.

Veniliornis passerinus insignis, new subspecies

TYPE from Igarape Auará, right bank of lower Rio Madeira, Brazil. No. 279,254, American Museum of Natural History. Adult male collected March 16, 1930, by the Olalla brothers.

DIAGNOSIS.—Similar to *V. p. passerinus* in size and general appearance but upper wing-coverts without prominent pale spots; under parts with lighter olive-brown ground color crossed by distinctly wider pale bars; bill blackish instead of brownish; brown area of forehead

somewhat wider; sides of head less warmly brownish.

Differs from *V. p. agilis* of eastern Perú by smaller size, paler under parts with the light bars more regular, less sagittate on the breast, and the throat barred instead of spotted; the upper wing-coverts unspotted; pale superciliary and malar stripes absent. Differs from *olivinus* of Matto Grosso, Brazil, by smaller size, paler under parts with broader pale bars, unspotted upper wing-coverts, and differently marked top of the head, in the males with the brown area restricted narrowly to the forehead, in the females with more distinct and usually more prominent pale spots.

RANGE.—South bank of the Amazon River on both sides of the Rio Madeira.

DESCRIPTION OF TYPE.—Forehead rather narrowly Raw Umber with inconspicuously buffy tips; this brown coloration carried back over the orbit in a narrow stripe; remainder of the top of the head Nopal Red × Scarlet; back yellowish Orange-Citrine with traces of yellowish bars on the uropygium and of yellowish tips on the upper tail-coverts. Lores like forehead; auriculars light Buff Olive; entire under parts, sides of neck, and a supra-auricular area (posterior part of superciliary stripe) Medal Bronze crossed by relatively narrow bars of olive-buff as wide or nearly as wide as the dark interspaces. Remiges dark brown with large, rounded whitish spots on the inner webs; outer webs nearly the color of the back with faint traces of paler maculations; upper wing-coverts about like the back but with a faint trace of a reddish tinge near the tips of the feathers; under wing-coverts buffy whitish with narrow subterminal bars but with the carpal margin of the area broadly dark olive with some pale spots. Tail strongly rounded, blackish, the outer feathers crossed by conspicuous pale bars grading into obsolescence on the median feathers. Bill and feet (in dried skin) slaty blackish. Wing, 76 mm.; tail, 37; exposed culmen, 17; culmen from base, 20; tarsus, 16.5.

REMARKS.—Females like the males in general coloration and pattern but with the whole top of the head brownish, each feather with a small but distinct triangular dot at the tip.

Occasionally a few of the upper wing-coverts may show a fine, short hair-streak of paler color near the tips of the feathers but they are exceptional and apparently never as obvious as in even the minimum of *olivinus*. Most of the examples of *insignis* at hand show no trace of such markings.

Veniliornis passerinus diversus, new subspecies

TYPE from Frechal, Rio Surumú, northeastern Brazil. No. 236,387, American Museum of

Natural History. Adult male collected September 13, 1927, by T. D. Carter; original No. 306.

DIAGNOSIS.—Similar to *V. p. insignis* and similarly separable from *passerinus*, *olivinus*, and *agilis* but to different degrees in respect to certain details. Thus, the pale bars on the under parts are even broader than in *insignis* (broader even than in some *taenionotus*); tending to form sagittate markings on the breast and exceeding the width of the dark interspaces on the belly; sides of the head with some development of whitish superciliary and malar stripes though much less than in *agilis*; upper wing-coverts sometimes with obvious, though fine, pale shaft-streaks, not widened into spots; bill blackish as in *insignis*.

RANGE.—Northern Brazil.

DESCRIPTION OF TYPE.—General description as for *insignis* but ground color of under parts a little lighter than Mummy Brown; pale bars on breast slightly widened at the shaft to form somewhat sagittate markings and all ventral bars somewhat wider than in the Rio Madeiran form. Posterior part of superciliary stripe inclined to whitish and a similar whitish stripe, not well defined, extending from the lower part of the lores to beneath the auriculars. A few upper wing-coverts with slight hair-streaks along the shaft near the tips. Wing, 79 mm.; tail, 44.5; exposed culmen, 18; culmen from base, 20; tarsus, 15.

REMARKS.—Females like the males but with the top of the head dark brown, marked with fine, pale dots or short streaks at the tip of each feather; upper wing-coverts, in the specimens in hand, with more prominent pale shaft-streaks, rarely widened to spots.

Veniliornis passerinus modestus, new subspecies

TYPE from Caicara, Río Orinoco, Venezuela. No. 177,256, American Museum of Natural History. Adult male collected May 11, 1905, by George K. Cherrie; original No. 13,696.

DIAGNOSIS.—Similar to *V. p. passerinus* but under parts less warmly colored and more grayish brown with pale barring a little broader and less sharply defined; throat more extensively whitish; auriculars paler; whitish malar stripe moderately developed; males with forehead a little more broadly brown; bill in both sexes more blackish.

Differs from *V. p. diversus* by duller under parts with narrower pale bars and by an average greater development of pale spots on the upper wing-coverts. Differs from *fidelis* by smaller size and more grayish brown under parts, less sharply barred and with the pectoral markings less obviously contracted into spots. Differs from *agilis* by smaller size, much grayer, less sharply marked under parts, less prominent whitish malar stripe, and no whitish superciliary.

RANGE.—Middle reaches of the Orinoco Valley, Venezuela.

DESCRIPTION OF TYPE.—General characters as for *insignis* except as follows. Ground color of forehead, sides of head, and under parts Olive Brown × Hair Brown; a noticeable whitish stripe from the lores below the orbit and the auriculars; throat soiled whitish with indistinct dusky spots; remainder of under parts with dull whitish bars, broader on the belly than on the breast where the distal bar on each feather is complete but the second one is constricted to form a sagittate spot at the shaft. Upper wing-coverts of median and greater series tinged with red at the tips and each with a conspicuous triangular spot of pale yellow near the tip. Wing, 79 mm.; tail, 40; exposed culmen, 17; culmen from base, 19; tarsus, 15.

REMARKS.—Female like the male but with entire top of head brown, marked by a fine, pale spot at the tip of each feather.

A young male from Altagracia has the under parts even grayer than the adults, the forehead more narrowly brown, and the wing-coverts less prominently spotted. Immature birds of the other forms of this species show the same style of differentiation from their respective adults.

The difference in the color of the bill as compared with that of *passerinus* is shared by the rest of the subspecies, none of which appears to have the bill as pale and brownish as the typical form. Occasionally there is a pale area toward the base of the mandible but the maxilla is quite blackish which it is not in *passerinus*.

NOTE

Since the foregoing account was written, Count Gyldenstolpe has published the description of a new form, *V. p. tapajozensis* from Santarem, Rio Tapajoz, Brazil (1941, Ark. Zool., 33 B, No. 12, p. 7). I have no specimens from the Rio Tapajoz, but the brief description of the form in question does not suggest any close resemblance to the bird I have characterized as *insignis*. The Tapajoz bird appears to be very like typical *passerinus* except for brighter yellow back with some reddish spotting. Neither *insignis* nor the specimens of *passerinus* from the Xingú, listed below, fit this diagnosis.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED

V. p. passerinus.—

FRENCH GUIANA:

Cayenne, 7 ♂, 3 ♀;
Roche Marie, 1 ♂, 1 ♀;
Approuague, 1 ♂.

BRAZIL:

Rio Xingú, Taparará, 1 ♂;
Villarinho do Monte, 1 ♂, 1 ♀.

V. p. taenionotus.—

BRAZIL:

Maranhão, Flores, 1 ♂, 1 ♀;
Tabocas, 1 ♂, 1 ♀;
Inhuma, 1 ♀;
Piauí, Joazeiro, 1 ♂;
Caicara, 1 ♂;
Corrente, 1 ♀;
Therezina, 1 ♂, 1 ♀;
Ceará, Viçosa, 2 ♂, 1 ♀;
Joazeiro, 1 (?);
Bahia, Baixão, 1 ♀;
"Bahia," 5 ♂.

V. p. transfluvialis.—

BRAZIL:

Bahia, Macaco Secco, 1 ♂ (type)¹, 1 ♀¹.

V. p. olivinus.—

BRAZIL:

São Paulo, Itapura, 1 ♂;
Goyaz, Goyaz, 1 ♂, 1 ♂¹, 1 ♀;
Rio São Miguel, 1 ♂¹;
Ilha, Rio Paraná, 1 ♂¹;
Rio Araguaya, 1 ♂, 1 ♀;
Fazenda Esperança, 1 [♂];
Matto Grosso, Campanario, 1 ♂, 1 ♀;
Rio Amambahy, 3 ♂, 2 ♀;
Tapirapóan, 1 ♂, 1 ♀;
Urucum, 1 ♀;
Belvedere de Urucum, 1 ♂;
Água Blanca de Corumbá, 1 ♂;
Descalvados, 1 ♂;
Juruena, 1 ♂;
Cuyabá, 1 ♂;
Corumbá, 1 ♂;
Abrilongo, 1 ♀;
Chapada, 12 ♂, 8 ♀.

PARAGUAY:

Colonia Rizzo, 1 ♂;
Rio Negro, 1 ♂, 1 ♀.

ARGENTINA:

Mocoví, 1 ♂, 1 ♀.

BOLIVIA:

Prov. Sara, 2 ♂, 1 ♀;
Santa Cruz, Vermejo, 1 ♂ (not typical).

V. p. insignis.—

BRAZIL:

Rio Madeira, Igarapé Auará, 1 ♂ (type), 3 ♀;
Rosarinho, 4 ♂;
Rio Amazonas, Villa Bella Imperatriz, 3 ♀.

V. p. agilis.—

PERÚ:

Rio Ucayali, Santa Rosa, 1 ♂, 1 ♀;
Sarayacu, 1 ♂, 1 ♀;
Puerto Indiana, 1 ♀;
Rio Chinchipe, Perico, 1 ♂, 1 ♀;
Rio Chamaya, Saucos, 1 ♂.

¹ Specimens in Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago.

ECUADOR:

- Zamora, 1 ♂, 1 ♀;
mouth of Río Curaray, 1 ♂;
"Napo," 1 [♂].

V. p. fidelis.—

COLOMBIA:

- Buenavista, 1 ♂;
"Bogotá," 2 [♂]; 2 [♀].

VENEZUELA:

- San Cristóbal, Tachira, 1 ♀;
Río Orinoco, Ayacucho, 1 ♀.

V. p. modestus.—

VENEZUELA:

- Río Orinoco, Caicara, 2 ♂ (incl. type),
1 ♀;
Altavracia, 2 ♂, 2 ♀, 1 (?);
Ciudad Bolívar, 1 ♂.

V. p. diversus.—

BRAZIL:

- Rio Surumú, Frechal, 2 ♂ (incl. type), 4 ♀.

V. frontalis.—

ARGENTINA:

- Tucumán, Tucumán, 1 ♀;
Cumbre de San Pablo, 1 ♂;
Villa Nonges, 2 ♂, 2 ♀;
Agua la Tipa, 1 ♂;
Salta, Río Seco, 1 ♂;
above San Pablo, 2 ♂;
Embarcación, 2 ♂, 1 ♀;
Jujuy, Río San Francisco, 1 ♂.

BOLIVIA:

- Santa Cruz, Vermejo, 1 "♀" [? = ♂].

Veniliornis (dignus) valdizani
(Berlepsch and Stolzmann)

Dendrobates valdizani BERLEPSCH AND STOLZ-
MANN, 1894, Ibis, p. 401—Huacras, Vitoc,
Perú; ♂; Warsaw Mus.

I have no records of the present form other than those relating to the type itself. From the description, I have no doubt that *valdizani* is but a subspecies of *dignus* with which it was compared by its describers. It is obviously distinct from *V. d. baezae* and apparently resembles *dignus dignus* more in certain respects than it does the Ecuadorian form.

Like *dignus* and *baezae*, *valdizani* appears to be an inhabitant of the Subtropical Zone.

Veniliornis nigriceps pectoralis
(Berlepsch and Stolzmann)

Dendrobates malherbei pectoralis BERLEPSCH AND STOLZMANN, 1902, P. Z. S. London, p. 33—Maraynioc, Pariayacu, Perú; cotypes in Warsaw Mus. and Frankfort Mus.

This form is represented in the American Museum collections by a single female from Maraynioc. Like its conspecifics in

Colombia and Ecuador and in Bolivia, *pectoralis* is an inhabitant of the Humid Temperate Zone.

Two birds which I collected at Panao, and which are in Field Museum of Natural History, belong unquestionably to this subspecies. A male, obtained by Whitely at Huaisampillo, southeastern Perú, and now in the British Museum, may possibly belong to typical *nigriceps* where it was included by Hargitt along with Ecuadorian specimens prior to the description of *pectoralis* and *equivasciatus*. Since it just as probably may belong to the central Peruvian form, I include the record here until the specimen can be examined.

Veniliornis fumigatus fumigatus
(D'Orbigny and Lafresnaye)

Picus fumigatus D'ORBIGNY AND LAFRESNAYE, 1844, Voy. Amér. Mérid., Ois., Pl. LXV, fig. 1; 1847, p. 380—Corrientes, Argentina, and Santa Cruz de La Sierra and Chiquitos, Bolivia; sole specimen in D'Orbigny collection in Paris Museum said to be labelled "Yungas, Bolivia, 1834."

I find this species most unsatisfactory as regards its clear division into subspecies. In various regions there is an evident trend toward certain recognizable extremes but it is not always sharply defined and some individual specimens fail to fit into the expected pattern.

A factor that has caused considerable confusion, is the existence of what has been called a dark color "phase" occurring in all parts of the range of the species. Numerous specimens of this sort are in the series at hand and their study has revealed a very interesting situation. With one exception, possibly a case of wrong determination of sex, all of the birds in this dark, dull, and relatively uniform plumage are males and all of them appear to be immature. The outer tail-feathers are somewhat more acute than they are in the adults (as is the case in other members of the genus), the outer primary is broader, longer, and less acute than in most of the adults, and the red on the top of the head is duller in tone.

On the other hand, young females, at least of the South American forms, are inclined to buffy on the lower under parts,

where there may be a suggestion of barring on the flanks, and even, sometimes, some buffy tips on the breast. Young females may have considerable red on the top of the head, rather dull as in the young males though not reaching beyond the posterior border of the crown but leaving the whole occiput and hind neck quite buffy. At least three examples show this condition very well marked and three other skins have a few red feathers scattered among the brown ones on the crown which are like those of adult females. Adult females have no red on the top of the head. These young birds also have the outer rectrices and outer primaries as described for the young males. Some apparently otherwise adult specimens of both sexes have the outer primary broader and more obtuse than other examples but in fully adult condition this feather is distinctively short, slender, and rather acute. It is possible that birds in their first breeding plumage may retain this feather, among others, from the juvenal stage or, if there is an intervening molt, the feather is of the juvenal sort.

I have very little material from the southern part of the range of the species and hence I am not certain that all the birds from the eastern slope of the Andes, from Bolivia to Colombia, ought to be referred to the same form, *fumigatus*. A single topotype is in rather unsatisfactory condition but appears to be an immature female or a second year male, probably the latter. A female from Inca Mine, southeastern Perú, is much brighter in ventral coloration and has the sides of the head noticeably pale, but all the feathering of the head is quite worn and the paleness of the auriculars may be due to this condition. A female from Utcuyacu, Junín, is a little brighter on the under parts but has the sides of the head browner. A male from Utcuyacu is very similar to the female from the same locality, much brighter than the Bolivian specimen.

A single male from eastern Ecuador, lower Sumaco, is much darker than any of these others, and has the sides of the head relatively quite dark. It is in the stage which I judge to be of the second year,

with obtuse outer rectrices and long and broad outer primary. Although of a somewhat more olive-brownish hue and with dark auriculars, this skin has some resemblance to *obscuratus* to which it cannot be referred for geographical reasons.

East-Colombian specimens are not easy to place. I have only one bird from the eastern side of the Eastern Andes, Buena Vista, and it is a female, rather dark and brownish below though not as dull in color as young males. There is no red on the head but the outer primary is long and broad while the outer rectrices are somewhat narrowed but not acute. From these factors I judge the bird to be, perhaps, a second year specimen.

Adults from the Bogotá region and from La Candela and San Augustin on the western side of the Eastern Andes, are, in the main, rather like the three Peruvian skins mentioned above although they show a more brownish tinge on the breast, in which they agree with the single Bolivian bird at hand.

Specimens from more western parts of Colombia and from western Ecuador as far south as Pallatanga and the Río Chimbo have this brownish coloration of the breast more strongly developed and, in fact, spreading over the belly which may be either definitely brown or, in the lighter examples, a golden ochre of some intensity. Several specimens have touches of red on the back and one skin from Popayán has considerable red on the breast, but these are individual variations found also in other forms in varying degree. Young birds are as dark or dull as those of other forms and cannot be used with certainty for comparative study. An occasional specimen has the auricular region noticeably pale but most of the Colombian birds from all parts of the country have this area normally colored. Some of these birds are extremely like Central American examples of *sanguinolentus*.

The western birds were once separated by Chapman as a distinct subspecies, *aureus*, but were later considered by the same authority as indistinguishable from *fumigatus*. Although it is possible to distinguish a certain extreme of coloration

in the western examples, particularly those from northwestern Ecuador, the remainder are too nearly like the birds from southern and central Perú to warrant taxonomic separation. Perhaps a larger series from the southern range may some day enable such separation to be made but, for the present, I follow Chapman in relegating *aureus* to synonymy.

A problem of another sort arises in the consideration of birds from the region of the middle Marañón, in northern Perú. Birds from the western side of the Western Andes in this country are distinguishable as *obscuratus*, discussed below. Of eight birds from the middle Marañón region, one from Huancabamba, apparently a second year female, is close enough to *obscuratus* to be referred to that form. The remainder are variously intermediate between *obscuratus* and *fumigatus*.

An adult male from San Ignacio is deeply and warmly brown on the breast and lighter brownish on the abdomen and is rather closely matched by one Bogotá trade-skin though it is duller than most adult *fumigatus*. A female, apparently not fully adult, from Chaupe, near San Ignacio, is lighter in color though brighter than average *obscuratus*. A female from Levanto is a little duller than the San Ignacio and Chaupe birds but duller than most *fumigatus*. A young male from Leimebamba is in the dark plumage of immaturity and not comparable to the other birds under discussion. A young female from Levanto is very like a bird of the same sex and age from El Tambo, Perú, west of the Andes. An adult male from Chachapoyas is a little duller than the San Ignacio male but warmer than most *obscuratus*. The sides of the head are conspicuously pale in several of these birds, as they are in most *obscuratus* and only occasionally in *fumigatus*. Two birds from Hacienda Limón, preserved in Field Museum of Natural History and examined some years ago, have similar pale auricular areas and moderately brownish ventral coloration.

It is thus apparent that the population of the middle Marañón region is of an intermediate character and might be re-

ferred either to *fumigatus* or to *obscuratus* with a slight extension of the characters of the form in question. With the limits as imperfectly drawn as they now are, I prefer to keep this population as aberrant members of *fumigatus*.

In southwestern Ecuador, there is a comparable uncertainty. There are at hand four birds, respectively, from Alamor, Zaruma, El Chiral, and San Bartolo. The San Bartolo and El Chiral birds are young males of dull coloration. The Zaruma bird, a male with rather broad outer primaries, is more warmly brownish than Peruvian *obscuratus* though not as strongly colored as true *fumigatus*. The Alamor bird, a female, is even more warmly colored and is rather well matched by a female from La Candela, Colombia, although the sides of the head are strongly pale. It does not fit into the series of *obscuratus* as well as into that of *fumigatus*, though, again, it is intermediate. These southwest-Ecuadorian birds, therefore, are best left also as aberrant *fumigatus*. Their contact with *fumigatus* supposedly would be by way of the "*aureus*" population of central-western Ecuador.

There is some variation in the extent of white on the inner webs of the outer few primaries toward their bases but I am unable to discover any taxonomic value in the character. The outermost primary may have little or no clear whitish at the base or there may be a well-defined spot. The adjacent primaries usually have several white spots on the inner web but occasionally these spots are fused into a large, continuous area. The number of these spots also varies without any geographic significance.

On the whole, therefore, the picture presented is of a very variable form, *fumigatus*, showing certain marked tendencies in certain parts of its range but not satisfactorily divisible except for *obscuratus* on the western side of the Western Andes in Perú (including the immediately adjacent Huancabamba). Peruvian records that should belong with typical *fumigatus* are from Garita del Sol, Vitoc, Paltaypampa (of Jelski), and Tschudi's "forest region" of central Perú. Records from Tambillo,

Callacate, Cutervo, Malca, Cajabamba, and Choquisongo are likely to belong with the population intermediate between this form and *obscuratus*.

One specimen from Mérida, Venezuela, appears to belong to *fumigatus*. One from El Limón, Puerto La Cruz, on the other hand, has the wing and tail of smaller measurement and agrees better with *reichenbachii* of the Caracas region. I have not seen Santa Martán examples, described by Todd as *exsul*, but the characters given for this form suggest those of some of the examples of *fumigatus*.

The little known *tectricialis* from eastern Venezuela has, in its definitely barred tertials, a character not shown to the same degree by birds from other regions, but there are noticeable suggestions of this marking in specimens from a number of localities in Colombia, Ecuador, and Perú. Some of these birds have strong, pale spots and others poorly defined pale bands on the tertials. On the other hand, a bird from Los Palmales, Cumaná, Venezuela, shows no approach toward *tectricialis*.

Clarification of the status of *oleagineus* and *sanguinolentus* is needed but I have not the material to attempt it. A number of specimens from the range of *sanguinolentus* have noticeably pale auriculars and agree reasonably well with *oleagineus* in color although the wing and tail are too short for that form. The color of the sides of the head is not always diagnostic.

In an earlier paper (1930, Field Mus. Nat. Hist. Publ., XVII, p. 310) I have noted that the specific name of this group should be *fumigatus* since *oleagineus* Lichtenstein is a nomen nudum and *oleagineus* Reichenbach is antedated by *fumigatus*.

Veniliornis fumigatus obscuratus Chapman

Veniliornis oleaginus obscuratus CHAPMAN, 1927 (Feb. 19), Amer. Mus. Novitates, No. 250, p. 1.—Chugur, Perú; ♂; Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist.

In a restricted area of northwestern Perú, west of the Western Andes, the population appears to be devoid of the brownish and golden coloration that is found in some measure in all parts of the

range of typical *fumigatus*. Immature males are still duller than the adults of either sex but individually and in series the adults stand apart from the specimens of the typical form.

One specimen from Huancabamba, just across the Western Andes on their eastern face, appears to belong here, although it is not fully adult and hence uncertain. Four skins from southwestern Ecuador have been assigned to *obscuratus* by Chapman, but two of the birds are immature and inconclusive while two others are distinctly warmer in color, one in particular being very close to *fumigatus*. I have discussed these birds more fully in the account of *fumigatus* with which I have placed them.

There are no earlier Peruvian records assignable to *obscuratus*.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED

V. f. oleagineus.—

MEXICO:

Jalapa, 1 ♂, 2 ♀;
Jalisco, Mascota, 1 "♂," 1 ♀.

V. f. sanguinolentus.—

GUATEMALA:

Secanquim, 1 ♀;
Hacienda California, 1 ♀;
Ocos, 1 (?);
Vera Paz, 1 "♂";
"Guatemala," 1 [♂], 4 [♀].

HONDURAS:

Catacombas, 1 ♂.

NICARAGUA:

Peña Blanca, 2 ♂;
Río Coco, 2 ♀;
Las Cañas, 1 "♂";
Matagalpa, 1 ♂;
San Rafael del Norte, 1 ♂;
Chontales, 1 ♀;
Savala, 1 [♂].

COSTA RICA:

Guayabo, 1 ♂;
Santa Cruz, Turrialba, 1 ♂;
Carrillo, 1 ♂, 1 ♀;
Navarro, 1 ♀;
La Hondura, 2 ♀.

PANAMÁ:

Chitrá, 1 ♂, 1 ♀;
Santa Fé, 1 ♂;
east slope Mt. Tacarcuna, 2 ♂.

V. f. fumigatus.—

BOLIVIA:

Yungas, 1 (?).

PERÚ:

Inca Mine, 1 ♀;
Utcuyacu, 1 ♂, 1 ♀;
Chinchao, 1 ♂¹, 1 ♀¹;
Huachipa, 1 ♂¹;

¹ Specimens in Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago.

Levanto, 2 ♀²;
 Chachapoyas, 1 ♂²;
 Leimebamba, 1 ♂²;
 San Ignacio, 1 ♂²;
 Chaupe, 1 ♀²;
 Hacienda Limón, 1 ♂^{1,2}, 1 ♀^{1,2}.

ECUADOR:

lower Sumaco, 1 ♂;
 Naranjo, 1 ♂;
 Pallatanga, 1 ♂;
 Coco, 1 ♂;
 west side of Pichincha, 2 ♂;
 Zaruma, 1 ♂²;
 San Bartolo, 1 ♂²;
 El Chiral, 1 ♂²;
 Alamor, 1 ♀².

COLOMBIA:

Aguadita, 1 ♀;
 Fusugasugá, 1 ♀;
 El Roble, 1 ♀;
 Buena Vista, 1 ♀;
 Muzo, 1 (?);
 "Bogotá," 4 [♂], 2 [♀];
 Palo Hueco, 1 ♀;
 La Candela, 2 ♀;
 near San Augustin, 1 ♂;
 Anolaima, 1 ♂;
 La Sierra, 1 ♂ (type of "aureus");
 Las Lomitas, 1 ♂, 2 ♀;
 San Antonio, 1 ♂, 1 ♀;
 Popayán, 1 ♂;
 east of Palmira, 1 ♀;
 Salencio, 1 ♂;
 Santa Elena, 1 ♀.

VENEZUELA:

Mérida, 1 "♀" [= ♂].

V. f. *obscuratus*.—

PERÚ:

Chugur, 2 ♂ (incl. type);
 Taulis, 2 ♂;
 Seques, 2 ♂;
 El Tambo, 1 ♀;
 Palambla, 1 ♂, 1 ♀;
 Huancabamba, 1 ♀.

V. f. *reichenbachii*.—

VENEZUELA:

Cerro de Avila, 1 ♂, 1 ♀;
 Cumbre de Valencia, 1 ♂, 2 ♀, 1 "♂"
 [= ♀];
 Los Palmales, 1 ♂;
 El Limón, Puerto La Cruz, 1 ♂.

V. f. *tectricialis*.—

VENEZUELA:

Turumiquire, 1 ♀ (type);
 Carapás, 1 [♀].

Veniliornis callonotus major

(Berlepsch and Taczanowski)

Chloronerpes callonotus major BERLEPSCH
 AND TACZANOWSKI, 1883, P. Z. S. London, p.
 571—Tumbez, Guadalupe, and Morropere [=
 Morropon]; cotypes formerly in Warsaw Mus.,
 now lost.

¹ Specimens in Field Museum of Natural History,
 Chicago.

² Intermediate with *obscuratus*.

Chloronerpes callonotus, peruvianus TACZAN
 OWSKI, 1886, Orn. Pérou, III, p. 80—[n. w.
 Perú].

Palambla, 3 ♂, 2 ♀; Somate, 3 ♂, 2 ♀,
 1 (?); Sullana, 4 ♂, 1 ♀; Paletillas, 2 ♀;
 Lamor, 2 ♂, 1 ♀; Chilaco, 4 ♂, 1 ♀;
 Tumbez, 2 ♂; Jaen, 1 ♀; Perico, 2 ♂,
 1 ♀; Tembladera, 2 ♂, 2 ♀.

I can add very little to the excellent re-
 view of this restricted species by Dr. Chap-
 man (1926, Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist.,
 LV, p. 363–364). A few more specimens
 have come to hand but they add nothing
 except additional localities in expected
 places.

Peruvian records are from Chepen,
 Guadalupe, Morropon, Bellavista, and
 Guajango.

Veniliornis affinis hilaris

(Cabanis and Heine)

C(ampias) hilaris CABANIS AND HEINE, 1863,
 Mus. Hein., IV, pt. 2, p. 154—Perú (I suggest
 Chanchamayo Valley); ♂; Halberstadt Mus.

I resurrect the name *hilaris* for the Peru-
 vian form in view of the uncertainty sur-
 rounding the earlier name *haematostigma*
 usually used for this bird. The situation
 is as follows.

In 1844 (Arch. Naturg., X, Bd. 1, p.
 303), Tschudi presented the name *hae-
 matostigma* in the synonymy of *Picus
 passerinus* Gmelin, bibliographic reference
 to which is likewise presented. This is
 the first published use of *haematostigma*
 which was taken from labels of specimens
 in Natterer's collection in the Vienna
 Museum.

At the time of this publication by
 Tschudi there was nothing to show that
 his identification of *passerinus* was in
 error. It was not until 1846 (Faun. Per.,
 Orn., p. 265) that a description instead of
 a bibliographic reference was given and it
 became evident that Tschudi had in hand
 some species other than true *passerinus*.
 Consequently, the original publication of
 the name *haematostigma*, in 1844, was
 made in such a way that the name was at
 once validated and submerged as a syno-
 nym of *Picus passerinus* Gmelin. Later
 use by Cabanis in Tschudi's "Fauna Per-
 auna" and by Malherbe, 1862, Monog.

Pic., II, p. 3 ("*haematostigma*"), found the name unavailable.

It is fortunate, on the whole, that Natterer's manuscript name can be discarded. Natterer had in his collection examples of at least three forms of the present species, all of which, together with some Peruvian specimens or records, probably formed the basis for Malherbe's formal description. In 1902 (P. Z. S. London, p. 34) Berlepsch and Stolzmann expressed the opinion that Malherbe founded his species on the birds Natterer collected at Borba and Marabitanas (actually these represent two different forms, *ruficeps* and *orenocensis*). In 1906 (Abh. K. Bay. Akad. Wiss., 2 Kl., XXII, pt. 3, p. 611), Hellmayr reached other conclusions and proposed the selection of a male from Engenho do Gama as type of Malherbe's species, basing his action on the fact that this specimen, alone, of the series collected by Natterer bore the name "*haematostigma*" in Natterer's handwriting.

Antedating both these comments, however, is Cabanis's citation of the manuscript name in connection with the description of Peruvian (and possibly other) specimens, without mention of localities other than Perú, and though here under the erroneous heading of *P. passerinus*, as in the still earlier paper by Tschudi, 1844, the description is adequate to identify the form in spite of its false determination. For this synonym of *hilaris* [*Picus haematostigma* Cabanis (ex Natterer MS.) (nec Tschudi, 1844) in Tschudi, 1846, Faun. Per., Orn., p. 266, in text] I propose the type locality Chanchamayo Valley, Perú.

There is an advantage in removing the type locality of the form in question from the Matto Grosso region to central Perú for the birds of Matto Grosso and the upper Rio Madeira are of equivocal status. In the material at hand, specimens from Calamá and Humaythá, upper Rio Madeira, are good *hilaris*, but one example from Barão Melgaço and one from "Camp 14," Rio Roosevelt, agree better with an excellent series of *ruficeps*. My notes, made some years ago, indicate a similar approach in a Field Museum specimen from Porto Velho but Natterer's specimens

from Villa Maria, Engenho do Gama, Pedras, Ribeirão, and Salto Theotônio are discussed by Hellmayr (1910, Novit. Zool., XVII, p. 383) as like the Calamá birds. Specimens from both banks of the Rio Madeira near its mouth are quite typical *ruficeps*.

On the other hand, central Peruvian birds present a fairly uniform picture, easily separable from *ruficeps* by the narrower or even obsolete shaft-streaks on the upper wing-coverts, the less frequent reddish tinge on the back, the more frequent development of a yellow collar on the hind neck of the males, the generally lighter brown barring of the under surface with the throat more distinctly barred (less spotted or immaculate), and perhaps the average darker sides of the head.

Three birds from Teffé, Brazil, show a decided approach toward *orenocensis*, having no red on the upper wing-coverts and no pale streaks in two (♂, ♀) of the three birds but large spots (as in *ruficeps*) in the third example (♂). In all these specimens the yellow collar is very pronounced, which it is not in *orenocensis*; the under parts are as in *hilaris*, not so olive as in most *orenocensis*; and the back is lighter and more yellowish green. The general appearance of the three birds agrees better with the Peruvian subspecies than with any of the others.

There is some tendency in the same direction exhibited by certain of the birds from northeastern Perú and southeastern Ecuador, although it is not consistent. Thus of four birds from Orosa, on the same side of the Amazon as Teffé, one has only slight traces of red tips and pale shaft-streaks on the wing-coverts while the other three are quite normal *hilaris*. Three birds from Sarayacu and one each from Lagarto and Santa Rosa, on the Río Ucayali, are all typical *hilaris*. A male from Puerto Indiana and a female from Apayacu, across the Amazon from Orosa, are very like the Teffé birds, but a male from the mouth of the Río Curaray, eastern Ecuador, not far up the Napo from Puerto Indiana, is a good *hilaris* while a female from the Río Suno is marked only about as strongly as the most aberrant Orosa

skin. This whole area, therefore, appears to be one of intergradation between *hilaris* and *orenocensis* with the nearest approach shown to *hilaris*.

I have a good series from the whole course of the Rio Negro, the Rio Cassiquiare, and the vicinity of Mt. Duida, together with several examples from points a little farther down the Orinoco. These birds presumably all belong to *orenocensis*. They are relatively uniform in certain characters that distinguish them from *hilaris* and *ruficeps*. Chief among these characters is the minimum development of both red tips and pale shaft-streaks on the upper wing-coverts. Many examples have no trace of either, although others may have one or both, rarely pronounced. The general coloration is dark, the back very rarely has a tinge of red, the yellow of the hind neck is relatively dull, the dark bars of the under surface almost always have a distinctly olivaceous tone, and the throat, as in *hilaris*, is more barred than spotted, usually heavily. The bill averages a little shorter than in the other forms, apparently not exceeding 23.5 mm. in the length of the culmen from base as compared with a maximum of 25 or 26 mm. in the other forms.

Two males from Munduapo and a female from Nericagua, Rio Orinoco, are paratypes. The two males are a little browner than the average of the series, although matched by certain other individuals, but the female is not unusual.

I have examined four birds from eastern Colombia of which two have practically no red on the upper wing-coverts, one has a slightly greater amount, and the fourth a moderate amount with some pale shaft-streaks, about as in the most heavily marked example from the upper Rio Negro, Brazil, although this bird may be matched also in the series of *hilaris* and *ruficeps* so far as this character is concerned. For the present it seems best to refer the Colombian birds to *orenocensis* although they may belong with the intermediate examples from northeastern Perú, Ecuador, and Teffé, Brazil. More material is needed from this area before any

certain allocation of the resident population can be made.

Peruvian records, all presumably assignable to *hilaris*, are from Marcapata, Monterico, La Gloria, Río Cosireni, Santa Ana, La Merced, Garita del Sol, Huaisampillo, Jeberos, Chamicuros, and Iquitos.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED

V. a. affinis.—

BRAZIL:

- "Bahia," trade-skins, 3 ♂, 4 ♀;
- Cajazeiras, 3 ♂;
- Jequié, 1 ♂, 1 ♀;
- Espirito Santo, Lagôa Juparaná, 2 ♂, 1 ♀.

V. a. ruficeps.—

BRAZIL:

- Pernambuco, Palmares, 1 [♀];
- Maranhão, Miritiba, 1 ♂, 1 ♀;
- Tury-assú, 2 ♂¹;
- Barra do Corda, 1 ♂¹;
- Rosario, 1 ♀¹;
- Pará, Benevides, 1 ♂;
- Rio Tocantins, Baião, 1 ♂, 3 ♀;
- Mocajuba, 3 ♂, 1 ♀;
- Ilha de Tauna, 2 ♂;
- Rio Xingú, Tapará, 4 ♂, 1 ♀;
- Porto de Moz, 2 ♂;
- Villarinho do Monte, 3 ♂;
- Rio Tapajoz, Tauary, 2 ♂, 3 ♀;
- Igarapé Brabo, 5 ♂, 5 ♀;
- Caxiricatuba, 3 ♂;
- Piquiatuba, 1 ♂, 1 ♀;
- Limoal, 1 ♂;
- Santarem, 1 ♂, 2 ♀;
- Itaituba, 1 ♂;
- Rio Amazonas, Villa Bella Imperatriz, 4 ♂;
- Rio Madeira, Igarapé Auará, 1 ♂;
- Rosarinho, 1 ♂;
- Rio Machado, Barão Melgaço, 1 ♀;
- Rio Roosevelt, "Camp 14," 1 ♂.

V. a. hilaris.—

BRAZIL:

- Rio Madeira, Calamá, 2 ♂, 1 ♀;
- Humaythá, 1 ♂;
- Porto Velho, 1 ♀¹;
- Teffé, 2 ♂, 1 ♀.

PERÚ:

- Astillero, 1 ♂;
- La Pampa, 2 ♂, 1 ♀;
- Río Tavera, 2 ♂, 1 ♀;
- Río Inambari, 1 ♂;
- Urubamba, Uchumayo, 1 ♀;
- Perené, 1 ♂;
- Tulumayo, 2 ♀;
- Río Colorado, 1 ♂¹;
- Huachipa, 1 ♀¹;
- Puerto Bermúdez, 1 ♂¹, 1 ♀¹;
- Chanchamayo, 1 ♂, 1 ♀, 1 ♀¹;
- Montealegre, 1 ♂;

¹ Specimens in Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago.

Palcazu, 1 (?);
 Chuchurras, 2 ♂;
 Río Ucayali, Lagarto, 1 ♀;
 Santa Rosa, 1 ♂;
 Sarayacu, 3 ♂;
 Río Amazonas, Orosa, 3 ♂, 1 ♀;
 Apayacu, 1 ♀;
 Puerto Indiana, 1 ♂;
 Río Marañón, Pomará, 1 ♂;
 Río Seco, west of Moyabamba, 1 ♀.

ECUADOR:

mouth of Río Curaray, 1 ♂;
 lower Río Suno, 1 ♀.

V. *a. orenocensis*.—

VENEZUELA:

Río Orinoco, Munduapo, 2 ♂ (paratypes);
 Nericagua, 1 ♀ (paratype);
 mouth of Río Ocamo, 2 ♂;
 opposite mouth of Ocamo, 1 ♀;
 Lalaja, 2 ♂;
 Mt. Duida, Savana Grande, 1 ♀;
 Playa del Río Base, 1 ♂;

Valle de los Monos, 1 ♂;
 Río Cunucunumá, Boca de Sina, 1 ♂, 1 ♀;
 Río Cassiquiare, El Meray, 3 ♂;
 opposite El Meray, 1 ♂;
 Solano, 2 ♀.

BRAZIL:

Río Negro, Tatú, 1 ♂, 1 ♀;
 Mt. Curycuryari, 1 ♂;
 Santa Maria, 1 ♀;
 Tabocal, 1 "♀" [= ♂];
 Yucabí, 1 ♂, 1 ♀;
 Yavanari, 1 ♂, 1 ♀;
 Igarapé Cacao Pereira, 2 ♂, 1 ♀.

COLOMBIA:

Villavicencio, 1 [♀]¹;
 La Morelia, 1 ♂, 1 "♀" [= ♂];
 Bogotá, 1 ♀².

¹ Specimen in the Instituto de La Salle, Bogotá, Colombia.

² Specimen in Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago.