

find ornithologists attempting to explain the origin of species instead of resting satisfied with describing a new one. We see no flaw in Dr. Chapman's argument nor do we think anyone seriously considers that external environment ever produced such differences. The recent tendency to regard *all* subspecific differences as due to "mutation" however has received a timely setback by Dr. F. B. Sumner, as noticed below (p. 187).—W. S.

Chapman on New South American Birds.—Continued studies of the Ecuadorean collections of the American Museum obtained under the direction of Dr. Chapman have resulted in the discovery of a number of hitherto undescribed forms which he names and describes in the paper¹ before us. They are from Venezuela, Ecuador, Panama, Colombia, Peru and Bolivia; and belong to the families Dendrocolaptidae and Formicariidae. The following genera are represented, one new form of each being described unless otherwise indicated: *Thamnophilus* (3); *Myrmotherula*, *Microbates*, *Myrmoderus*, *Hylophylax*, *Grallaria*, *Schizoeaca*, *Synallaxis* (2), *Siptornis* (2); *Pseudocolaptes*, *Philydor*, *Xenicopsis*, *Xenops*, *Sclerurus*, *Glyphorhynchus* and *Lepidocolaptes*.—W. S.

Chapin on the Olive Ibises.—A very careful review² of the Olive Ibises of Africa has recently been published by Mr. James P. Chapin. He recognizes three closely related mainland forms *Lampribus olivacea*, *cupreipennis* and *akeleyorum* and two others from islands in the Gulf of Guinea—*L. rothschildi* from Princes Island and a new form *L. bocagei* (p. 5) from Sao Thome, smaller than any of the others. The very distinct *L. rara* also belongs to this genus but forms a group by itself which fact will no doubt induce someone in the near future to do what Mr. Chapin has wisely refused to do, i. e., provide it with a distinct generic name.—W. S.

Recent Papers by Penard.—Mr. T. E. Penard in his studies of Surinam birds has discovered several new forms which he has described from time to time.

One of them *Tanagra chrysopasta nitida* (p. 63) from Lelydorp³ is a representative of the Golden-bellied Euphonia of Peru, a type never before recorded from Surinam or the Guianas. The Surinam race of *Sporophila schistacea*⁴ is also found to be separable and is named *S. s. arthuri* (p. 60) the type also from Lelydorp. The relationships of several other species of *Sporophila* are also discussed in the same paper.—W. S.

¹ Descriptions of Proposed New Formicariidae and Dendrocolaptidae. By Frank M. Chapman. American Museum Novitates No. 86. August 28, 1923. pp. 1-20.

² The Olive Ibis of DuBus and Its Representative on Sao Thome. By J. P. Chapin. American Museum Novitates. Number 84. August 9, 1923.

³ A New Tanager from Surinam. By Thomas E. Penard. Occasional Papers of the Boston Society of Natural History. Vol. 5, p. 63, June 8, 1923.

⁴ Status of *Sporophila schistacea* Lawrence. By Thomas E. Penard. Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, Vol. 36, pp. 59-62, March 28, 1923.