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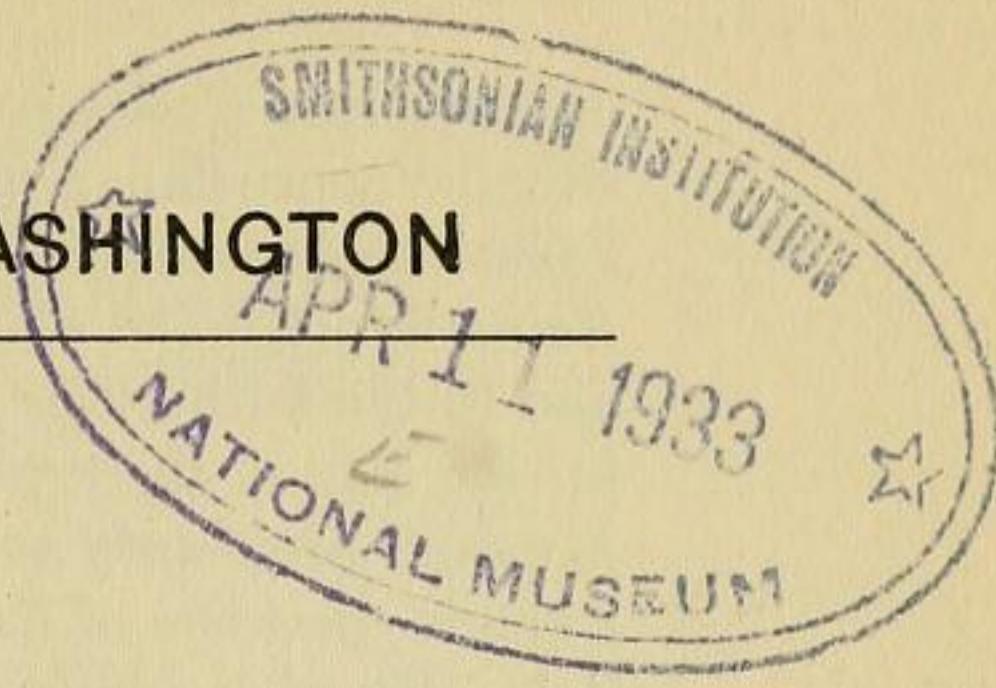
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February 20, 1933

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON



A NEW SWIFT OF THE GENUS REINARDA FROM
VENEZUELA.

BY J. H. RILEY.¹

Several years ago the United States National Museum acquired a single specimen of *Reinarda* collected in the Brazilian state of Ceará. Later when a series of six specimens were received from the National Geographic Society collected on the Brazo Casiquiare, Venezuela, it was at once apparent that two forms were represented. Lately to clear the matter up, the American Museum of Natural History has kindly lent me a series of this genus from northeast Brazil and the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia has forwarded the type of *Cypselus squamatus* Cassin. To the authorities of both institutions I wish to extend my thanks.

An examination of the above type shows that the Venezuelan form is the one requiring a name. It may be known as

***Reinarda squamata semota*, subsp. nov.**

Type.—Adult female, U. S. National Museum, no. 326,806, El Mango, Brazo Casiquiare, Venezuela, February 5, 1931, collected by Holt, Blake, and Agostini (original number 4988).

Similar to *Reinarda squamata* (Cassin), but the upperparts a shining greenish black instead of brownish black; the pectoral band broader and darker; the feathers of the throat and center of the breast only fringed with white, the dark bases of the feathers showing plainly and predominating instead of being predominantly white; under tail coverts a shining greenish black with only a very narrow white fringe on the inner web instead of nearly the whole inner web being white and the outer web sometimes narrowly edged with white. Wing 106; outer tail feather 71; middle tail feather 31.5 mm.

Remarks.—The U. S. National Museum received six specimens collected

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on the Brazo Casiquiare, Venezuela, by the National Geographic Society's Brazil-Venezuelan Expedition. I am indebted to the authorities of the American Museum of Natural History for the loan of eleven specimens of *Reinarda* from the states of Bahia, Piauhy, Parahyba, and Ceará, Brazil, and to the authorities of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia for the loan of the type of *Cypselus squamatus* Cassin. The U. S. National Museum previously to the receipt of the Venezuelan series possessed only a single specimen of *Reinarda* from the state of Ceará, Brazil. It is a very light colored specimen with scarcely any light edging to the feathers of the back; in fact, it is much lighter than any specimen in the American Museum series mentioned above. It is so light that it is either aberrant or a very old bird. All the other specimens from Brazil have the feathers of the upperparts more or less fringed with whitish. In the Venezuelan series the upperparts are much less heavily fringed with whitish; in fact in the type of *semota* the light edges to the upperparts are very faint; it is the only one in the series marked as adult. In the series examined from Brazil all, except one, of the specimens have the under tail coverts predominantly white while in *semota* this area is predominantly black. The Venezuelan series is fairly uniform; the type has the edges to the feathers of the upperparts less prominently fringed with whitish. The type of *Cypselus squamatus* Cassin agrees with the series from Brazil rather than with that from Venezuela. Cassin says that his type was presented to the Academy by Dr. Henry G. Dalton of Georgetown, British Guiana, who stated it was a common resident bird in that country. The species has been recorded from Peru, but birds from there will almost certainly prove to be different from the more eastern birds.

There appears to be no appreciable difference in size between the Venezuelan and Brazilian series.