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A NEW SPECIES OF ANTPITTA FROM PERU AND A REVISION OF THE SUBFAMILY GRALLARIINAE

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THE vast lowlands of eastern Peru continue to produce unexpected ornithological novelties, but as anyone familiar with the tropics is aware, many of its inhabitants are extremely elusive. Prolonged field work, even in a small section of a humid forest, often results in the repeated discovery of species of birds not previously encountered there. Such has been our experience at Balta, a Cashinahua Indian village located on the banks of the Río Curanja not far from its confluence with the Río Alto Purús just before the latter passes into Brazil. This locale has now yielded in less than 3 years the astonishing total of three species of birds new to science, which is perhaps a record for any single collecting locality in any part of the world in the modern era. But the discoveries have not come all at once. The junior author had already spent 8 months of intensive collecting at Balta before the summer of 1966 when he obtained the first specimen of the new species of antpitta described in this paper (see frontispiece). The bird was shot by one of the Indians within a few hundred yards of the village in dense forest undergrowth frequently visited by our museum field personnel. The following summer O'Neill returned to Balta and this time succeeded, through imitation of the bird's call notes and the help of the Indians, in obtaining 12 additional specimens, including one complete and one partial skeleton. The new antpitta would have been assigned to the genus Thamnocharis had we not merged this genus with Grallaria, as we here redefine it. We propose to call the new species

Grallaria eludens sp. nov. Elusive Antpitta

Type.—Adult male; Louisiana State University Museum of Zoology no. 62312; Balta (at the point where the streams known to the local Cashinahua Indians as the Xumuya and the Inuya enter the Río Curanja), 10° 08′ S, 71° 13′ W, elevation ca. 300 m, Depto. Loreto, Peru; 11 July 1967; weight 115 g; collected by John P. O'Neill; original number 2623.

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ELUSIVE ANTPITTA, Grallaria eludens

A NEW SPECIES FROM PERU

From an acrylic-vinyl painting by John P. O'Neill

(one-half natural size)

Diagnosis.—Similar to Grallaria dignissima Sclater and Salvin (1880) of Ecuador and extreme northern Peru but with upper parts less rufescent and with chin and upper throat white instead of bright ferruginous; jugulum and upper breast Pinkish Buff to Cream-Buff (capitalized color names are from Ridgway, 1912) instead of Ferruginous and with considerable black streaking provided by black edgings to feathers of these parts; belly pure white; feathers of flanks, as in dignissima, greatly elongated and with a white streak along rachis bordered laterally by Blackish Brown or Dusky Neutral Gray. Differs from all remaining members of the genus by its combination of colors, by the shape of its bill, by its exceedingly short tail (only about one-third length of wing), and by the number of its tail feathers (eight instead of ten or more).

Description of type.—Pileum and hind neck Medal Bronze becoming slightly more rufescent on the dorsum; feathers of upper back with narrow shaft streaks of white bordered terminally with black, these shaft streaks becoming increasingly wider on the lower back and rump; tail feathers eight in number and Dark Mouse Gray in color with faint touch of white on tips; lores Light Pinkish Cinnamon, much lighter than pileum; auriculars Tawny-Olive; rictal bristles thin but prominent; chin and upper throat white, shafts with prominent terminal setae; jugulum and upper breast Cream-Buff, edged, at least narrowly in some feathers, with black; belly white; flank feathers greatly elongated and with shafts bordered by white and edged with Blackish Brown or Dusky Neutral Gray; color of wings in general like back but more rufescent, especially on the outer webs of proximal primaries and distal secondaries; under wing coverts between Pinkish Cinnamon and Cinnamon-Buff with some feathers edged with black.

Variation among paratypes.—No sexual dimorphism is evident, but the only female has the sex questioned by the collector. The series exhibits little variation other than a tendency for some specimens to be slightly more heavily streaked with black on the jugulum and upper breast.

Measurements in millimeters.—Ten males (type specimen first, then overall ranges, followed by averages in parentheses): chord of wing, 100.3, 100.3–111.5 (104.4); tail, 36.0, 35.0–39.9 (36.9); exposed culmen, 25.8, 24.0–27.3 (25.7); width of bill at base of exposed culmen, 12.5, 11.0–13.1 (12.5); depth of bill at base of exposed culmen, 11.9, 11.0–11.9 (11.5); bill from base, 31.0, 28.9–31.2 (30.3); tarsus, 58.9, 52.3–58.9 (58.0); middle toe without claw, 34.0, 30.0–34.0 (31.5). The one questionable female measures, respectively, 100.3, 34.5, 27.4, 13.0, 11.7, 31.2, 59.9, and 32.3.

Specimens examined.—Thirteen, including skins of 11 males (one with

complete skeleton), one "9?" and, in addition, one skull from an unsexed specimen that was too badly shot to save as a skin or as a whole skeleton, all from the type locality.

Range.—Known with certainty only from the type locality but reported by Cashinahua Indians, who know it as the "du xau," to occur also elsewhere along the Río Curanja and by Culina Indians along the Río Alto Purús, in the Departamento de Loreto, in extreme eastern Peru.

Remarks.—In 1890 Sclater erected the monotypic genus Thamnocharis to accommodate Grallaria dignissima Sclater and Salvin of Ecuador and the adjacent territory now within Peru. The species is rare in collections, there being only eight specimens in American museums (Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist., 3; Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila., 2; U. S. Natl. Mus., 1; La. State Univ. Mus. Zool., 1; Mus. Comp. Zool., 1) and two in the British Museum (Natural History). We have examined all of these except the last three. The generic characters ascribed by Sclater to the new taxon, and which allegedly separated it from Grallaria Vieillot, were its shorter and thicker bill, greatly elongated flank feathers, short tail, and long tarsi. On first inspection the new species appeared assignable to Thamnocharis because, like dignissima to which it is closely allied, it has elongated flank feathers and a very short tail. But we soon discovered that certain species of Grallaria likewise have flank feathers that are virtually as long as those of either dignissima or eludens. A case in point is Grallaria ruficapilla Lafresnaye, in which the ratio of the length of the flank feathers to the length of the central upper belly feathers is 1.61 in comparison with ratios of only 1.71 and 1.67 in dignissima and eludens respectively. In Pittasoma michleri Cassin the ratio is 1.70. Thus, the length of the flank feathers in *Thamnocharis* does not appear to be a character that separates the genus unequivocally from either Grallaria or Pittasoma.

Further study also discounted the value of the other generic characters (except tail length) Sclater ascribed to *Thamnocharis*. In both *dignissima* and *eludens* the tail is definitely shorter, by any standard of comparison, than it is in any other species of the subfamily Grallariinae examined. The tarsus/tail ratios in these two forms are 1.76 and 1.56 respectively, while in *Grallaria* this ratio does not exceed 1.24. The form that most closely approaches *dignissima* and *eludens* in tarsus/tail ratio is again *Pittasoma michleri*, with a ratio of 1.43. The average tarsus/tail ratio of the 34 species of *Grallaria* (*sensu lato*) examined critically in the present connection, which included all nominal species except *G. chthonia* and *G. flavotincta*, was 1.04 (range 0.84–1.24). Similar but not quite so clear-cut results were obtained with regard to tarsus/wing ratios. Those of *dignissima* and *eludens* were 0.57 and 0.55 respectively, but in all other species of

Grallaria examined this ratio varied from 0.41 to 0.59 (average 0.49). Overlap is provided by G. watkinsi Chapman with a tarsus/wing ratio of 0.57 and perhaps also by G. erythrotis Sclater and Salvin and by G. erythroleuca Sclater (of which we have measurements on only one specimen of erythrotis and only two of erythroleuca) with tarsus/wing ratios of 0.59 and 0.57, respectively.

In one other respect, not mentioned by Sclater, *Thamnocharis* is unique. Both *dignissima* and *eludens* have only 8 tail feathers, while the species of *Grallaria* examined have either 10 or 12 (one specimen of *G. guatimalensis* was found to have 14). The number is also variable within the species of a single subgenus. For this reason, we do not believe the number of tail feathers can be used as a generic character. Therefore as *Thamnocharis* is separable from all species of the genus *Grallaria* only on the basis of the number of tail feathers and their relative shortness, we advocate that *Thamnocharis* be combined with *Grallaria* but that it be maintained as a subgenus as herein later defined.

Other subdivisions of Grallariinae that have been proposed remain to be considered. Ridgway (1911) recognized Hypsibemon Cabanis and Grallaria Vieillot as valid genera after having himself proposed (1909) two additional genera, Oropezus and Hylopezus. In his comprehensive work of 1911 he also included in this section of the family the genera *Rhopoterpe* Cabanis (= Myrmornis Hermann), Pittasoma Cassin, Myrmothera Vieillot, and Grallaricula Sclater. Todd and Carriker (1922) expressed opposition to the recognition of Hypsibemon and Oropezus, and Hellmayr (1924) and Peters (1951) rejected these genera, as well as Hylopezus, but unhesitatingly recognized Myrmothera and Thamnocharis, one of which, the latter, we believe should be rejected. These authors placed all the species that Ridgway assigned to Hypsibemon, Oropezus, and Hylopezus in the single genus Grallaria. Consequently Grallaria, as presently constituted (Peters, 1951; Meyer de Schauensee, 1966; and others), is comprised of many diverse forms, ranging from the large, immense-billed G. gigantea Lawrence and G. excelsa Berlepsch to the diminutive and comparatively thin-billed G. ochroleuca (Wied). If Ridgway is not to be followed by giving generic recognition to Hypsibemon, Oropezus, and Hylopezus, we believe that this large and diverse group needs at least subgeneric division, especially as the included species can be segregated into several well-defined groups. Accordingly we propose the recognition of Hypsibemon and Oropezus as subgenera and we advocate the restitution of Hylopezus as a full genus, all as herein redefined. We further recommend the retention of Pittasoma at generic rank, but, as noted above, we do not advocate recognizing Thamnocharis as a valid genus.

As Ridgway (1911) pointed out, Hylopezus is clearly differentiated from Grallaria. It is distinguished by (1) its small size, (2) the absence of scutellation on the tarsus, (3) the absence of a convolution on the inner edge of the tarsus, (4) the absence of rictal bristles, (5) the presence of a buffy "window" in the wing produced by at least the basal portions of the primaries being of this color, (6) the partial white coloration of the under parts with the chest more or less streaked with black, and (7) a tail less than half as long as the wing. Moreover, as recently shown by Heimerdinger and Ames (1967), the members of this complex possess sterna of what they designate as Types 5 or 6, whereas all members of Grallaria (in our sense) of which there are skeletons available have sterna of their Type 3. A Type 3 sternum is two-notched whereas Types 5 and 6 are each essentially four-notched, Type 6 being definitely so. Heimerdinger and Ames (1967) consider a deviation from a Type 3 sternum to a Type 5 or 6 sternum as being an important morphological variation and one that has considerable taxonomic significance at the generic level. They even suggest that the genus Grallaria (sensu lato) is a composite on the ground that perspicillata, fulviventris, and ochroleuca have sterna of Types 5 or 6 instead of the Type 3 condition found in the other members of the genus.

The disposition of Myrmothera is complicated by certain aberrancies of its two member species, especially M. simplex (Salvin and Godman). In our opinion M. campanisona (Hermann) is remarkably close to Hylopezus. It has many of the attributes of Hylopezus cited above and, in addition, our skeleton of the species has a sternum of Type 6, a condition characteristic of Hylopezus. The streaking of the chest of M. campanisona is not bold but is nevertheless clearly discernible. It differs mainly from the members of the genus Hylopezus in lacking any vestige of the buffy "window" at the base of the primaries that is so strikingly characteristic of the members of the genus Hylopezus. The situation with regard to M. simplex is more confused. Paradoxically it is very similar in appearance to Grallaria (Oropezus) milleri Chapman and would indeed appear to be indistinguishable in the field on morphological criteria from that species if the two occurred together, which, of course, they do not. Unfortunately M. simplex is not assignable to the subgenus Oropezus, of which G. milleri is a member. The tarsus is only faintly scutellate instead of being prominently so, and the rictal bristles are greatly reduced instead of thin but well defined. But it also differs from the genus Hylopezus in having the color of the under wing coverts like the flanks instead of Ochraceous-Orange, in having the tarsus shorter than the tail instead of slightly longer, and, like M. campanisona, in lacking any vestige of a buffy "window" at

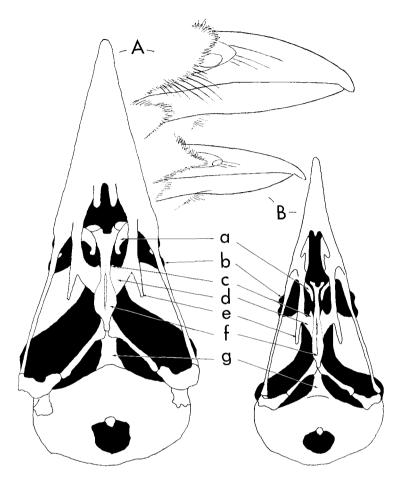


Figure 1. Bills and ventral views of skulls of (A) Grallaria (Thannocharis) eludens and (B) Hylopezus perspicillatus. a, maxillopalatine; b, ectethmoid plate; c, interpalatine process; d, palatine shelf; e, transpalatine process; f, mediopalatine process; g, sphenoidal rostrum. Approx. 2 ×.

the base of the primaries. Opportunely Paul Schwartz recently furnished us with the wet-preserved body carcasses of two specimens of M. simplex. Skeletonizing one of them revealed that the sternum is of Type 6, as is also the sternum of M. campanisona. Schwartz also provided us with tape recordings of two songs each of simplex and campanisona. To our ears they seem to differ only slightly. We conclude, therefore, on the basis of this new information that simplex correctly belongs with campanisona in the genus Myrmothera.

Regrettably, skeletal material of members of the subfamily Grallariinae is extremely scarce. Although we have two skulls of *G. eludens*, we do not have comparable material of the subgenera *Grallaria* and *Hypsibemon*, and the only skull of the subgenus *Oropezus* we have been able to locate is that of *G. quitensis*, which unfortunately is so much smaller than that of *eludens* we cannot be sure the differences exhibited are not attributable to the overall massiveness of the skull of *eludens*. But such does not appear to be the case. *G. quitensis* and *G. eludens* both have palatines with the same basic configuration and ectethmoid plates of essentially the same shape.

Fortunately we do have available several complete skeletons of the genus Hylopezus and one of Myrmothera campanisona. As might be anticipated, Hylopezus shows marked deviations from Grallaria, at least in the material we have studied. In the three skulls of two different species of Hylopezus we have examined, the interpalatine processes are more prominent, the mediopalatine processes are much less folded laterally in their posterior extensions, and the ventral portions of the ectethmoid plates are decidedly more expanded (Figure 1). In H. perspicillatus the entire lateral edges of the ectethmoid plates protrude beyond the quadratojugal bar. The fact that such is also the case in our one skeleton of Myrmothera campanisona reinforces our contention that Myrmothera is close to Hylopezus.

Pittasoma, as defined beyond, seems unquestionably deserving of generic status. We have not studied critically the genus Grallaricula Sclater in the present connection but note in passing that it is apparently a valid genus comprised of a well-defined group of species that probably should be placed next to Hylopezus in a continuum of extremely large to extremely small forms in this section of the family Formicariidae.

In a recent paper Ames et al. (1968) have shown that the recognition of the family Conopophagidae is not supported by their studies of the cranial osteology, sternum, syrinx, and pterylosis of the two genera presently contained in the family. They would include Corythopis in the Tyrannidae and return Conopophaga to the Formicariidae, where they would place it "in the neighborhood of Grallaricula and Grallaria." Because of its Type 5 sternum we would have it immediately follow Grallaricula where we would place it in a monotypic subfamily, Conopophaginae. The three skulls of Conopophaga peruviana available to us are strikingly different from those of the Grallariinae. Radically unlike the large members of that subfamily, they also differ outstandingly from even the small representatives, such as the species of the genus Hylopezus (Figures 1 and 2). The bill is considerably flattened and is much broader at the base than it is deep, a fact which alone precludes placing Cono-

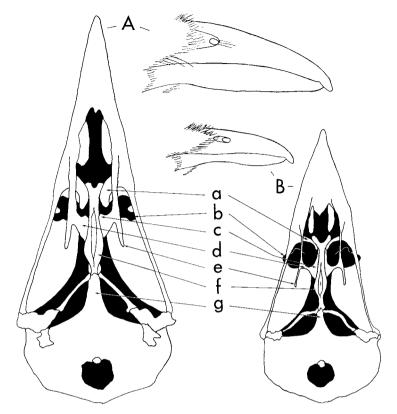


Figure 2. Bills and ventral views of skulls of (A) Grallaria (Oropezus) quitensis and (B) Conopophaga peruviana. Scale and labeled parts same as in Figure 1.

pophaga in the subfamily Grallariinae; the palatines are extremely thin, being no broader than their lateral posterior extensions, the transpalatine processes; the palatine shelves are greatly reduced in all dimensions; the interpalatine processes are exceedingly elongated and actually extend anteriorly above the maxillopalatines almost as far as the bifurcation at the anterior end of the prevomer; the maxillopalatines themselves are greatly reduced and extremely fragile; the pterygoids are bowed rather than rod-like; and the dorsal protuberances of the ectethmoid plates are considerably reduced and do not extend laterad even to, much less beyond, the quadratojugal bar.

The following synopsis of genera and subgenera is concerned with the forms included by Hellmayr (1924) in his subfamily Myrmotherinae, but which we treat, as did Sclater (1890) and Ridgway (1911), under the name Grallariinae. Our subfamily Grallariinae differs from that of Sclater

only in that we have transferred *Chamaeza* Vigors, as did also Hellmayr and Ridgway, to the Formicariinae. Our Grallariinae differs from that of Ridgway (1911) only in that we have moved *Rhopoterpe* Cabanis (= *Myrmornis* Hermann) to the Formicariinae. Its extremely short tarsus, which is shorter than the commissure, less than two-thirds the length of the tail, and only slightly more than one-fourth the length of the wing, prevents its inclusion with the relatively long-legged Grallariinae. We have, of course, treated the species described since the earlier works were published.

Family FORMICARIIDAE Subfamily GRALLARIINAE

Relatively long-legged, short-tailed antibrds in which the tarsus is at least fourfifths as long as, sometimes much longer than, the tail; the planta tarsus is broadly rounded behind instead of compressed and more or less sharply ridged on the posterior edge; bill heavy, unusually massive, and prominently curved from the base where it is almost as deep as it is wide.

Genus Pittasoma Cassin

Pittasoma Cassin, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia, 1860, p. 189 (type, by monotypy, Pittasoma michleri Cassin).

Fairly large Formicariidae (length 160–180 mm, wing 85–103 mm); color pattern highly variegated—with bold streaks above, color of pileum differentiated from color of dorsum, horizontal barring below, and pronounced sexual dimorphism (the last named character if considered alone would be accorded little weight); culmen distinctly (though not sharply) ridged and only gradually curved from near base to near tip where it becomes more strongly decurved, hence much straighter in its entirety than in *Grallaria*; rictal bristles present but greatly reduced; sternum of Type 6 (Types 5 and 6 in *Hylopezus* and Type 3 in *Grallaria*); tail much shorter than tarsus and only one-third length of wing; tarsus not holaspidean as in *Grallaria* and *Hylopezus* but exaspidean.

Includes species: P. michleri Cassin and P. rufopileatum Hartert.

Genus Grallaria Vieillot

Grallaria Vieillot, Analyse nouv. ornith. élément., 1816, p. 43 (type, by monotypy, "Roi des Fourmilliers, Buff." = Formicarius varius (Boddaert).

Medium to very large Formicariidae (length 140-210 mm, wing 75-160 mm); color pattern variable in the genus as a whole but remarkably uniform within each of the four subgeneric categories as defined beyond; culmen very indistinctly if at all ridged and gradually but rather strongly curved from the base; rictal bristles distinct but slender; feathers of chin and upper throat with long, slender, terminal setae; sternum of Type 3.

Subgenus Grallaria Vieillot

Grallaria Vieillot, Analyse nouv. ornith. élément., 1816, p. 43 (type, by monotypy, "Roi des Fourmilliers, Buff." = Formicarius varius (Boddaert).

Size medium to very large (wing 94-160 mm); upper parts distinctly squamated or under parts heavily barred with dusky; tail decidedly less than one-half as long as wing (tail/wing ratio 0.30-0.44); tarsus equal to or slightly longer than tail

(tarsus/tail ratio 1.00-1.16) and less than one-half as long as wing (tarsus/wing ratio 0.42-0.47); tarsal scutellation only moderately distinct (less so than in subgenera *Hypsibemon* and *Oropezus* but more so than in the subgenus *Thamnocharis*); inner edge of planta tarsus barely convolute; number of tail feathers usually 12 (one example of *G. guatimalensis* that we examined possesses 14).

Included species: G. squamigera Prévost and Des Murs, G. gigantea Lawrence, G. excelsa Berlepsch, G. varia (Boddaert), G. alleni Chapman, G. guatimalensis Prévost and Des Murs, G. chthonia Wetmore and Phelps, and G. haplonota Sclater.

Subgenus Thamnocharis Sclater

Thamnocharis Sclater, Cat. Bds. Brit. Mus., 15, 1890, p. 310 (type, by monotypy, Grallaria dignissima Sclater and Salvin).

Size moderately large (wing 100.0-111.5 mm); tail exceedingly short (only about one-third length of wing; tarsus much longer than tail (tarsus/tail ratio 1.56-1.76); feathers on upper back fairly uniform in color but with light shaft streaks; feathers of lower back and rump black with bold shaft streaks of white; chin and upper throat either bright ferruginous or white; jugulum and upper breast either bright ferruginous or else Cream-Buff with prominent edgings of black producing streaks; bill at base of exposed culmen deeper (sometimes much so) in relation to its total length from base than in all other Grallariinae except G. nuchalis; flank feathers greatly elongated but little if any more so than in some members of the subgenus Hypsibemon; number of tail feathers 8 instead of 10 or more.

Included species: G. dignissima Sclater and Salvin and G. eludens Lowery and O'Neill.

Subgenus Hypsibemon Cabanis

Hypsibemon Cabanis, Arch. Naturg., 13(1), 1847, p. 217 (type, by subseq. desig., Gray, 1855, Grallaria ruficapilla Lafresnaye).

Size medium (wing 90–103 mm); feathers of dorsum, and in one species of the pileum as well, with shaft streaks; feathers of under parts boldly streaked with black or brown; feathers of flanks with pronounced central streaks of white along shaft and bordered with dusky or brown along edges; tail/wing ratio 0.45–0.58; tarsus/tail ratio 0.91–1.16; tarsus/wing ratio 0.47–0.57; planta tarsus convolute on inner edge and distinctly scutellated; number of tail feathers 12.

Included species: G. ruficapilla Lafresnaye, G. watkinsi Chapman (may be a race of ruficapilla), G. bangsi Allen, G. andicola (Cabanis), and G. punensis Chubb (probably a race of andicola).

Subgenus Oropezus Ridgway

Oropezus Ridgway, Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, 22, 1909, p. 70 (type, by orig. desig., Grallaria rufula Lafresnave).

Size small to medium (wing in nine species 75-103 mm but in one species to 117 mm); color of upper parts and under parts fairly uniform, when considered separately, and without streaks, squamations, or bars; tail more than one-half as long as wing (tail/wing ratio 0.54-0.60; one exception, *G. griseonucha*); tarsus more than one-half as long as wing (tarsus/wing ratio 0.51-0.59) and shorter than tail or only slightly longer (tarsus/tail ratio 0.84-1.05; *G. griseonucha* with a ratio of 1.24 is again an exception); inner edge of tarsus distinctly convolute; number of tail feathers 10 or 12.

Included species: G. rufocinera Sclater and Salvin, G. nuchalis Sclater (incl. G. ruficeps Sclater), G. albigula Chapman, G. erythroleuca Sclater, G. hypoleuca Sclater

(incl. G. flavotincta Sclater, G. castanea Chapman, G. przewalskii Taczanowski, and G. capitalis (Chapman), G. griseonucha Sclater and Salvin, G. rufula Lafresnaye, G. erythrotis Sclater and Salvin, G. quitensis Lesson, and G. milleri Chapman.

Genus Hylopezus Ridgway

Hylopezus Ridgway, Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, 22, 1909, p. 71 (type, by orig. desig., Grallaria perspicillata Lawrence).

Size small (wing 72-88 mm); under parts partly white but washed to varying degrees with buff, and with chest more or less streaked with black or buffy brown; wings with more or less distinct buffy "window" at base of primaries; under wing coverts Ochraceous-Orange; tail less than one-half as long as wing (tail/wing ratio 0.38-0.48); tarsus distinctly less than to equal to one-half length of wing (tarsus/wing ratio 0.41-0.50); tarsus only slightly longer than tail (tarsus/tail ratio 1.03-1.14); tarsus not convolute on inner edge and scutellation absent or only faintly indicated; sternum of Types 5 and 6; rictal bristles absent.

Included species: H. perspicillatus (Lawrence), H. macularius (Temminck), H. fulviventris (Sclater), H. berlepschi (Hellmayr), and H. ochroleucus (Wied).

Genus Myrmothera Vieillot

Myrmothera Vieillot, Analyse nouv. ornith. élément., 1816, p. 43 (type, by monotypy, "LeBéffroi" of Buffon = Formicarius brevicauda Boddaert = Myrmornis campanisona Hermann).

Size small (wing 76-88 mm); under parts white with rather obscure pale olivaceous streakings on chest or else with solid pectoral band of brownish olive; upper parts fairly uniform reddish brown to greenish olive; tail roughly equal to one-half length of wing (tail/wing ratio 0.45-0.52); tarsus not convolute on inner edge and scutellation absent or only faintly indicated; sternum of Type 6; rictal bristles absent.

Included species: M. campanisona (Hermann) and M. simplex (Salvin and Godman).

Genus Grallaricula Sclater

Grallaricula Sclater, Proc. Zool. Soc. London, 26, 1858, p. 283 (Type, by subseq. desig., Sclater, 1890, Grallaria flavirostris Sclater).

In size the most diminutive group of species in the Grallariinae (total length approximately 90-115 mm, wing 60-68 mm); upper parts brownish or olivaceous with the pileum sometimes cinereous or rufous; entire under parts uniform ferruginous or even pale cinereous or the feathers of the breast sometimes strongly edged with black; tail only about one-third as long as wing; conspicuous rictal bristles, sometimes nearly as long as bill; sternum of Type 5.

Included species: Grallaricula flavirostris (Sclater), G. ferrugineipectus (Sclater), G. nana (Lafresnaye), G. loricata (Sclater), G. peruviana Chapman, G. lineifrons (Chapman), and G. cucullata (Sclater).

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