Habitat. Mexico and Guatemala.

Genus Campylopterus, Swains.

"The large and showy tail of this Humming-Bird," says Mr. Salvin, "makes it one of the most conspicuous when on the wing. It is common at Coban, feeding among the Salviæ; it is said also to be found in the Volcan de Fuego, but I have not met with it. The females of this species are most abundant, their ratio to the males being as five to two. It is not nearly so shy as its congener, C. rufus."—Ibis, vol. ii. p. 260.

"This beautiful Humming-Bird," says M. Montes de Oca, "is generally known in Mexico by the name of Chupa-mirto real azul, or Royal Blue Myrtle-sucker. It arrives in the vicinity of Jalapa, Coantepec, and Orizaba in considerable numbers during the months of October and November, and is mostly found feeding from a plant called Masapan, between the hours of nine and one o'clock. During this time it is seldom seen to alight, and then only for a very short time in any one place, but is constantly on the wing, flitting from flower to flower, describing the segment of a circle in its flight, and sometimes almost touching the ground. For the remainder of the day very few are to be seen, and I think it probable that they visit the woods for certain kinds of mosquitoes, with which I have often found their stomachs well filled.

"The pugnacity of this species is very remarkable. It is very seldom that two males meet without an aërial battle. The contest commences with a sharp choleric shriek, after which, with dilated throats, the feathers of the whole of their bodies erected on end, and their tails outspread, they begin to fight with their bills and wings, and the least powerful soon falls to the ground or flies away. I have never known one of these battles last longer than about ten seconds; and in the specimens I have had under my notice in cages, their fighting has mostly ended in the splitting of the tongue of one of the two, which then surely dies from being unable to feed."

52. Campylopterus ensipennis.

Trochilus latipennis, Jard. Nat. Lib. Humming-Birds, vol. i. p. 116, pl. 34.

Campylopterus latipennis, Jard. ib. p. 153.

—— ensipennis, Cab. et Hein. Mus. Hein. Theil iii. p. 12.

Habitat. The Island of Tobago.

On reference to my account of Campylopterus Villavicencio, it will be seen that I was inclined to believe the C. splendens of M. Lawrence to be identical with that bird; but on reconsidering the matter, and observing how numerous and how closely allied are the species of the genus Campylopterus, I now think it probable that it is really distinct. The throat in C. splendens is beautiful blue, and the abdomen washed with green; while in C. Villavicencio, the whole of the under-surface is pure grey. Both these birds have fine metallic-green crowns, which circumstance induced me to believe that they were opposite sexes of one and the same species, and it is possible that they may yet prove to be so; but for the present I shall regard them as distinct.

53. Campylopterus splendens, Lawr.

Campylopterus splendens, Lawr. in Ann. Lyc. Nat. Hist. New York, vol. vi. p. 262.

Habitat. The forests between the upper waters of the Napo and Quito.

Vol. II. Pl. 47 (Upper fig.).

54. Campylopterus Villavicencio .

Habitat. Forests bordering the Rio Napo in Ecuador.

Vol. II. Pl. 47 (Lower fig.).