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A NEW SWIFT FROM VENEZUELA.

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(Plate VI)

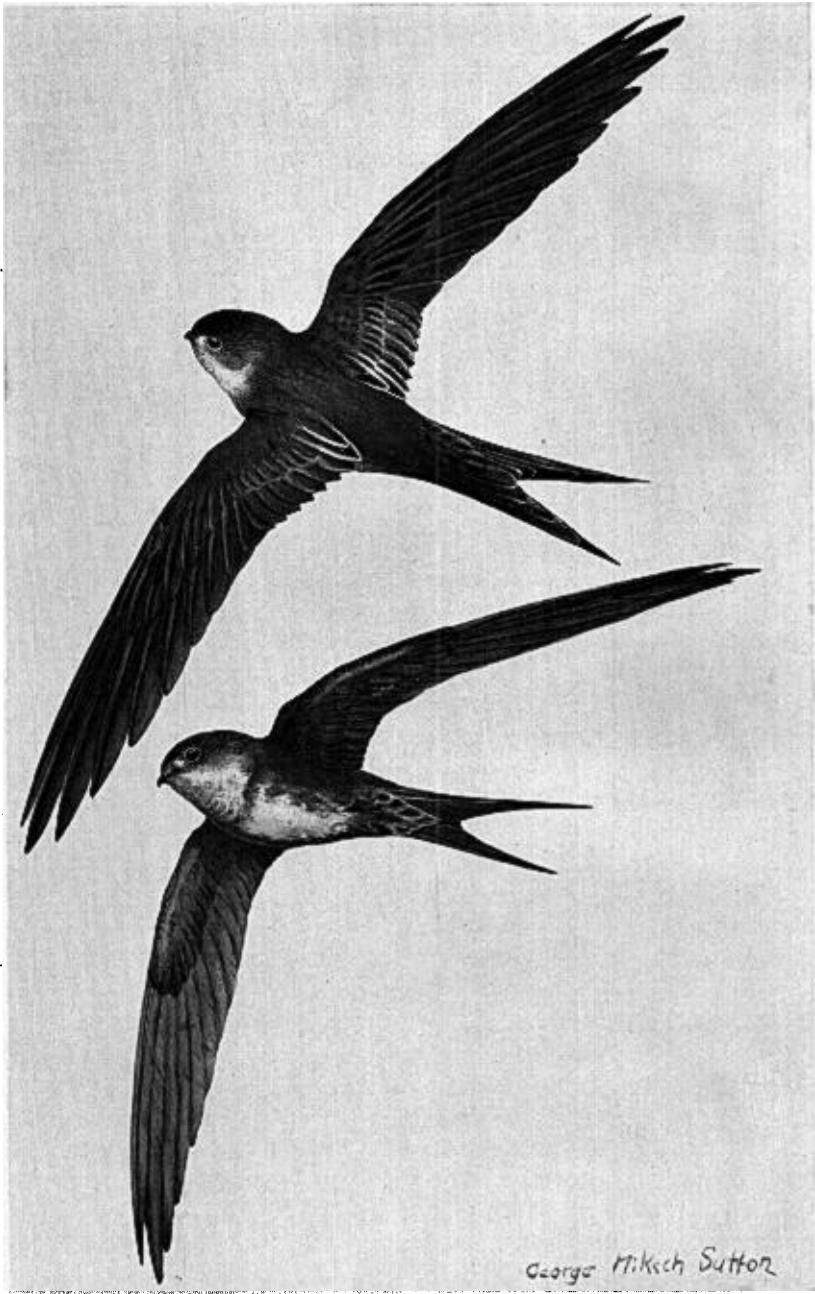
WHILE provisionally identifying a collection of birds made during the summer of 1922 by Mr. M. A. Carriker, Jr., in Venezuela, I came upon two specimens of a Swift which was obviously undescribed, and which I could not satisfactorily place even in a genus. After making drawings of the male and female I sent the specimens to Dr. C. E. Hellmayr of the Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, who confirmed my belief that they belonged to an undescribed genus and species. At the suggestion of Mr. W. E. Clyde Todd of the Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, I present the following description of this form.

Micropanyptila, genus novum.

Superficially similar to *Reinarda* Hartert, but toes entirely free of feathers and the central rectrices rounded, not pointed. Similar to *Tachornis* Gosse, but tail deeply furcate, like *Reinarda*, and general color pattern differing considerably, there being but little tendency toward ruptive markings. Differs from *Panyptila* Cabanis, in having entirely naked toes which are arranged in pairs more or less as in *Tachornis*. Proportions of wing and tail about as in *Reinarda*, and texture of plumage distinctly that of *Reinarda*, not of *Panyptila*. Type, *Micropanyptila furcata*, sp. nov.

Micropanyptila furcata, species nova.

Char. Specif. General appearance similar to that of *Reinarda squamata* Cassin, but considerably smaller in size, and plumage of upper parts



MICROPANYPTILA FURCATA SUTTON.

entirely lacking the light margins which give the head and back of that species the characteristically squamate effect. Outer primary a little shorter than adjacent one, and much attenuated at tip; proximal secondaries considerably longer than distal ones.

Description. Type, No. 90887, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult male; Guachi, Zulia, Venezuela, August 25, 1922; M. A. Carriker, Jr.

Above blackish brown, with dull greenish-bronze reflections noticeable on back, wings and tail; bases of the feathers of the head and back lighter brown, giving a slightly mottled appearance in the region of the nape and upper back; primaries darker than back with dull violet and blue as well as greenish reflections; secondaries sharply but very narrowly tipped with grayish white, the two proximals and their greater coverts being so widely margined as to give the appearance of a streak in the folded wing; loreal region whitish, suffused with brown as a result of the dark tips of some of the feathers; throat and breast grayish white, mottled, as a result of the showing through of the darker bases of the feathers, with dull brown, and of a slightly silken appearance; belly dull white; sides blackish brown, some of the feathers irregularly margined and tipped with whitish; tail, above, chaetura black glossed with green; underneath, dull brown with a lighter area along the shaft; all rectrices with concealed white bases which are of greatest extent in the two outermost pairs; innermost rectrices somewhat rounded at tip, outer rectrices sharply attenuated, as in *Reinarda squamata*; tarsus imperfectly feathered down to toes, plumage of tarsus blackish brown; "bill black; feet black [dull brownish in skins]; iris brown." Wing, 90 mm.; tail, 53, depth of fork, 26.5; bill, 3.75; tarsus, 5.5.

Female: similar to male, but a little duller in appearance, with brown of back and sides of head a little lighter in shade, margins of proxima, secondaries and greater coverts a little more pronounced, and basal white portions of rectrices a little less extensive. Wing, 91 mm.; tail 55, depth of fork, 27; bill, 4.25; tarsus, 5.5.

Remarks.—The slightly greater measurements of the female specimen may be the result of purely individual variation. This specimen is in changing plumage, the two proximal primaries being new and considerably darker and richer in appearance than the others. One of the outer rectrices is not yet of full length.

Unfortunately the species is represented by only a single pair of birds, which were taken at Guachi, Zulia, Venezuela, the only range for the form now known.

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