

Juv. plumis omnibus supra et subtus maculis distinctis fulvis nigro circumcinctis notatis. (Descr. exempl. ex Costa Rica. Mus. nostr.)

Hab. COSTA RICA, Tucuriqui (*Arcé*¹), La Palma³ and San José⁴ (*v. Frantzius*), Navarro (*J. Cooper*³), Dota Mountains and Rancho Redondo (*Carmirol*²), Volcan de Irazu (*Rogers*).

Myiadectes melanops was one of our collector Arcé's discoveries in Costa Rica soon after he reached that country from Guatemala in 1863. After sending us a small collection from the shores of the Gulf of Nicoya, he proceeded into the interior, and, crossing the mountains, descended into the valley of the Reventazon, and explored the neighbourhood of Tucuriqui and Turrialba with such success that a score of novelties reached us in the next collection he sent us. *M. melanops* was one of the most interesting amongst them; and of it he obtained several examples. Since then many specimens have been obtained by collectors, mostly in the forests of the Volcan de Irazu and in the Dota Mountains. Dr. v. Frantzius gives an account of the species, chiefly derived from its habits in confinement⁴; but he does not seem to have had a personal knowledge of it in its native haunts, as he speaks of its living in the tops of the highest trees—a place of abode so different from that of all its congeners that we cannot but think some other species must have been mistaken for it. A living specimen kept by Dr. v. Frantzius was fed exclusively on the fruit of *Phytolacca decandra*, to be obtained throughout the year in the neighbourhood of San José. The bird would not refuse other juicy fruits, but never touched insects of any kind. From Dr. v. Frantzius's description of the gait and song of his captive bird it would seem that *M. melanops* in these respects quite resembles its congeners.

Fam. CINCLIDÆ.

CINCLUS.

Cinclus, Bechstein, Naturg. Deutschl. iii. p. 808 (1807).

America possesses four species of this genus, belonging to two very distinct groups, the northern birds being closely allied to the Northern-Asiatic *Cinclus pallasi*, the southern species having characters of coloration peculiarly their own. Of the northern birds *Cinclus mexicanus* has a wide range throughout the Rocky Mountains, but is confined to that chain, whence it passes into Mexico and Guatemala. *C. ardesiacus*, of the high mountains of Costa Rica and Panama, is a local race of the northern bird. Thus in Central America we find no trace of near relationship with the two Andean species, one of which, however, is found as near our limits as the Quindiu Mountains in Colombia.

In the Old World *Cinclus* is distributed pretty generally throughout the mountainous