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SOME BIRDS OF THE AMAZONIAN ISLANDS OF
CAVIANA AND MARAJÓ

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A SMALL COLLECTION FROM CAVIANA

APPARENTLY the only published reference to the bird life of Caviana Island at the mouth of the Amazon is a record of the flamingo (*Phoenicopterus ruber* Linnaeus) included by the late Dr. Sneath in her "Catalogo das Aves Amazonicas."¹ In 1871 Professor Joseph B. Steere of Ann Arbor spent a month on Caviana collecting the birds listed below. His headquarters were at the *fazenda* of Senhor Lionel, where he arrived on January 20.

According to Steere's notes, nearly the entire island is level campo covered with coarse grass and rushes and with a few low scrubby trees. There are many sluggish streams, and narrow strips of woodland extend along some of them from the wooded coast. In contrast to the sand of the mainland the soil is clay deposited by the annual overflow of the Amazon, which covers much of the island during the wet season.

Four of the birds of Caviana have not yet been recorded from either of the neighboring islands of Marajó or Mexiana. They are *Phoenicopterus ruber*, *Pyrocephalus rubinus rubinus*, *Ostinops viridis*, and *Hemithraupis guira guira*.

¹ *Bol. Mus. Goeldi*, 8, 1914: 112-113.

1. *Dendrocygna autumnalis discolor* Sclater and Salvin. 1 ♀ juvenile. "Eyes hazel; beak and legs red; beak above nostrils yellow."
 2. *Cathartes urubitinga* Pelzeln. 1 ♂. Wing 484 mm.
 3. *Buteo magnirostris magnirostris* (Gmelin). 1 ♂, 1 not sexed.
 4. *Herpetotheres cachinnans queribundus* Bangs and Penard. 1 [♂] adult. I fail to see any significant difference between this bird and others from Maranhão and Paraguay.
 5. *Polyborus plancus brasiliensis* (Gmelin). 1 [♀] adult. Wing 398 mm.
 6. *Jacana spinosa jacana* (Linnaeus). 3 ♂♂ adults, 1 ♀ juvenile.
 7. *Belonopterus chilensis cayennensis* (Gmelin). 1 ♀, 1 not sexed. Typical of the race of northern South America.
 8. *Capella paraguaiae paraguaiae* (Vieillot). 1 ♀.
 9. *Himantopus himantopus mexicanus* (Müller). 2 adults.
 10. *Columba rufina rufina* Temminck. 1 ♂.
 11. *Leptotila rufaxilla* (Richard and Bernard). 2 ♂♂, 1 not sexed. "Eyes yellow; feet and line through the eyes brick red."
 12. *Aratinga aurea aurea* (Gmelin). 1 ♂, 2 ♀♀. "Eyes reddish yellow."
 13. *Crotophaga major* (Gmelin). 2 ♂♂. "Eyes sea green, changing to yellow about the pupil. Food fruits and beetles."
 14. *Trogon strigilatus albiventer* Cuvier. 4 ♂♂, 1 ♀.
- Tr. [ogon] albiventer* Cuvier, *Régn. An.*, 2d ed., 1, 1829: 459, note (based on Levaillant, *Hist. Courouc. et Tourac.*, Pt. 3, 1806: 10, Pl. 5).

All five of these skins are strikingly different from 22 specimens of *Trogon strigilatus strigilatus* Linnaeus from British and Dutch Guiana, Amazonas (Rio Branco), Pará district (Murutucú), and eastern Peru (Rioja). The belly and crissum are buffy white mixed with light orange-yellow, instead of being plain orange. I have not been able to consult Levaillant's plate, but it seems likely that his *Couroucou albane* is the bird

described here. The *Trogon melanopterus*² of Swainson cannot refer to the race with light underparts, since he states that the belly is yellow in both sexes. It is possible that the bird recorded by Sneath³ from Marajó may belong to the pale-bellied form.

15. *Guira guira* (Gmelin). 2 ♂♂, 1 not sexed. "Eyes white."

16. *Chloroceryle inda* Linnaeus. 1 ♀. "Eyes brown; feet yellowish. Food small crabs."

17. *Galbula rufo-viridis* Cabanis. 5 ♂♂, 1 ♀, 1 not sexed. "Eyes dark; legs yellowish."

18. *Nystalus maculatus maculatus* (Gmelin). 2 ♂♂, 1 ♀. "Eyes yellow."

19. *Ramphastos toco toco* Müller. 1 ♂, 1 ♀. Culmen 218 mm. (♀ 191).

The trinomial is used because, although not generally recognized, *Ramphastos toco albogularis* Cabanis⁴ seems a perfectly distinct form on account of the constantly smaller bill. In adults from Paraguay the culmen measures (in mm.) 169, 173, 174, 176, 176, 182, 183 (♀♀ 146, 150, 152, 152, 155, 157, 158, 158, 162). Moreover, Laubmann⁵ gives the bill measurements of adults from Argentina and Bolivia as 160 and 170 mm.

20. *Scapanus melanoleucos melanoleucos* (Gmelin). 1 ♀. Wing 176 mm.

21. *Dendroplex picus picus* (Gmelin). 1 ♀.

22. *Certhiaxis cinnamomea cinnamomea* (Gmelin). 1 ♂, 1 ♀.

23. *Thamnophilus doliatus doliatus* (Linnaeus). 1 ♂.

24. *Thamnophilus nigrocinereus nigrocinereus* Selater. 1 ♂ juvenile, 1 ♀.

25. *Attila cinnamomeus cinnamomeus* (Gmelin). 1 ♂.

26. *Gymnoderus foetidus* (Linnaeus). 1 ♀.

27. *Pipra aureola aureola* (Linnaeus). 4 ♂♂. One of these

² *Trogon melanopterus* Swainson, *Anim. in Menag.*, Pt. 3, 1838: 332 (Brazil; coll. W. Swainson).

³ *Op. cit.*: 208.

⁴ R[*amphastos*] *albogularis* Cabanis, *Journ. für Orn.*, 10, No. 59, September, 1862: 334 (based on Azara, No. 50, Paraguay).

⁵ *Wiss. Ergebn. Deutsch. Gran-Chaco Exped.*, *Vögel*, 1930: 126.

is an albinotic specimen with the red and orange replaced by pale yellow. Both this and the normal skins had the eyes recorded as white.

28. *Xolmis cinerea* (Vieillot). 1 adult.

29. *Fluvicola pica albiventer* (Spix). 1 ♂. "Eyes hazel." The bill of this bird is noticeably wider than it is in skins from eastern Brazil and Paraguay.

30. *Arundinicola leucocephala* (Linnaeus). 1 ♂. "Eyes red."

31. *Pyrocephalus rubinus rubinus* (Boddaert). 1 ♂, 1 ♀. These two specimens do not agree with any of the recognized races of the vermilion flycatcher. The male has the crown a dull spectrum red; back natal brown; throat and breast near geranium red; crissum jasper pink. The female has the whole top of the head and back deep wood brown; flanks and crissum pink; remaining underparts whitish, streaked with wood brown on the breast. They measure (in mm.) as follows: wing 74 (♀ 70), tail 54.5 (♀ 53.5), culmen 17 (♀ 15.5).

Five topotypical specimens of *Pyrocephalus rubinus saturatus* Berlepsch and Hartert from Venezuela, loaned by Field Museum, have the crown pure scarlet-red in the male; back fuscous; throat and breast reddish scarlet; crissum light coral red. In the female the crown is largely scarlet-red; back natal brown; throat tinged with pink; remaining lower surface scarlet, streaked with bone brown on the breast. *Saturatus* has the following measurements (in mm.): wing 71.5, 73, 74 (♀♀ 68, 71.5), tail 50.5, 52, 53 (50, 53), culmen 16, 16, 17 (15.5, 17).

A long series of vermilion flycatchers from southern South America agree in being more orange and in having longer wings and tails and shorter bills than the Caviana birds. The males have the crown deep scarlet-red; back (when fresh) brownish deep mouse gray; throat and breast reddish scarlet; crissum peach red. Females have the entire top of head and back grayish drab; crissum of various shades of yellow or orange; flanks lightly tinged with the same; remaining underparts whitish, heavily streaked with olive-brown or drab. They measure as follows: wing 75, 76, 76, 76, 77, 77, 77, 77, 77, 77,

78, 78, 79 (♀♀ 72, 75), tail 53, 53, 53.5, 53.5, 54, 54.5, 55, 55, 55.5, 56, 56, 56.5, 57.5 (♀♀ 52.5, 55), culmen 14.5, 14.5, 14.5, 14.5, 15, 15, 15.5, 15.5, 15.5, 15.5, 15.5, 16, 16 (♀♀ 15, 15.5).

Since *Muscivora rubinus* Boddaert was described from the Amazon River, I propose to recognize the southern birds as a separate race, which will bear the name *Pyrocephalus rubinus strigilatus* (Wied).⁶ Specimens have been examined from the Province of Buenos Aires, Paraguay, eastern Bolivia, and the State of São Paulo, Brazil. A single male from Pebas, Peru, seems to agree best with the southern birds, but it is so worn and faded that its correct allocation is questionable.

32. *Muscivora tyrannus* (Linnaeus). 4 ♂♂.
33. *Tyrannus melancholicus despotes* (Lichtenstein). 1 ♂.
34. *Myiodynastes maculatus maculatus* (Müller). 1 ♂, 1 not sexed.
35. *Tyranniscus acer* Salvin and Godman. 1 adult.
36. *Turdus leucomelas albiventer* Spix. 2 ♂♂, 1 ♀.
37. *Turdus fumigatus fumigatus* Lichtenstein. 1 adult.
38. *Coereba flaveola minima* (Bonaparte). 1 ♂.
39. *Geothlypis aequinoctialis aequinoctialis* (Gmelin). 1 ♂.
40. *Ostinops viridis* (Müller). 1 ♂, 2 ♀♀.
41. *Archiplanus solitarius* (Vieillot). 1 ♂, 1 ♀. "Eyes dark red; bill bluish white."
42. *Leistes militaris militaris* (Linnaeus). 4 ♂♂.
43. *Gymnomystax mexicanus* (Linnaeus). 1 ♂, 1 ♀. "Eyes brown."
44. *Thraupis episcopus episcopus* (Linnaeus). 1 ♂, 1 ♀. "Eyes hazel."
45. *Thraupis palmarum palmarum* (Wied). 1 ♀. "Eyes dark brown."
46. *Ramphocelus carbo carbo* (Pallas). 2 ♀♀. "Eyes brown; feet and legs black; lower beak ash."
47. *Hemithraupis guira guira* (Linnaeus). 1 ♀.
48. *Volatinia jacarina splendens* (Vieillot). 1 ♂. "Eyes hazel." The underwing is mixed black and white.

⁶ *Muscipeta strigilata* Wied, *Beitr. Naturg. Bras.*, 3, No. 2, 1831: 200 (Camamá, Bahia).

49. *Myospiza humeralis humeralis* (Bosc). 1 ♀, 1 not sexed.
 "Eyes hazel."

SOME ADDITIONS TO THE AVIFAUNA OF MARAJÓ

Professor Steere made several trips to Marajó during the early part of 1871 and revisited the island in 1879. It is thought unnecessary to report all the birds which he collected there, and the following list includes only such species as are heretofore unrecorded from Marajó. I have also added a few species obtained for the first time on the island by Edward M. Brigham of Battle Creek, Michigan, during April, 1881.

1. *Dendrocygna viduata* (Linnaeus), Ararý,⁷ 1 ♀, 1 not sexed, April, 1871. "Eyes hazel; feet and beak black."

2. *Buteo albicaudatus colonus* Berlepsch. Ararý, 1 ♂ adult, April, 1871. Wing 403 mm., tail 160 mm. Tail: wing index 39.7.

This is apparently the first record of the Guianan race in Brazil.

3. *Hoploxypterus cayanus* (Latham). Marajó, 1 ♂, 1871.

4. *Columba speciosa* Gmelin. Marajó, 1 ♂, 1871.

5. *Columbigallina talpacoti talpacoti* (Temminck). Ararý, 1 juvenile, April, 1871.

6. *Brotogeris tuipara* (Gmelin). Ararý, 1 adult, April, 1871.

7. *Chelidoptera tenebrosa tenebrosa* (Pallas). Ararý, 1 ♂, April, 1871. Wing 111.5 mm., tail 51.5 mm., culmen 22 mm.

This specimen is slightly larger than a series from Dutch Guiana and from mainland Pará (Vigia). Its breast is grayer and suffused with ochraceous; the belly is a little paler rufous; and the upper tail coverts, rump, and crissum are tinged with buffy.

8. *Ramphastos monilis* Müller. Ararý, 1 ♀, April, 1871. South Marajó, 1 ♀, 7 April, 1881.

9. *Nasica longirostris* (Vieillot). South Marajó, 1 ♀, 10 April, 1881. "Eye brown."

10. *Synallaxis gujanensis gujanensis* (Gmelin). Marajó, 1 ♂, 1871.

⁷ Often spelled Araré.

11. *Colonia colonus colonus* (Vieillot). Ararý, 1 ♂, April, 1871. Wing 84 mm., tail 61 mm. (middle rectrices wanting).

12. *Tityra cayana cayana* (Linnaeus). Marajó, 1 [♀], April, 1881. Perfectly typical of the northern race.

13. *Sturnella magna praticola* Chubb. Rio Ararý (Fazenda McGee), 1 ♂, April, 1871. "Eyes hazel." Wing 101 mm., tail 66.5 mm., culmen 34 mm., tarsus 40.5 mm., middle toe 28 mm.

This seems to be the first record for the genus south of the Guianas.

