of the description. It was contained in a collection transmitted to this country by Señor R. Montes de Oca.

It is allied to the Brazilian H. unicolor, from which it differs in being larger, with a larger bill and longer wings and stronger feet. The general colour, too, is rather darker.

**AMPHISPIZA.**


Dr. Coues proposed this name for the two North American species previously known as *Poospiza bilineata* and *P. bellii*, Mr. Sclater having placed them in *Poospiza* in 1857. The type of the latter genus is *P. nigro-rufa*, a South American species, with which are associated some ten or eleven others, all of them (with the exception of *P. bonapartii* of Western Peru) from districts lying to the south of the basin of the Amazons, the metropolis of the genus being the upper La Plata region and the adjoining parts of Bolivia.

From *Poospiza*, *Amphispiza* may be distinguished by the bill being somewhat stouter and the culmen towards the base more tymid and less sharp; the sides of the maxilla are also rather more tymid, but the differences are not so great as might be expected from the wide difference of habitat.

In this genus Mr. Ridgway has placed *Zonotrichia quinguestriata*, and we think rightly so, but we do not follow him in associating *Zonotrichia mystacalis* in the same genus, this bird being best placed in *Hamophila* together with *H. humeralis* to which it is evidently closely allied. Their very short rounded wings and long tails suggest this position for them.

The bill of *A. bilineata* is of moderate dimensions, rather acute, the tomia of the maxilla is angular, the outer portion slightly concave; the nostrils are exposed. The wings are rounded, the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th quills nearly equal and longest; tail slightly rounded, nearly equal to the wings; legs rather stout, the tarsus longer than the middle toe and claw.

*A. quinguestriata* conforms to these characters, but is a rather larger bird with a more elongated bill.

1. **Amphispiza bilineata.**

*Emberiza bilineata*, Cassin, Pr. Ac. Phil. 1850, p. 104, t. 3 7.*


Supra murinus fere unicolor, alis fusco-nigricantibus dorsi colore limbatis, cauda nigricante, rectricibus duabus utrique externis albo terminatis, extima quoque in pogonio externo alba; superciliiis elongatis, siliis (pro parte), stria rictali pectoris, lateribus et abdomine toto albis; genis griseis, loris et gutture toto nigris.