

It approaches the figure of *Scrobicularia rostrata* of H. Adams (Proc. Zool. Soc. 1868, pl. xxviii. f. 15), but is larger, is not so coarsely sculptured, and is not merely convex, but ventricose. In the same rich collection is a somewhat distorted shell marked as the *Thracia* (!) *trigona* of the 'Samarang' (pl. 24. fig. 8), and possibly a form of our *L. spectabilis*. All three, even if different, are *Leptomyæ*. Figures of my three species will be found in the Journ. Proc. Linn. Soc. Zool. 1882, vol. xvi. pl. 12.

6. Note on Rüppell's Parrot. By P. L. SCLATER, M.A.,
Ph.D., F.R.S., Secretary to the Society.

[Received June 15, 1882.]

(Plate XLII.)

In 1848 the late Mr. G. R. Gray described and figured in the Society's 'Proceedings'¹ a new species of Parrot from Western Africa, from a specimen that had lived for about twelve months in the Gardens, and proposed to call it *Psittacus rueppelli*. Mr. Gray quite sufficiently described it as of a "uniform dark bronze-colour, with the lesser and underwing-coverts bright yellow; the feathers of the thigh orange-yellow."

In 1852 the late Mr. Strickland and I met with examples of this Parrot in the collection formed in Damara-land by Mr. Andersson, of which an account was given by us in Jardine's 'Contributions to Ornithology' for that year (p. 156). Finding that some of the specimens procured by Mr. Andersson agreed with Mr. Gray's description, while others differed in having the rump and under tail-coverts margined with glaucous blue, we not unnaturally concluded that the latter (being the more brightly coloured birds) were of the male sex, and that Mr. Gray had described and figured a female bird².

The same view as to the colour of the sexes in this Parrot was subsequently adopted by Dr. Hartlaub (Orn. West-Afr. p. 168); while Dr. Finsch (Papag. ii. p. 498) and Schlegel (Mus. de P.-B., *Psittaci*, p. 36) described the sexes as alike, and as *both* having the blue colour on the rump and under tail-coverts. But, so far as I can at present make out, the strange fact appears to be that in this species the blue on the rump and under tail-coverts is the characteristic of the *female* sex. Such at least is the case in four examples of this Parrot (two of each form), which were acquired by the Society in April last³, and which have since died, and have been carefully dissected in our Prosector's Office. In two other examples of this

¹ P. Z. S. 1848, p. 125, Aves, pl. 5.

² Mr. Andersson himself, in his 'Birds of Damara Land' (p. 215), published by Mr. Gurney in 1872, has noted that in *some* female examples of *Pœocephalus rueppelli* the blue colour is certainly present.

³ *Vide supra*, p. 421.

Parrot received dead from Mr. Jamrach the same was found to be the case. We must therefore conclude, I think, that, exactly contrary to the usual state of the case, it is the female in *Pæocephalus rueppelli* (Plate XLII.) that acquires this additional ornamental colour, and *not* the male.

7. On two apparently new Species of the Genus *Synallaxis*.
By P. L. SCLATER, M.A., Ph.D., F.R.S., Secretary to
the Society.

[Received June 19, 1882.]

(Plate XLIII.)

Messrs. Salvin and Godman have placed in my hands for determination some additional specimens of birds of the genus *Synallaxis* which they have recently received. Amongst these I find two examples of species belonging to the section with ten rectrices¹ apparently undescribed, which, with Messrs. Salvin and Godman's kind permission, I propose to characterize as follows:—

1. *SYNALLAXIS FUSCO-RUFA*, sp. nov. (Plate XLIII. fig. 1.)

Supra fusca, pileo, alis extus et cauda tota rufis; subtus cinnamomea, in ventro medio dilutior, in crisso et hypochondriis in fuscum transeuns, subalaribus et remigum marginibus internis pallide rufis. Long. tota 6·7, alæ 2·2, caudæ rectr. med. 4, ext. 1·2, tarsi 8.

Obs. Species *S. unirufæ* et *S. castaneæ* proxima, sed colore dorsi distincta.

Hab. San Sebastian, Sierra Nevada of Santa Marta, alt. 7000 ft. (*Simons*).

A single skin of this *Synallaxis* was in Mr. F. A. A. Simons's last collections². It is not quite adult, but, though agreeing well with *S. unirufa* and *S. castanea* in form, is evidently distinct, as above noted.

2. *SYNALLAXIS GRISEO-MURINA*, sp. nov. (Plate XLIII. fig. 2.)

Supra murino-brunnea, alis interne nigricantibus extus dorso concoloribus; ciliis oculorum albis; subtus grisea, in medio ventre dilutior, in lateribus et crisso fuscescentior; mento albo, subalaribus griseis; rostro nigro, pedibus obscure carneis. Long. tota 7, alæ 2·5, caudæ rectr. med. 4·3, ext. 1·4, tarsi 1·0.

Hab. San Lucas, Ecuador (*Villagomez* per *C. Buckley*).

Obs. Affinis *S. fuliginosæ* et forma omnino congruens, sed dorso murino nec rufescente brunneo distinguenda.

This species is exactly of the same habit as *S. fuliginosa* of

¹ Cf. P. Z. S. 1874, p. 7.

² Cf. Salvin and Godman, *Ibis*, 1879, p. 196; 1880, pp. 114, 169.



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