

continuance of Sharpe's arrangement is not possible, since *castaneoventer* bears no close relationship to the other two species. Indeed *castaneoventer* in spite of its unusually long (for a rail) tail and somewhat shorter and stouter tarsi recalls *Aramides*; *poeciloptera* and *woodfordi* look as though their affinities might be nearer to *Habroptila*.

Since there is no other genus in which they can be placed and no generic name available I propose

Nesoclopeus Gen. nov. *Type, Rallina poeciloptera* Hartlaub.

Characters.—Moderately large, heavily built Rallidae with stout bill and legs; nasal sulcus wide and deep; tail about half as long as wing; wing with fifth (from outside) primary longest, or slightly exceeding third, fourth and sixth; primaries exceeding secondaries by more than half the length of the bill; tarsus longer than middle toe without claw.

The two species will stand as follows:—

*Nesoclopeus poeciloptera*¹ (Hartlaub).

*Nesoclopeus woodfordi*² (Ogilvie-Grant).

Remarks.—The diagnosis given above applies to both species, but there are several other points in which they differ so markedly from each other that there is no possibility of considering the two birds as representative geographic races.

In *woodfordi* the coloration is nearly uniform black; the plumage is lax with the tips of the feathers noticeably decomposed; *poeciloptera* on the other hand is olive or reddish brown above, gray below; wings distinctly barred with black and reddish brown; plumage normal. *Woodfordi* has the bill decidedly shorter than the middle toe; *poeciloptera* has it slightly longer.

It gives me great pleasure to acknowledge the loan of skins of *castaneoventer* and *woodfordi* from the American Museum of Natural History and to thank Dr. Ernst Mayr who selected the material.—JAMES L. PETERS, *Mus. Comp. Zool. Cambridge, Mass.*

Purple Gallinule in Cape May Co., N. J.—On May 8, 1932, I examined a specimen of Purple Gallinule (*Ionornis martinica*) which had just been caught on the beach at Anglesea, N. J., by Harry Callahan of that town. The bird was confined in a box and was in perfect plumage. There are at least three previous records for Cape May County and others from farther up the coast of New Jersey.—WITMER STONE, *Acad. Nat. Sciences, Philadelphia.*

Purple Gallinule at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.—On April 14, 1932 Miss Eckenrode found an adult male Purple Gallinule (*Ionornis martinica*)

¹ *Rallina poeciloptera* Hartlaub, *Ibis*, 1866, p. 171 (Viti Levu, Fiji Islands).

² *Rallina Woodfordi* Ogilvie-Grant, *Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist.* (6), 4, 1889, p. 320 (Aloa, Guadalcanar, Solomon Islands).