



<http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>

Annals of the Lyceum of Natural History of New York.

New-York :1824-1876.

<http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/bibliography/15987>

v 9 (1870): <http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/22948>

Page(s): Page 198, Page 199, Page 200, Page 201, Page 202, Page 203, Page 204, Page 205,
Page 206, Page 207, Page 208, Page 209, Page 210

Contributed by: New York Botanical Garden

Sponsored by: The LuEsther T Mertz Library, the New York Botanical Garden

Generated 5 June 2011 3:03 PM

<http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/pdf3/006919800022948>

This page intentionally left blank.

The precipitation by iron is not reliable; nor by a salt of lead, dependent, as it is, on circumstances over which we have not always control. I should, therefore, in all ordinary cases, recommend the use of magnesia mixture as a precipitant of tribasic phosphoric acid, and it is hardly necessary to say that the results will be good, if the mixture has been properly prepared.

VIII.—*List of a Collection of Birds from Northern Yucatan.*

BY GEO. N. LAWRENCE.

Read May 10th, 1869.

DURING the year 1865 Señor Jose Salazar Ylarregui, then governor of the province of Yucatan, began the important enterprise of a complete survey of the country, in regard both to its physical and natural history. As the Mexican Commissioner of the United States and Mexican Boundary Survey, Governor Salazar was well known in the United States as an accomplished astronomer and geographer, and his experience in the former work was an earnest of success in his new undertaking. Inviting Dr. Arthur Schott, of Washington, to connect himself with the survey as naturalist, an arrangement was made by Governor Salazar with Professor Henry, Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, to send all the collections to his care for identification, and the ultimate preparation of a report.

The survey was fully organized, and commenced its operations with great success, and continued until 1866, when the change in the affairs of Mexico prevented all further proceedings, and the work was broken off without any prospect of speedy resumption. Many valuable collections were however made during the progress of the work, and transmitted to Washington; and having had those of the birds intrusted to me

for examination by Professor Henry, I present herewith a list of the species.

All the specimens are from Merida, unless otherwise noted.

Fam. TURDIDAE.

1. *Turdus grayi*, Bonap.
2. *Mimus gracilis*, Cab. }

Fam. TROGLODYTIDAE.

3. *Campylorhynchus guttatus*, Lafr.

Progress and Celestin.

There are several specimens of this species, but none were in the Smithsonian collection at the time Prof. Baird had this genus under examination to include in his "*Review of American Birds*." In this he states (page 108) that it "belongs to the same section as *C. brunneicapillus*, etc., with reddish-brown head, and back striped longitudinally with white."

It differs from *C. brunneicapillus* in its smaller size, and longer bill, the under mandible whitish; the feathers of the head are brownish-black, with light rusty-brown margins, the head of *brunneicapillus* is of a uniform dark reddish-brown; the upper plumage of *guttatus* is less rufous, with the white shaft stripes broader and more conspicuous, the spots on the chin and throat are small and sparse, in the other species this part has a dense agglomeration of black spots; the sides are barred, not spotted, and the abdomen is without the rufous coloring of *C. brunneicapillus*.

Length $7\frac{1}{2}$ in.; wing 3; tail 3; bill 1; tarsi 1.

4. *Thryothorus albinucha* (Cabot).
5. *Troglodytes intermedius*, Cab.

Fam. SYLVIIDAE.

6. *Polioptila cœrulea* (Linn.).

Fam. SYLVICOLIDAE.

7. *Parula americana* (Linn.).
8. *Protonotaria citrea* (Bodd.).
9. *Helmitherus vermivorus* (Gm.).
10. *Dendræca pennsylvanica* (Linn.).
11. " *cœrulea* (Wils.).
12. " *æstiva* (Gm.).
13. " *vieillotii*, Cassin.

Sisal, Progress and Celestin.

14. *Dendræca dominica* (Linn.).
15. *Seiurus auricapillus* (Linn.).
16. " *noveboracensis* (Gm.).
17. *Geothlypis trichas* (Linn.).
18. " *poliocephala*, Baird.
19. *Icteria virens* (Linn.).
20. *Myiodioctes mitratus* (Gm.).

Fam. HIRUNDINIDAE.

21. *Stelgidopteryx fulvipennis* (Sch.).

A specimen in young plumage, apparently of this species.

Fam. VIREONIDAE.

22. *Cychloris flaviventris*, Lafr.

Fam. TANAGRIDAE.

23. *Euphonia affinis* (Less.).
24. *Saltator atriceps*, Less.
25. " *grandis*, Licht.

Fam. FRINGILLIDAE.

26. *Hedymeles ludovicianus* (Linn.).
27. *Guiraca cœrulea* (Linn.).

28. *Cardinalis virginianus* (Linn.).
29. *Volatinia jacarina* (Linn.).
30. *Phonipara pusilla* (Sw.).
31. *Cyanospiza cyanea* (Linn.).
32. " *ciris* (Linn.).
33. *Embernagra rufivirgata*, Lawr.

Fam. CORVIDAE.

34. *Cyanocitta crassirostris*, Bonap.
35. *Cyanocorax luctuosus* (Less.).

Fam. DENDROCOLAPTIDAE.

36. *Dendroornis eburneirostris* (Less.).

Fam. FORMICARIDAE.

37. *Thamnophilus affinis*, Cab. & Hein.

Fam. TYRANNIDAE.

38. *Camptosoma imberbe*, Scl.

This agrees well with Mr. Sclater's description, except, in dimensions, it measures, length $4\frac{1}{4}$ in.; wing $2\frac{1}{8}$; tail $1\frac{7}{8}$; he gives, length 3.5 in.; wing 2.8; tail 1.3.

39. *Elainea placens*, Scl.
40. *Myiozetetes texensis* (Giraud).
41. *Rhynchocyclus cinereiceps*, Scl.
42. *Pitangus derbianus* (Kaup).
43. *Megarhynchus mexicanus* (Lafr.).
44. *Muscivora mexicana*, Scl.
45. *Pyrocephalus mexicanus*, Scl.
46. *Empidonax traillii* (Aud.).

47. *Contopus schottii*, sp. nov.

Plumage above of a light olivaceous-brown with a wash of dull rufous, rather darker on the head; tail liver-brown with reddish-brown shafts; wing coverts and quills dark liver-brown; the middle and larger coverts, the secondaries and tertiaries margined with dull grayish-white; under wing coverts dull pale ochreous; chin and upper part of throat dull yellowish-gray; neck, breast and sides of a brownish ochreous, the middle of the abdomen and under tail coverts light ochreous yellow; upper mandible black, the lower yellowish white; feet black.

Second and third quills equal and longest, fifth a little longer than the first.

Length (skin) $5\frac{5}{8}$ in.; wing $2\frac{13}{16}$; tail $2\frac{5}{8}$; bill $\frac{7}{16}$; tarsi $\frac{1}{2}$.

Habitat.—Merida, collected by Dr. A. Schott, Feb. 21st, 1865.

Type in Museum Smithsonian Inst., No. 37,965.

This resembles my *C. lugubris* from Costa Rica, in its dull dark coloring, but it is much smaller; the color above is quite different, being reddish brown in place of dark olive-brown, and the throat and breast are dull ochreous instead of olive-brown; the bill is much smaller than that of *lugubris*.

I have conferred upon this species the name of Dr. Arthur Schott, the energetic naturalist of the Commission.

48. *Myiarchus cooperi* (Kaup).

49. " *mexicanus* (Kaup).

The two specimens before me are quite distinct from my *M. cinerascens* (*Ann. Lyc., N. Y., vol. v., p. 121*), which is referred by Prof. Baird (*Pacif. R. R. Rep., vol. ix., p. 179*) to *M. mexicanus*, Kaup. *Kaup's description (*Proc. Zool. Soc., London, 1851, p. 51*) is short and unsatisfactory. He says: "With short wings; all the wing-feathers, except the first, with rufous margins; breast light ash-gray; above lighter."

Kaup's character of short wings, applies to the Yucatan spe-

cies better than to *M. cinerascens*, which has rather longer wings than any of its allies. I have examples of all the species enumerated by Kaup, and subjoin a table of measurements of the wings and tails, in the order given by him, adding those of my *M. cinerascens*:

	Wing.	Tail.
<i>M. cooperi</i>	4 in.	$3\frac{7}{8}$
“ <i>crinitus</i>	4	$3\frac{1}{2}$
“ <i>validus</i> (<i>gossii</i> , Bp.).....	$3\frac{7}{8}$ a 4	$3\frac{3}{4}$
“ <i>mexicanus</i>	$3\frac{3}{8}$	$3\frac{3}{8}$
“ <i>stolidus</i>	$3\frac{1}{4}$	$3\frac{1}{8}$
“ <i>cinerascens</i>	4 a $4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$

It will thus be seen the wing measurements differ in the order given by Kaup. *M. mexicanus* having the wings shorter than any except *M. stolidus*, whereas in *M. cinerascens* the wings and tail exceed all of them in length. This, I think, clearly establishes the integrity of my species, and also the probability of the name of *mexicanus* being applicable to the Yucatan bird, which is further strengthened by locality.

The two species differ materially in other respects; the rufous outer edgings to the quills in *mexicanus* are much darker; the abdomen and under tail coverts duller in color, more of a tawny-yellow; the rufous on the inner webs of the tail feathers occupies but half the width of the web on the innermost feather, becoming less on the outer ones, and existing only on the margin of the outermost; in *M. cinerascens* this color covers the whole inner webs of the tail feathers, except at their ends, the outer one only having a narrow dark line next the shaft; in my species the under coloring is paler and more ashy on the neck and breast, the outer tail feather edged with white, and the wings more conspicuously margined with whitish.

In the species under examination the head is of a darker brown, with a cast of rufous, and the bill broader than in *cinerascens*.

50. *Myiarchus lawrencii* (Giraud).
 51. *Galeoscoptes carolinensis* (Linn.).
 52. *Tyrannus satrapa* (Licht.).

Fam. COTINGIDAE.

53. *Tityra personata* (Jard. & Selb.).
 54. *Hadrostomus aglaiae* (Lafr.).

Fam. MOMOTIDAE.

55. *Momotus lessoni*, Less.
 56. *Eumomota superciliaris* (Jard. & Selb.).

Fam. ALCEDINIDAE.

57. *Ceryle superciliosa* (Linn.).
 Sisal.

Fam. CAPRIMULGIDAE.

58. *Chordeiles texensis*, Lawr.
 59. *Nyctidromus albicollis* (Gm.).

Fam. CYPSELIDAE.

60. *Chætura vauxii* (Townsend).

One specimen, which agrees quite well with an example from Puget Sound and others from Guatemala, but is a little smaller.

Fam. TROCHILIDAE.

61. *Pyrrhophæna cinnamomea* (Less.).

There is but one example of this species, which agrees in every respect with specimens from Honduras.

There are no specimens of *P. yucatanensis* (Cabot), which is rare in collections, though stated by Dr. Cabot to be abundant in Yucatan. Mr. Gould was no doubt correct in referring the bird sent him by Dr. Cabot as the female of this species, to *P. cinnamomea*.

Fam. CUCULIDAE.

62. *Crotophaga sulcirostris*, Sw.
 63. *Piaya mehleri*, Bonap.
 64. *Geococcyx mexicanus* (Gm.).

Fam. PICIDAE.

65. *Dryocopus scapularis* (Vigors).
 66. *Picus scalaris*, Wagl.; (*parvus*, Cabot.)
 67. *Sphyrapicus varius* (Linn.).
 68. *Centurus albifrons* (Sw.); (*dubius*, Cabot.)

In the collection are eight specimens which have the nasal feathers and middle of abdomen bright scarlet, without an exception; and in all, the two central rectrices are of an immaculate black. Prof. Sundeval (*Cons. Av. Picinarum*, 1866, p. 52) places *C. santacruzi*, Bp. under *albifrons* as a variety; Dr. Cabanis (*J. f. o.* 1862, p. 324) is of the same opinion; the yellow of the belly being more or less tinged with red is thought due to age. Malherbe, however, considers them distinct. I have seven specimens labelled *C. santacruzi*, from Mexico and Guatemala; four Mexican examples from Jalapa are in fine plumage, and have the nasal feathers and spot on abdomen orange, some with a tinge of red; another, a female from Orizaba, has these parts more red, but not so bright as in the birds from Yucatan; of the two from Guatemala, one, a male, has these parts the nearest in color to Yucatan specimens, the other, a female, has them pale orange; this last has the central tail feathers without spots or bars, whereas in all the others called *C. santacruzi*, these feathers are more or less barred with white on the inner webs.

In addition to the birds from Yucatan showing no orange colors, they are whiter about the face and throat, and have the white transverse striæ of the upper plumage perceptibly finer than the birds from Mexico.

Here are some very decided points of difference apparently,

but I do not decide that they are distinct; yet if the different colors are due to age, why should not some with orange colors be among such a number of specimens from Yucatan?

Another marked difference, is the uniformly black middle rectrices of the birds from Yucatan.

C. radiolatus from Jamaica is very distinct, a fine adult male, has the front to the bill, the sides of the head and throat nearly pure white; the upper plumage blacker, with the narrow transverse white lines further apart than in *C. albifrons*; the rump is black, conspicuously barred with broad white lines; the central tail feathers are black, crossed with widely separated fine white lines on the inner webs; the under plumage is dark brownish-olive, middle of abdomen orange-red.

69. *Centurus rubriventris*, Sw.

A single male specimen agrees closely with Swainson's description; its validity, as a species, has been doubted by many writers, and generally referred to *C. tricolor*, though admitted to be distinct by Malherbe, and accurately figured and described in his splendid Mon. of the *Picidæ*. It seems to be very rare, as Malherbe states that besides Swainson's example, he only knows of the male in his own collection. With specimens before me of *C. tricolor* from Bogota, St. Martha and Panama, the distinctness of the two species does not admit of a question. As stated by Malherbe, the bands on the upper plumage of tricolor are twice the width of those of rubriventris; in the last species the transverse white lines on the back are similar to those of *C. albifrons*, while in tricolor they are much as in *C. aurifrons*; another marked difference is in the central tail feathers; those of tricolor are deeply and broadly indented with white on both webs, whereas in the example of rubriventris, these feathers are black, except for a small space at the base on the outer web, where it is white, this color extending higher up next the shaft. In size and general coloring the two species are much alike.

The acquisition of this specimen is of much interest, as it helps to set at rest any doubt of its claim as a distinct species, and determines its locality, heretofore unknown, though supposed to be some part of Mexico.

Fam. PSITTACIDAE.

- 70. *Conurus aztec*, Souan.
- 71. *Chrysotis albifrons*, Sparrm.

Fam. STRIGIDAE.

- 72. *Glaucidium infuscatum* (Temm.).
- 73. *Bubo virginianus* (Gm.). A nestling.

Fam. FALCONIDAE.

- 74. *Polyborus auduboni*, Cass.
- 75. *Urubitinga zonura* (Shaw).
- 76. *Buteo borealis* var. *montanus*, Nutt.

A specimen in young plumage, apparently of this species; it is, however, more generally rufous than California examples, and the tail much lighter in color (pale fulvous white) with narrower bars.

- 77. *Buteo erythronotus* (King).
- 78. *Asturina magnirostris* (Gm.).
- 79. *Tinnunculus sparverius* (Linn.).
- 80. *Hypotriorchis aurantius* (Gm.).

Fam. COLUMBIDAE.

- 81. *Leptoptila albifrons*, Bonap.; (*brachyptera*, Gray.)
- 82. *Chamæpelis passerina* (Linn.).
- 83. " *rufipennis*, Gray.
- 84. *Melopelia leucoptera* (Linn.).
- 85. *Zenaidura yucatanensis*. sp. nov.

Male. Front, sides of the head and throat of a brownish fawn-color; chin whitish; crown tinged with blue; neck, breast, abdomen and under tail coverts of a fine brownish cinnamon, a slight purplish tinge on the breast, the abdomen a little redder, and the under tail coverts rather lighter in color; sides and under coloring of the wings clear grayish-blue; upper plumage brownish-olive, with an ochreous tinge, brighter on the smaller wing coverts and rump; the metallic color on the sides of the neck is reddish-violet; the auricular spot is deep prussian-blue; the central tail feathers are the same color as the back, with an interrupted blackish bar about an inch from the end; the other feathers are bluish cinereous at base, each with a black subterminal bar; the three pairs next the central have their ends bluish cinereous; in the three outer pairs, the ends are white with a slight cinereous tinge; the primaries are blackish-brown, narrowly margined with white; the secondaries and larger wing coverts blackish cinereous of a bluish cast, the former have their outer webs more or less black next the margins, and their ends conspicuously white; the tertiaries and scapulars are blotched with black; bill black; tarsi and toes yellowish flesh-color in the dried state.

Length (skin) $11\frac{1}{4}$ in.; wing, 6; tail, $4\frac{3}{4}$; bill, $\frac{5}{8}$; tarsi, $\frac{3}{4}$.

Habitat. Merida. Collected by Dr. A. Schott, April 3d, 1865.

Type in Mus. Smithsonian Institution, No. 39,325.

The distinctness of this species from *Z. carolinensis* is apparent at first sight; in their upper coloring they are much alike, but entirely different in the coloring of the under plumage, which is uniform in the new species, with none of the pale ochreous prevailing on the abdomen and under tail coverts of *carolinensis*; the auricular spot is dark blue instead of black, and the metallic color on the neck without any tinge of golden; the central tail feathers are not pointed, retaining their width nearly to the end, and their coloring is similar to the back, not darker as in *carolinensis*; it also differs in the ends of the secondaries being conspicuously white.

The tail consists of fourteen feathers as in the allied species.

Fam. PENELOPIDAE.

86. *Ortalida maccalli* (Baird).

Four specimens in the collection agree so well with Texan examples, that I consider them the same; they differ from Wagler's description of *O. vetula*, in the same manner as pointed out by Prof. Baird. The skins measure from 19 to 20 in. in length (in a fresh state would be larger); wings from $7\frac{1}{2}$ to 8; tails, $6\frac{1}{2}$ to 7 inches; these exceed the dimensions given by Wagler. I have never seen an authentic specimen of *O. vetula*, or one answering accurately to Wagler's description, yet it is not improbable that it may be the species under consideration.

My specimen from Texas is in very fine order, and somewhat larger than those from Yucatan.

Fam. PERDICIDAE.

87. *Ortyx nigrogularis*, Gould.

Fam. CHARADRIIDAE.

88. *Aegialites vociferus* (Linn.).

Sisal.

89. *Aegialites nivosus*, Cassin.?

Celestin.

One specimen marked as a male; it differs from two specimens (in spring and winter plumage) from California, in having the back of a much lighter color, and the head of a paler ochreous; the upper coloring is paler even than in *A. melodus*, whereas in both my examples of *nivosus* that part is darker; the wings are shorter, and the quills and tail feathers of a lighter brown than in those from California, but as they agree in distribution of colors, size, and shape of the bill, I have placed it provisionally as that species.

90. *Squatarola helvetica* (Linn.).

Fam. HAEMATOPODIDAE.

91. *Haematopus palliatus*, Temm.

Fam. SCOLOPACIDAE.

92. *Gambetta flavipes* (Gm.).

Progress.

93. *Calidris arenaria* (Linn.).

94. *Limosa fedoa* (Linn.).

95. *Symphemia semipalmata* (Gm.).

Fam. ARDEIDAE.

96. *Demi egretta rufa* (Bodd.).

Progress.

97. *Demi egretta ludoviciana* (Wils.).

Progress.

98. *Garzetta candidissima* (Gm.).

Progress.

99. *Ardea herodias* (Linn.).

100. *Florida cœrulea* (Linn.).

Fam. ANATIDAE.

101. *Fulix affinis* (Forster).

Progress.

Fam. LARIDAE.

102. *Sterna regia*, Gambel.

103. " *acuflava*, Cabot.

Celestin.