

OVER-LOOKED DESCRIPTIONS OF FIVE HUMMINGBIRDS.

BY CHARLES W. RICHMOND.

A RECENT examination of a rare literary and scientific journal, the 'Registro Trimestre,'<sup>1</sup> has brought to light descriptions of five species of Hummingbirds which have, apparently, not been quoted in ornithological literature since Dr. Coues referred to them in his 'Ornithological Bibliography'<sup>2</sup> some years ago. The 'Registro Trimestre' is known to ornithologists chiefly as the journal in which Dr. Pablo de la Llave described the Resplendent Trogon (*Pharomachrus mocinno*), although descriptions of three species of *Tetrao* by the same author also appeared here. These descriptions (in vol. I, nos. 1 and 2, Jan. and Apr., 1832), were, on account of the scarcity of the original journal, reprinted in the *Revue et Mag. de Zool.*, 1861, 23-33; 425-429; the last mentioned also in *La Naturaleza*, VII, app., 1884, 63-65. It is not generally known, however, that a second volume of the 'Registro' was commenced, and it is in this extra number (no. 5, for Jan., 1833<sup>3</sup>) that the forgotten descriptions of Hummingbirds, also by De la Llave, occur. Fortunately, only one name in current use appears to be affected by De la Llave's paper, although all of the species mentioned in it are credited to our fauna. As, however, the shifting of names and unexpected complications of nomenclature constantly taking place may at any moment necessitate the use of one or more of these terms, it is very desirable that the descriptions be reprinted and made generally accessible.

The descriptions follow (*verb. lit. et punct.*):

T. [rochilus] COHUATL. = Rostro curvo, nigro, plusquam pollicari. = Corpus de rostri basi ad uropigium, duobus pollicibus minus, totum supra splendore aureo tinctum. = Remiges nigrescentes; cauda brevis furcata,

<sup>1</sup> Mexico, 8vo, vol. I, 1832, nos. 1-4; vol. II, 1833, no. 5.

<sup>2</sup> Bull. Geol. and Geogr. Surv. Terr., V, no. 4, 1880, p. 665.

<sup>3</sup> Not published before March, as the last article is dated Feb. 28.

rectricibus acutis, apice nigrescentibus, margine nonnil albis. Subtus, cinereus, gula et suprema pectoris parte, pennis amethystinis multo majoribus ac quodammodo laxis vestitus. = Pars amethystina, quae primo aspectu superimposita sesè offert, notabilis est, pennarum magnitudine et modo. Rutila haec avis a *T. amethystino*. Linnei distinguitur, rostro curvo, et quia in ejus descriptione nulla mentio fit magnitudinis pennarum pectoralium, quae si in amethystino adesset talis nota a celeberrimo Linn. ommissa non fuisset. [p. 47.]

This is *Calothorax lucifer* (Swains.), 1827.

T. [rochilus] XICOTENCAL. = Rostrum rectum, pollicare, ad medietatem usque albidum, apice nigrescens. = Corpore exili, Cohuatl aequans magnitudine. Supra oculum, macula albido-rufescens animadvertitur, in lineolam albam desinens. = Caput zaphirinum est, remiges nigrescentes, totumque supra cauda inclusa, quae corpus magnitudinem aequat, aureo nitore lucet. = Subtus, collum zaphirinum est, pectusque smaragdo splendet, abdomine cinereo, una alterave lineola deaurata. Differt a *Zaphirino* Linn. qui cauda et gula rufis sesè ostendit, nec pectore smaragdino indutus apparet. [p. 48.]

*Basilinna leucotis* (Vieill.), 1818.

T. [rochilus] *Tzacatl*. = Rostrum pollicare, mandibula superiori nigra, inferiori albida, apice nigrescenti. = Corpus  $2\frac{1}{2}$  pollices aequat. = Collum supra, alarum tectrices, majorque dorsi pars, aureo splendore vividissimo illuminatur. = Remiges aeneo lucent, caudaque cinnamomea purpurino violaceoque nitet. = Caput, collum subtus, pectusque, et abdomen, luce smaragdina splendent, sed inferior abdominis pars cinerea est, lineolis paucis deauratis. = Cauda, avis magnitudinem aequat, rotundataque sesè exhibit. Quatuor species Trochilorum Linneus enumerat, quorum mandibula superior nigra est, et inferior alba, scilicet, *Fimbriatus*, *Leucogaster*, *Tobaci*, *Ruber*, sed horum nullus cum nostro convenit, ut videre potes, descriptiones conferendo. [p. 48.]

This is *Amazilia fuscicaudata* (Fraser), 1840, which will thus become *Amazilia* or *Amizilis tzacatl* (De la Llave). Ornithologists from all quarters will now be able to agree upon one name for this species, which is dedicated to Tzacatl, a Mexican General or Commander.

T. [rochilus] PAPANTZIN. = Rostrum nigrum, rectum, pollicem et alterius dimidium aequans. = Corpus, tripollicare, pone oculum macula alba, capite Zaphirino, de coetero aureum totum supra, remigibus exeptis

nigrescentibus. = Collum subtus, pectusque superiori parte, smaradigno splendent, in viridem cerulescentem varianti. = De pectore ad abdominis medietatem, nigro velutinus est, in aureo-olivaceum transiens, crisso fusco-aureo, caudaque aliquantulum furcata, tripollicari, reetricibus aureis apice rotundatis. [p. 48.]

Obviously, this is *Eugenes fulgens* (Swains.), 1827.

T. [rochilus] TOPILTZIN. = Rostrum rectum, nigrumque est, pollice paullo majus. = Corpus subtripollicare, lincola alba ad latus oculi. = Caput zaphirimi splendoris aliquantulum reflectit, corpore supra deaurato, remigibus fuscis, reetricibus nigrescentibus, apice amplis et albis, caudam componentibus, tripollicarem et rotundatam. [p. 49.]

This is evidently *Cœligena clemenciæ* (Less.), 1829, but the colors of the throat and crown are transposed.

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## ON THE DATE OF LACÉPÈDE'S 'TABLEAUX.'

BY CHARLES W. RICHMOND.

IN 'Natural Science' for Dec., 1897, 432, Mr. C. Davies Sherborn has brought forward a very interesting subject — that of the first published appearance of Lacépède's 'Tableaux,' usually credited to the *Mémoires de l'Institut*, 1801, but as this writer has noted, sometimes cited vaguely "1799." During his efforts to solve the question of date, Mr. Sherborn discovered these 'Tableaux' in the "Didot" edition of Buffon, at the end of Vol. XIV of the *Quadrupèdes*, which, it appears, bears the date 1799 upon its title page. The "Didot" edition, in 18mo, is said to consist of 76 volumes, dating from 1799 to 1806; the genera, Mr. Sherborn states, are to be credited to Lacépède, and the species to Daudin. The latter doubtless here described various birds intended to appear in his 'Traité,'<sup>1</sup> and an account of them, by

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<sup>1</sup> To have been completed in 6 volumes, according to the prospectus in the *Journ. Typographique*. Vol. I was published Jan., 1800; vol. II, publ. May, 1800, and the third volume was in the press and would not be long in appearing (*Journ. Typ.*). It was, however, never published.