HELIOMASTER ALBICRISSA, *Gould.*

White-vented Star-throat.

Heliomaster albicrissa, Gould, Proc. Zool. Soc. 1871, p. 504.—Sclater & Salvin, Nomencl. Av. Neotr. p. 90 (1873).—Mulsant, Hist. Nat. Oiseaux-Mouches, ii. p. 274 (1876).

Floricola albicrissa, Elliot, Synopsis of the Humming-Birds, p. 83 (1878).

Mr. Elliot has placed the present species in the genus *Floricola*; but as the term *Heliomaster* has hitherto been used in this work as the generic name for these Humming-birds, we continue the practice.

The following is a copy of the original remarks and description :—

"In size it is about the same as *H. longirostris* and its near allies; but it differs from them all in having a still larger and longer bill and a much redder throat-mark, in the white spot on the external tail-feather being longer or larger, in the lower part of the abdomen being white, in the under tail-coverts being greyish white, instead of blackish green, with lighter edges, and in the glittering feathers of the crown being of as pale, or nearly as pale a green as in the *H. pallidiceps* of Mexico. As the peculiar markings of the tail and the under tail-coverts do not occur in *H. longirostris* of Trinidad and some parts of Venezuela, nor in the *H. sclateri* of Costa Rica, I am induced to regard the present bird as new.

"Throat fiery reddish purple; crown light glistening green; upper surface and two central tail-feathers bronzy green, with the usual white mark in the centre of the back; four outer feathers on each side bronzy green, becoming nearly black towards the end, and tipped with white, the external one more largely than the others; wings purplish brown; chest grey; flanks bronzy grey; centre of the abdomen white; bill black.

"Total length $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches, bill $1\frac{5}{8}$, wing $1\frac{3}{8}$, tail $1\frac{1}{2}$, tarsi $\frac{1}{4}$.

"*Hab.* Citado, Ecuador."

[R. B. S.]