

But the variation does not end here; for in such species as possess freckled coverts, the freckles become finer as the bird becomes older; and in those in which the coverts are black, the black becomes purer and more dense. In the case of *Pharomacrus mocinno* the young males in their first plumage are only distinguishable from the females by their more pointed rectrices; but after they assume the normal colour of the adult bird, the longer they live the longer and wider the tail-coverts become, the more prolonged the wing-coverts, and the more elevated the crest.

In the 'Comptes Rendus' for 1857 (vol. xlv. p. 688), Professor Bogdanoff gave an account of some chemical experiments which he made with the plumes of *Pharomacrus auriceps*, and showed that by immersing the red breast-plumes in spirit all the colour is taken out of them. The red pigment of these feathers he calls "zooxanthine." We remember that M. Jules Verreaux has also stated that in heavy storms of rain, the red breast of *Hapaloderma narina* at the Cape becomes completely washed out, and is renewed again in its full intensity only after an interval of some days. A similar fact is noticed in the red wing-feathers of the Touracous and in some of the American Chatterers (*Cotinga*).

In the fourth part of the 'Museum Heineanum,' Messrs. Cabanis and Heine introduce a number of new generic names into this family of birds. The value of these genera is very small. Thus we find *Pothinus* used for a group of yellow-breasted Trogons including *T. aurantiiventris*, a species perhaps not properly separable from *T. puella*, which is left in true *Trogon*. The rest of the yellow-breasted Trogons are placed in a genus *Aganus*; whilst for *T. surucura* another generic name, *Hapalophorus*, is proposed, the species being in fact most nearly allied to *T. aurantius*. For the black-tailed Trogons the generic name *Troctes* is proposed, and with more reason than in the other instances; but here a subdivision seems hardly admissible, seeing that an intermediate species exists in *T. clathratus*, which partly closes the gap between *Trogon* and *Troctes*. Lastly, the genus *Pharomacrus* is divided into two, *Tanypeplus* and *Pharomacrus*; but this, again, seems to me to be carrying generic subdivision too far.

The species described as *Trogon neoxenus* and placed, in the first part of this edition of the 'Trogonidæ,' under the new generic name *Euptilotis*, is also considered by Messrs.