

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
NEW ENGLAND ZOOLOGICAL CLUB

TWO NEW BIRDS FROM TANGANYIKA TERRITORY

BY HERBERT FRIEDMANN

THE following birds, collected in the Uluguru and the Usambara Mountains, Tanganyika Territory, by Mr. Arthur Loveridge, prove to be undescribed. In my report on Mr. Loveridge's collection in 'The Ibis' for January, 1928, I referred them, with some hesitation, to already known species, as at the time I was lacking the comparative material necessary for their positive identification.

***Apalis chapini* sp. nov.**

Type, M. C. Z., no. 237,761, adult male, collected at Nyingwa (altitude 8000 ft.), Uluguru Mountains, Tanganyika Territory, October 14, 1926, by Arthur Loveridge.

Specific Characters.—Apparently more like *Apalis bamendae* Bannerman than any other species of the genus, but the forehead, anterior part of crown, lores, superciliaries, cheeks and auriculars rich auburn, very dark on the lores, superciliaries, cheeks and auriculars; chin and upper throat pure white, rest of throat and breast cinnamon-buff; under parts white, lightly washed with very pale buff, especially on the flanks.

Description of Type.—Feathers near nostrils white; forehead and anterior part of crown rich auburn, becoming paler posteriorly; superciliaries rich auburn; lores, cheeks, and auriculars deep rich auburn; posterior part of crown, occiput, nape, scapulars, interscapulars, back, rump and upper tail-coverts dark grayish, slightly washed with tawny olive on the crown and occiput; primaries and outer secondaries fuscous black, narrowly

margined with whitish on the inner web; three innermost secondaries fuscous, washed with ashy olive; upper wing-coverts fuscous black, externally edged with slate-gray; under wing-coverts white, broadly tipped with cinnamon; axillars white; rectrices dark fuscous, washed with ashy brown, tipped with whitish; the tail much graduated, as in all species of *Apalis*; chin, upper throat, and malar region white, becoming suffused with cinnamon-buff posteriorly and laterally; lower throat and breast cinnamon-buff; rest of under parts white, washed with pale buff and grayish on the flanks; thighs cinnamon; under tail-coverts whitish; bill (in dried skin) black; feet (in dried skin) light brown. The female resembles the male in plumage.

Measurements.—Type: wing, 50; tail, 60.5; culmen from base, 10.5 mm. Female: wing, 49; tail (moulting), 47; culmen from base, 10.5 mm.

In my paper on Loveridge's collection I called these two specimens *Apalis porphyrolaema*, a species which I had not then seen. On his recent return from Africa, Dr. James P. Chapin compared these birds with *porphyrolaema* in his collection, and noticed immediately that they were very different. He then allowed me to examine the warblers of this genus in his collections, and this survey, together with a perusal of the descriptions of species not represented there nor in the Museum of Comparative Zoology, indicated very clearly that the birds belonged to an undescribed species. I take pleasure in naming it for Dr. Chapin, who has done so much to elucidate many problems in African ornithology and who has aided me greatly in studying this and the following new bird.

***Turdinus rufipennis distans* subsp. nov.**

Type, M. C. Z., no. 237,750, adult male, collected at Amani, Usambara Mountains, Tanganyika Territory, November 22, 1926, by Arthur Loveridge.

Subspecific Characters.—Differs from typical *rufipennis* in that the pectoral area is very grayish (almost as gray as in *pyrrhopterus*), instead of buffy; the top of the head is browner, less grayish; the tail is longer (65 mm., as against 53-60 mm. in *rufipennis*). The upper tail-coverts are very dark, but this may not be significant, as the color of these feathers varies considerably in some species of *Turdinus*, such as *minuta* and *barakae*.

Description of Type.—Forehead, crown and occiput dark mummy-brown; nape, scapulars, interscapulars and back slightly lighter and washed with olive Dresden-brown, the transition from the mummy-brown of the head to the Dresden-brown of the nape very gradual; rump and upper tail-coverts bright, dark argus-brown; upper wing-coverts fuscous brown, edged with bright Dresden-brown; remiges, except the innermost ones, fuscous on the inner webs and dark Dresden-brown on the outer ones, the inner webs internally narrowly edged with dark Dresden-brown; rectrices very dark argus-brown; lores, superciliaries, cheeks and malar region dull grayish, each feather completely edged with grayish brown; auriculars grayish brown, merging gradually postero-laterally into the olive Dresden-brown of the nape and scapulars; chin light tawny; throat and anterior part of breast white, tinged with grayish on the sides; pectoral band dull grayish, washed with brownish, merging insensibly into dull Dresden-brown on the flanks and thighs; middle of abdomen whitish, tinged with grayish, the grayish color predominating laterally; under tail-coverts Dresden-brown, washed with cinnamon; bill (in dried skin) black on maxilla, dusky tawny on mandible; feet (in dried skin) grayish brown.

Measurements of Type (only specimen).—Wing, 73; tail, 65; culmen from base (approximately, the tip having been mutilated by shot), 18.5 mm.

Turdinus rufipennis has hitherto usually been considered entirely a West African species, with no representative form in the eastern part of the Continent. This new race extends the range of the species over such a tremendous distance that it may be well to state at this point why it is considered a subspecies of *rufipennis*, and not of *pyrrhopterus*. It agrees with the former more than with the latter in the whitish throat and middle of the abdomen, and also in the large, stout bill. *Turdinus barakae* is a distinct species with the breast feathers tipped with brownish, giving it a scaly appearance. Probably *albipectus* is the same as *barakae*, but it certainly is not a synonym of *rufipennis* as Ogilvie-Grant believed. This question has been discussed in detail by van Someren (Novitates Zoologicae, XXIX, 1922, pp. 245-246), and need not be considered here. *Turdinus minuta* van Someren is said by its describer to be probably a race of *rufipennis*, although originally described as a form of *albipectus*. It is smaller than *distans*, less brownish, more olivaceous. It seems doubtfully distinct from *barakae*, but it may be so, if the absence of scaly breast pattern holds good in *minuta*.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED

Turdinus pyrrhopterus.—Kenya Colony (Kakamega), 2. Belgian Congo (west of Lake Tanganyika), 1.

Turdinus barakae.—Kenya Colony (Kakamega), 10.

Turdinus minuta.—Kenya Colony (Kakamega), 4.

Turdinus rufipennis.—Cameroon (Bitye), 1. Belgian Congo (Avakubi, Ng'ayu, Penge, Babeyru), 9.

Turdinus pumilus.—Belgian Congo (Avakubi, Medje), 2.

I am indebted to Dr. James P. Chapin for the opportunity of examining the specimens of this genus in the American Museum of Natural History.