

SOME NEW FORMS OF SOUTH AFRICAN BIRDS

BY AUSTIN ROBERTS

THE following new forms of birds have recently come to light as a result of study of material received during the years 1928 and 1929. Acquisitions have been, in some measure, due to kind donations by correspondents, and to the author having availed himself of opportunities offering during his survey of the mammal fauna of North Zululand, under two special grants from the Union Research Grant Board.

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PTERNISTIS CASTANEIVENTER LEHMANNI subsp. nov.

Differs from *P. c. krebsi* Neumann of Kaffraria in having far more white below.

Colour. Above, the forehead and eyebrows uniform black, the crown mainly dark brown, the centres of the feathers dull blackish with lighter

borders; hind neck black with white marks on the side of each feather, the white becoming grey and then olive-greyish towards the back and the black centres becoming narrower over the scapulars and wings, on which the prevailing colour is greyish olive-brown with obscure dark centres; upper tail coverts with only the shafts dark; tail, uniform light olive-brown. Below, feathers of the cheeks and border of the bare skin of throat uniform black; ear coverts greyish, the feathers between them and the bare throat black with small white, elongate spots, this spotting increasing lower down and around the neck. Below the bare patch on the throat the feathers are olive-greyish with dark centres and margins, on the breast and flanks, to the abdomen, black with a broad white stripe on each web, barely separated by a thread-like black shaft stripe that sometimes extends to the sides of the bifurcation. Fluffy feathers of abdomen olive-grey with obscure whitish tips; thighs greyish olive with dark shaft stripes, in the upper part becoming more or less striped dark brown and white; under tail coverts greyish olive with more or less brown and white striping. Bare skin of face and throat, bill and feet orange-red. Wing length 203, tail 85, tarsus 50, culmen and cere 33 mm.

Type: T.M. 16490, adult male with two pairs of spurs, donated by Mr Jos. Lehmann, Brooklands, P.O. Nelspruit, 10th October, 1930.

This specimen was sent alive shortly after its capture to the National Zoological Gardens, Pretoria, and the Director, Dr R. Bigalke, knowing my anxiety to have a specimen from the Eastern Transvaal, very kindly forwarded it to the Transvaal Museum for preservation. It shows no tendency to link up with *P. humboldti* of the Zambesi Valley in respect of the centre of the body below, which is pure black in that species.

PTERNISTIS SWAINSONI DAMARENSIS subsp. nov.

Differs from *P. s. swainsoni* in having narrower black striping below and the cheeks paler and also less striped.

Colour. Above buffy greyish brown, the forehead slightly striped, crown slightly darker than back; neck with a ring of black feathers bordered with white, lower hind neck with blackish centres to the feathers, but the outer half of the webs freckled buffy grey; the back and wings the same, except that the centres narrow down to fine shaft lines and on the rump these practically disappear, leaving a more uniform freckled buffy or olive-brown; upper tail coverts and tail similar; only the ends of the primaries are without freckling. Cheek feathers dull buffy with narrow blackish shaft stripes—never so broad as in *swainsoni* east of the Kalahari; ear coverts nearly uniform buffy olive-grey; feathers on sides of bare throat more coarsely striped, below the bare area darker olive-greyish with broader shaft stripes; below this more buffy, with traces of chestnut margins towards and on the breast, each feather with a narrow shaft stripe, darker towards the tip which usually becomes a thin ring of freckling fringing pale margins; more chestnut appears on the lower breast and with more white mixed with the freckling. The lower breast is never so blackish as in *swainsoni*. Flanks more uniform, without chestnut, but with a dark shaft stripe; thighs still more uniform, the feathers on the lower part without shaft stripes. Fluffy feathers of abdomen and the under tail coverts paler than in *swainsoni*. Bill black above, the operculum, lower base of maxilla and mandible red, as also the bare skin round the eyes and the throat patch. Legs, feet and spurs black.

Dimensions. Wing 204, tail 83, tarsus 59, culmen 26.5, spurs 21 mm.

Type: T.M. No. 15345, adult male, Kenilworth, Otjiwarongo, S.W.A., 2nd January, 1930.

Two females from the same place measure: wings 191-192, tail 78-80, tarsus 46-50, culmen 22.5-23 mm.

I may say that I drew up a description of this form upon receipt of a specimen from my esteemed friend R. D. Bradfield, but hesitated to publish it until receiving more material. The Transvaal Museum now possesses from other localities, one from "Quickborn" and another from Waterberg.

DIALIPTILA PHAEONOTA BRADFIELDI subsp. nov.

In style of coloration like that of *D. p. phaeonota* of the Cape Peninsula and the Union in general, but more bleached over the grey parts in keeping with many other birds of the dry western area, but not indicating a tendency to link up with *D. guinea* and its subspecies. In dimensions also the same as in the southern form, in the type and paratype, wing length 243 and 230, tail 125 and 118, tarsus 24, culmen 20.5 and 21 mm.

Type: T.M. No. 15064, Waterberg, South West African Mandate, 4th October, 1928, collected and presented by Mr R. D. Bradfield. Paratype taken at the same time and place.

MELIERAX POLIOPTERUS COOMBSI subsp. nov.

Similar to *M. p. poliopterus* Cabanis of East Africa in respect of the dark uniform but white tipped outer secondaries (which are vermiculated only on the border of the white bar) and white upper tail coverts (in this case barred at the base of the feathers), but much larger, as large as *M. canorus* and much darker in the grey parts of the plumage, the head in particular nearly black above and on the ear coverts and cheeks. Wing length 350, tail 243, tarsus 86, culmen without cere 22 mm.

Type: T.M. No. 14782, collected by Cecil Coombs, Montrose Estates, Zoutpansberg, in the flats to the north of the mountains and 10 miles west of the Sand River, 16th June, 1928.

This record of the species is of considerable importance to the classification of these birds. In the Transvaal Museum collection there is abundant material of *M. canorus*, showing its distribution from the Karroo to Damaraland on the west and to Blaauwberg and Montrose Estates on the east. It cannot possibly be confused with *poliopterus*, as the colour characters are so markedly different. To the east occurs the much smaller *M. mehowi* of which there is a mounted specimen collected many years ago by the late J. van Ostersee Marais in "Zoutpansberg," and three skins recently procured by Mr F. Streeter at Mokeetsi (about 75 miles south-east of Montrose Estates, a distance which counts for little in the wide spaces of Africa, where these birds of prey are concerned). Thus three species of the genus occur in the Northern Transvaal, and this at once discounts the recent regrettable tendency to make all the species subspecies of *canorus*. These tendencies are not improved by placing the genus *Micronisus* in the synonymy of *Melierax*. While it is true that they show some characters in common, the most marked being in colour, they differ more in habits, wing formula and size, and nothing is gained by "lumping" them together. One wonders how some systematists can reconcile such "lumping" on the one hand and the "splitting" of genera on the other, such as in the case of *Lamprolaima* and *Hagedashia*, which are in essentials so much alike.

PROTOCKUS¹ BRADFIELDI sp. nov.

General colour above and to the crop dingy grey, the remaining under parts from breast to under tail coverts dirty white; only the barest trace of white stripes on the plumes of the nape; primaries and secondaries very dark, slightly glossy brown, margined with dingy white on the primaries and outer secondaries, and paler edged on the inner secondaries. Central and outermost pairs of tail feathers dark brown, the remaining three pairs greenish black and the two pairs next the outermost pair, with a broad white tip, rather more than an inch in length, but the pair next to the central pair uniform greenish black to the tip. Bill brownish red, with a dark brown line on the culmen and another on the tomia; legs and feet black. Wing length 232, tail 200, tarsus 31, culmen 80, width of mandible at the base 25.7 mm. The bill lacks the ridge that terminates abruptly in the fore part of the culmen in *P. melanoleucos*, and the interramal space is wider, in that respect approaching the shape seen in *P. semifasciatus*.

Superficially it looks like *melanoleucos* in very dingy plumage; but a closer inspection shows that it belongs rather to the West African, *semifasciatus*, group, in which only two pairs of tail feathers, instead of three as in *melanoleucos*, have white tips, the culmen arching evenly from base to tip and the mandible broad at the base. Reichenow has named a race of *melanoleucos* from Angola as *angolensis* (*Vög. Afrik.* II, 1902, p. 250) and suggests that it may occur also in Damaraland. He distinguishes it by its paler brown coloration, greyer head and throat and broader white stripes behind the eyebrows and nape—the last of which are obsolete in *bradfieldi*.

Type: T.M. No. 15069, not sexed, Waterberg, S.W.A., 5th October, 1928, collected and kindly donated by R. D. Bradfield.

NOTOPOGONIUS LEUCOMELAS ZULUENSIS subsp. nov.

Differs from *N. l. leucomelas* (Boddaert) of the Southern Cape Province in having the under parts of body from chest to under tail coverts decidedly yellow and no dark stripes on sides of breast and flanks. Otherwise not noticeably differing.

Type: T.M. No. 14966, adult male, Mkuzi River, east of Ubombo, 30th November, 1928; also an adult female, probably its mate, obtained at the same place.

W. L. Sclater (*Bull. Brit. Orn.* XLII, 1922, p. 63) has named birds from Namaqualand, characterised by their much spotted breast, as *Tricholaema leucomelan namaqua*, and records intermediates from Deelfontein, C.P. In the Transvaal Museum collection two specimens from Klaver could be referred to it. Another from Port Elizabeth has heavily marked sides of breast and flanks, and apparently this is characteristic of southern birds, but the great majority found to the north, from van Wyksvlei, Barkly West, the Orange Free State and Transvaal, westwards to Damaraland, rarely show these stripes and should be separated. In some of these the under parts are yellowish, but never so clearly as in these Lebombo specimens. A series from Weenen, Natal, comes nearest to them.

LANIARIUS FERRUGINEUS TONGENSIS subsp. nov.

Adult male almost entirely white below, with buffy rufous only showing through around the abdomen, in the latter respect differing from *L. f. mozam-*

¹ New name for *Rhynchaceros*, which is preoccupied. This will be discussed in another paper now in preparation.

bicus of Mozambique. Differing also from that form in having a stouter bill, its height at the nostrils about 9 mm. as against about 7.5 mm. Differing from *natalensis* (Weenen, etc.) in being less buffy rufous below, the under wing coverts buffy white.

Type: T.M. No. 15295, adult male, Manaba, North Zululand, 8th December, 1929. Wing length 96, tail 92, tarsus 32.5, culmen 24 mm. The female has not been procured as yet.

TSCHAGROIDES CONGENER TONGENSIS subsp. nov.

Differs from *T. c. congener* Rchw, of the Lower Zambesi region, in having the crown darker (olive-brownish), back as in *T. australis*, stripe from the lores to nape almost pure white, ear coverts brownish grey, instead of reddish as in *congener*, or buffy grey as in *australis*. Dimensions as in *congener*: wing, male 79, female 74; tail, male 85, female 83; tarsus 24; culmen 18 mm.

Type: T.M. No. 15290, adult male, Manaba, North Zululand, 5th December, 1929, shot at a nest containing two eggs. Also a female shot at the same place a week earlier.

MYIOPARUS PLUMBEUS (Hartlaub)

When reviewing the classification of South African birds (*Ann. Trans. Mus.* VIII, 1922, p. 225) I removed this species from the genus *Parisoma* on account of the nostrils being covered by frontal plumes, smaller size and more slender legs and feet. That my action was justified is confirmed by the discovery of its nest and eggs in the Ubombo District. The nest was a few fine rootlets and feathers placed in the bottom of a Woodpecker or Barbet nest in a thorn tree, about 18 feet from the ground. In chopping open the tree a chip of wood unfortunately smashed one of the eggs, but the other is sufficient to show that the species is a Flycatcher. It is of a dull white colour, thickly covered all over with small dark brownish yellow marks, overlying some marks of dark slate-blue and a few dark brown spots, most heavily concentrated around the obtuse end; and measures 17.2 × 13.3 mm. Eggs of *Parisoma* are totally different, not to be confused with the egg of any other South African bird. The present egg, on the other hand, is not unlike that of *Cichlomyia caerulescens*. The parent birds were procured. The male was often noticed to make a weak, squeaky, not unmusical note.

BRADYPTERUS BRACHYPTERUS TONGENSIS subsp. nov.

Differing from all South African forms of *Bradypterus* so far described, in having the upper parts dark chestnut-brown, darker than *B. b. brachypterus* of the Western Cape Districts, the crown darker than the back. The upper primary and wing coverts are edged with buffy, and the primaries are dark brown with hardly a trace of lighter margins. Tail feathers externally like the back, the hidden portions dark brown. Cheeks freckled brown, becoming lighter to the edge of the throat, which is white, bordered on the sides of neck and below with olive-brown, on the lower parts with a few distinct black marks on the centre of each feather. Across the breast buffy olive, becoming darker on sides of breast and flanks, but becoming lighter on the border of the white lower part of breast to the belly. Under wing coverts buffy white, under tail coverts buffy brown. Bill about the same as in *Bradypterus transvaalensis*. Whereas *B. brachypterus* and *B. b. transvaalensis* are confined to marshes containing bulrushes and reeds, the present species was found in the mangrove forests as well as in the swamps.

Type: T.M. No. 15341, adult male, Kosi Bay, 16th November, 1929. Wing 56.5, tail incomplete, tarsus 20.5, culmen 14.5 mm. Another specimen, without a tail, was procured in Mangusi Forest.

TYCHAEDON SIGNATA TONGENSIS subsp. nov.

Differs from *T. signata* of Natal and Eastern Cape Province forests in being lighter coloured above, whiter below with a broad white stripe between the dark grey moustachial stripe and ear coverts, and bill decidedly shorter. It tends towards *T. quadrivirgata*, of which the Transvaal Museum possesses specimens from Matibi (south of the Lundi River in Southern Rhodesia), Beira and Boror, but lacks the rufous colouring of breast and sides, this being buffish grey-brown in *tongensis* and olive-brown in *signata*.

Type: T.M. No. 15337, adult male, breeding, Mangusi Forest, North Zululand, 11th December, 1929. Length of wing 85, tail 77.5, tarsus 26.5, culmen 17.5 (in *signata* 19-22) mm.

ZOSTEROPS FLAVILATERALIS TONGENSIS subsp. nov.

Differs from *Z. flavilateralis* Rchw of Tanganyika Territory in its larger size and duller yellow general coloration, which approaches nearer to that of *Z. virens*. It differs from the latter in its proportionately shorter tail and slightly yellower tone of coloration.

In *Z. virens* the wing measures 58-65, tail 43-49 mm.; in *flavilateralis* these are given as 52-55 and 37-40 mm. respectively, whereas in the type (female) and a male specimen of *tongensis* the same dimensions are 57-59 and 38-40 mm.

Type: T.M. No. 15319, adult female, Manaba, North Zululand, 2nd December, 1929. The adult male is from Umbelluzi River, a little farther north, in Portuguese Territory, but specimens from Beira have been identified by Reichenow as *flavilateralis*. I doubt whether Beira specimens are typical of *flavilateralis*, however, as their dimensions are: wing 53-58, tail 36-40 mm., which are not the same as those given by Reichenow, and the upper parts are more yellow than green, not "gelbgrün," and the lores with very little black.

APALIS THORACICA LEBOMBOENSIS subsp. nov.

In respect of the colour in general and of the top of head in particular, like *A. t. alticola* (Nelsberg, Barberton), but smaller in size, the pectoral black bar narrower in the male, barely perceptible in the female, and the tail grey without olive-yellow margins.

Type: T.M. No. 15007, adult male, and cotype 15008, adult female, a pair shot at their nest in Ubombo bush, 18th December, 1928. Iris creamy white, bill black, legs pink. Dimensions: wing 54 and 52, tail 52 and 46, tarsus 19.5 and 18.5, culmen 13 and 14 mm.

PHOENICURUS¹ FAMILIARIS DAMARENSIS subsp. nov.

A pale form, not so pale as *P. f. galtoni* Strickland and Selater of Namib, but still not to be confused with any of the eastern and southern forms.

In *galtoni* the under parts from throat to under tail coverts are yellowish

¹ This generic name has been replaced by Rear-Admiral H. Lynes (*Ibis*, 1926, p. 359) by *Cercomela* on the grounds that *Phoenicurus* belongs exclusively to *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*, which is not related to these Chats. The genotype of *Cercomela* is *asthenia* Bp. (*melanura* Temm.) of Palestine and species thereof extend thence to North Africa. *Cercomela*, however, has previously been recognised by all authors as distinct, and there seems no reason for a change, unless we instal a new generic name for *familiaris*.

white, whereas in *damarensis* the throat is pale brownish and only the belly and under tail coverts are whitish. In immature birds in fresh plumage the difference is well seen, although such young birds are rather darker in both cases than their respective adults; in them the throat and under tail coverts are pinkish in *damarensis*, but creamy white in *galtoni*.

Type: T.M. No. 12321, adult male in fresh plumage, Windhoek, S.W.A., 12th March, 1918, collected by the late Lieut. C. G. Finch Davies. I owe the discovery of their being distinct to a small series of specimens collected at Swakopmund, the type locality of *galtoni*, and kindly donated by Mr R. D. Bradfield.

ANTHODIAETA COLLARIS ZULUENSIS subsp. nov.

Intermediate between *A. c. zambesiana* (Shelley, *Monograph of the Nectariniidae*, 1876, p. 343, pl. III) and *A. c. collaris* (Vieillot, *Novv. Dict.* xxxi, 1819, p. 502). In *collaris* the primaries are very narrowly margined externally with dull yellowish, the secondaries distinctly, the primary coverts narrowly and the secondary and greater wing coverts broadly margined externally with metallic green. In *zambesiana* the primaries are conspicuously margined externally with yellow, as also the secondaries, practically displacing the metallic green margins; on the primary as well as the secondary coverts there is only the faintest trace of metallic green.

In the present form the external margin of the primaries and secondaries is as in *zambesiana*, but the coverts are more metallic green, though only margined half as broadly as in *collaris*. In *collaris* the blue and purple band across the breast is narrow and inconspicuous, while in *zuluensis* and *zambesiana* it is broad and conspicuous. On the average *collaris* is also not so yellow below the band as in *zuluensis* and *zambesiana*. In the female the throat is duller in *collaris* than *zuluensis* and *zambesiana*.

Type: T.M. No. 15028, adult male, Mkuzi River, east of Ubombo, North Zululand, 31st October, 1928. Wing length 51.5, tail 36.5, tarsus 16, culmen 14 mm.

It is to be noted that the fauna of this area pertains to that of the tropics rather than the temperate South, since *Elaeocerthia verreauxi fischeri* Rchv occurs in the same ground.

CHERSOMANES ALBOFASCIATA NAMIBENSIS subsp. nov.

The palest form of the species so far known as compared with *C. a. erikssoni* of Ovamboland and the Western Kalahari bleached above, until the dark centres to the feathers of the back are reduced to pale brown and the stripes on the head to narrow lines along the shafts; under parts and under wing coverts very pale pinky white.

Type: T.M. No. 15082, adult male, Ebony Siding, S.W.A., also another male taken at the same time and two females at Karibib by R. D. Bradfield and generously donated to the Transvaal Museum. Wing length 85, tail 47, tarsus 27, culmen 19.5, spur on hind toe 12 mm.

EREMOPTERYX VERTICALIS DAMARENSIS subsp. nov.

Altogether much paler in the grey parts of plumage than *E. v. verticalis* (A. Smith, *Rep. Exp. Expl. S. Africa*, 1836, p. 48) of the Western Transvaal. This pallor is specially evident in the broader and purer white margins of the wing and upper tail coverts, in addition to the paler colour of the other grey parts. In size the same.

Type: T.M. No. 15135, adult male, Gobabis, S.W.A., 15th January, 1929. Also a small series of two more adult and one immature males and two females from the same place. It is also represented by a single specimen from Windhoek.

SYCOBROTUS GREGALIS (Lcht.) = *S. bicolor* (Vieil.)

According to Hartert (*Nov. Zool.* XIV, 1907, p. 501), the type of *S. bicolor* (Vieillot), which is in the Paris Museum, is unquestionably referable to the South African and not the Angolan form, as supposed by Reichenow. In 1917 Reichenow (*J. Orn.* p. 392) separated the Pondoland birds under the name of *Ploceus pondoensis*, but since the type of *bicolor* came from the Eastern Cape Province, the name cannot stand. The type was said originally to have come from Senegal, but as this is obviously wrong, Zuurberg may be taken as the type locality for *bicolor*. Specimens of the species vary in different localities, but so far as I can see this, to some extent, depends upon the state of wear of the feathers. Long series taken at the same places are required to prove the existence of races of the species between Natal and the Southern Cape Province.

W. L. Sclater has recorded specimens from Zululand with the feathers of the forehead slightly tipped with white (*Ibis*, 1911, p. 225). Quite obviously this intermediate form requires a name, and I therefore propose to call it:

SYCOBROTUS BICOLOR SCLATERI subsp. nov.

Differs from *S. b. stictifrons* (Fischer and Reichenow) of Mozambique in its general darker brown coloration of the upper parts, rather less spotted forehead and average intermediate size.

Type: T.M. No. 15046, adult breeding male, taken on the Mkuzi River, east of Ubombo, 13th November, 1928. An adult female taken at Manaba is identical in shade of colour, but in the bush at Ubombo itself (about 1500 feet altitude) a female was taken, which is dark brown above, matching the darkest specimens of *S. b. bicolor* from the south; but some old feathers mixed with the dark ones are of the same shade of brown as the male from the Mkuzi River; it also has much fewer white marks on the forehead, which may be due either to sex, age or the actual locality. It seems hardly likely that these from the forest bush would differ constantly from those on the river below, notwithstanding that in this same bush occur such mountain forest birds as *Apalis thoracica*, *Zosterops virens* and others. A young bird if blacker above has the throat white, the remaining under parts pale yellow and lacks the frontal spotting.

	Wing mm.	Tail mm.	Tarsus mm.	Culmen mm.
<i>S. b. bicolor</i> (12)	84-92	57-61	21-23	20-21
<i>S. b. sclateri</i> (1 ♂)	90	61	22	19
<i>S. b. sclateri</i> (2 ♀♀)	80-87	52-56.5	21-22	19-20
<i>S. b. sclateri</i> (1 imm.)	83	55	20	18.5
<i>S. b. stictifrons</i> (7)	82-87	53-58	21-23	19-19.5

HYPHANTORNIS (ORIOLINUS) SUBAUREUS TONGENSIS
subsp. nov.

A form intermediate between *H. subaureus* (A. Smith) of Algoa Bay and *H. aureoflavus* (A. Smith) of Mozambique (recorded from Boror to Zanzibar), which were formerly regarded as distinct species.

Upper parts golden yellow on the forehead and over the crown, thence becoming tinged olive-green over the remaining upper parts, but not so olive-

green as in *subaureus*, nor so clearly yellow as in *aureoflavus*. Likewise the under parts of body and throat are intermediate in shade of colour. In size also intermediate, wing length 79, in *subaureus* 83.5–86, in *aureoflavus* 76–77.5; tail 52.5, as compared with 58–65 and 45–50; tarsus 22.5 as compared with 22–23 and 19–21; culmen 17.5 as compared with 18–19 and 16–17 mm.

Type: T.M. No. 15045, adult male, shot at a nest colony, Sordwana Bay, 26th November, 1928.

RECORDS OF SOME RARE BIRDS

Milvus migrans. Although this Kite has been recorded on a number of occasions from South Africa, these have been regarded as doubtful, on account of the young of the Yellow-billed Kite (*M. aegyptius parasitus*) having the bill black. Lately, however, several specimens have come to the Transvaal Museum about which there can be no doubt. One is from R. D. Bradfield, "Quickborn," north of Okahandja, and the other is from Montrose Estates, Zoutpansberg, collected by Mr Cecil Coombs. Both were taken in December. Another specimen from the Zoological Gardens, Pretoria, was looked upon as of doubtful origin, and a young specimen from Sabi District, collected by Captain J. C. Ingle, in October, 1913, was thought to be a young Yellow-billed Kite. Measurements of the specimens show at a glance where the difference lies, quite apart from the whiter head in the Black Kite. They are as follows:

	Wing mm.	Tail: middle and outer feathers mm.	Tarsus mm.
<i>Milvus migrans</i>			
Zoological Gardens ...	445	235/245	52
"Quickborn" ...	460	270/280	53
"Montrose Estates" ...	462	255/272	56
Sabi District (juv.) ...	430	225/235	52
<i>Milvus aegyptius parasitus</i>	385/432	185–220/215–265	41–47

Cornopio afra suahelica (Neumann), *Hypargos margaritatus* (Strickland), and both *Maricornis microrhynchus* (Shelley) and *M. mariquensis* (A. Smith) have been procured in Ubombo District.

Caffrillas pondoensis Hgmr. has been procured by Mr Harold Millar at Durban.

Ammomanopsis grayi (Wahlberg) and *Pseudammomanes erythrochlamys* (Strickland). In the *Ann. Trans. Mus.* VIII, 1922, pp. 262–263, I recorded that no museum in South Africa appeared to possess a specimen of any of the three species formerly placed in "Ammomanes." Mr R. D. Bradfield has very kindly donated a specimen of each of the two above mentioned from Swakopmund and Karibib respectively.

Mr R. D. Bradfield has also procured at Swakopmund a specimen of each of the following:

Pyromelana hordacea—9th May, 1930.

Coccolarynx bullockoides—20th May, 1930.

Melanocorypha bimaculata—26th September, 1930.

These are in the first two species new records for South-west Africa and in the third a remarkable new record—by two thousand miles—for South Africa, as it has so far only been recorded as a migrant to the Sudan and Abyssinia.

Pytilia afra has been procured by Mr F. Fuchs in Zoutpansberg, the first record from Transvaal.