It seldom happens that male birds with the black forehead and eye-streak are found in Mexico and Guatemala; and this fact has given rise to the supposition that the bird found in these countries, for which Bonaparte gave the name *P. mexicana*, is a species distinct from *P. caerulea*. Mr. Sclater, in 1859, thought that the black marks in the male were only assumed during the breeding-season. If this is really so, we know of no parallel case of such a change taking place in Passerine birds; but the suggestion receives support from the fact that one of our specimens with the black frontal line was shot at Lanquin in March. Dr. Gundlach, however, speaks very positively on the point, stating that the character which distinguishes the male from the female is only to be observed in spring shortly before the departure of the birds from Cuba for the United States in April 10.

2. Polioptila nigriceps.


*P. caerulea* similis, sed pilo totum iorit et supercilii nitentis nigris. Long. tota 4-3, alae 1-95, cauda 2-0, rostri a rictu 0-65, tarsi 0-75. (Descr. maris ex La Union, San Salvador. Mus. nostr.)

**Hab.** Mexico, Mazatlan (*Xantus* 1, *Grayson* 2), Tepic (*Grayson* 2), Quiotepec (Oaxaca), Tapan a and Santa Efigenia (*Tehuantepec*) (*Sumichrast* 3); SAN SALVADOR, La Union (*O. S.).—COLOMBIA; VENEZUELA.

Having had, through the kindness of the authorities of the Smithsonian Institution, an opportunity of examining the type specimen of *Polioptila nigriceps* and of comparing it with Colombian and Venezuelan examples some time called *P. buffoni*, we were unable to appreciate any tangible differences between them. Both have the lores black; and in the amount of black on the outer rectrices both were almost exactly alike. We are therefore obliged to acknowledge them to be of one species. The La-Union specimen described above has a few white feathers in the lores, but does not otherwise differ from the type of *P. nigriceps*. The true *P. buffoni* is from Guiana, and has, as stated in Mr. Sclater’s original description, the outer rectrix nearly wholly white. The name *P. nigriceps*, therefore, can be used for the bird having the range indicated above. It is stated by *Grayson* 2 to be found in North-west Mexico in low brushy woods at all seasons, and by Prof. *Sumichrast* 3 to be common almost everywhere in the west of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec and in dry warm districts of the State of Oaxaca, frequenting the ravines and thin woods and going almost always in pairs.

3. Polioptila bilineata.

