

SCIENTIFIC RESULTS OF EXPLORATIONS BY THE U. S. FISH COMMISSION STEAMER ALBATROSS.

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NO. XIII.—CATALOGUE OF SKELETONS OF BIRDS COLLECTED AT THE ABROLHOS ISLANDS, BRAZIL, THE STRAITS OF MAGELLAN, AND THE GALAPAGOS ISLANDS, IN 1887-'88:

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Besides the skeletons noted in the following list there is a large number of birds in alcohol, available for anatomical purposes.

Family PICIDÆ.

Campephilus magellanicus (KING).

Straits of Magellan. (18482.)

Family ARIDÆ.

Pyrrhura smaragdina (GMEL.).

Sandy Point, Straits of Magellan, January 27. (18550.)

Family FALCONIDÆ.

Falco peregrinus (TUNST.).

Cerros Island, Lower California. (18477.)

Polyborus tharus (MOL.).

Straits of Magellan. (18478.)

Milvago chimango (VIEILL.).

Laredo Bay, Straits of Magellan, January 22. (18473, 18474.)

Family BUTEONIDÆ.

Buteo galapagoensis (GOULD).

Duncan Island, Galapagos Group, April 13. Three specimens. (18470, 18472, 18560.)

The species has not hitherto been recorded from this locality.

Geranoetus melanoleucus (VIEILL.).

Elizabeth Island, Straits of Magellan, January 20. (18471.)

Family PANDIONIDÆ.

Pandion haliaëtus (GMEL.).

Cerros Island, Lower California, May 5. (18543.)

Family ARDEIDÆ.

Nycticorax pauper (SCL. and SALV.).

James Island, Galapagos Group, April 11. (18501.)

Not hitherto recorded from this locality.

Butorides plumbeus (SUNDEV.).

James Island, Galapagos Group, April 11. (18559.)

Family PELECANIDÆ.

Pelecanus californicus (RIDGW.?)

Panama Bay, United States of Colombia, March 15. (18483.)

Family SULIDÆ.

Sula cyanops (SUNDEV.).

Abrolhos Island, Brazil, December 8. (18542.)

Sula gossi (RIDGW.).

Chatham Island, Galapagos Group, April 4. (18493.)

Family PHÆTHONTIDÆ.

Phaëthon æthereus (LINN.).

Abrolhos Island, two specimens. December 28. (18486, 18555.)

Family FREGATIDÆ.

Fregata aquila (LINN.).

Abrolhos Island, Brazil, December 28. (18485.)

Family PHALACROCORACIDÆ.

Phalacrocorax vigua (VIEILL.).

Phalacrocorax brasiliensis AUCT.

Port Otway, Patagonia, February 10. (18479.)

Mr. Ridgway* has expressed the opinion that the differences existing

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between *P. vigua* and *P. mexicanus* are at most subspecific, and this seems to be borne out by the osteology of the two birds.

The frontal region of *P. mexicanus* is wider than that of *P. vigua* in the specimens at hand, but this is very likely a case of individual variation, as cormorants are slightly variable in this as in other respects.

Urile magellanica (GMEL.).

Elizabeth Island, Straits of Magellan, two specimens, January 20. (18428, 18480.)

The skeleton of this bird shows it to be nearly related to *Urile urile*, although compared with that bird the skull is proportionately larger and the pterygoids much shorter, wider, and more S-shaped; the ridge of culmen is also wider.

The ilio-ischiatic foramen is narrower in *U. magellanica* than in *U. urile*; otherwise the pelvis of the two species are much alike.

Urile albiventer (LESS.).

Elizabeth Island, Straits of Magellan, two specimens, January 20. (18427, 18481.)

This bird is a near relative of *U. carunculata* (GM.), and the crania of the two species are upon their superior aspect indistinguishable.

On the ventral aspect the pterygoids of *U. carunculata* are seen to be much more slender, straight, and narrow than those of *albiventer*, as well as slightly longer.

The pterygoid bones appear to offer some very good specific characters, and in the species examined, with the exception of *P. vigua*, cormorants from the southern hemisphere have these bones shorter than do those from the north.

U. albiventer and *U. carunculata* may be immediately distinguished amid all other species examined by their slender, strongly ridged beaks, and large globose calvaria.

The occipital style of these two birds is short, and less definitely grooved than in other cormorants.

Family PHENICOPTERIDÆ.

Phœnicopterus ruber (LINN.).

Charles Island, Galapagos Group, April 8. (18494, 18495.)

Family ANATIDÆ.

Cloephaga magellanica (GMEL.).

Port Otway, Patagonia, February 10. (18552.)

Cloephaga antarctica (GMEL.).

Port Otway, Patagonia, February 10. (18554.)

Tachyeres cinereus (GEML.).

Latitude Cove, Patagonia, February 6. (18553.) Island Harbor,
Patagonia, February 8. (18484.)

Both young specimens; apparently young of the year, as the cranial sutures are all open.

Spatula platalea (V.).

Elizabeth Island, Straits of Magellan, January 20. (18549.)

Family HÆMATOPODIDÆ.

Hæmatopus ater (VIEILL.).

Elizabeth Island, Straits of Magellan, January 20. (18548.)

Hæmatopus luctuosus (GARN.).

Elizabeth Island, Straits of Magellan, January 20. (18547.)

Family CHARADRIIDÆ.

Belonopterus chilensis (MOL.).

Elizabeth Island, Straits of Magellan, January 20. (18546.)

Family SCOLOPACIDÆ.

Gallinago paraguayæ (VIEILL.).

Laredo Bay, Straits of Magellan, January 22. (18558.)

Family LARIDÆ.

Larus dominicanus (LICHT.).

Elizabeth Island, Straits of Magellan, January 20. (18545.)

Larus fuliginosus (GOULD).

Chatham Island, Galapagos Group, April 4. (18500.)

Creagrus furcatus (NÉB.)

Chatham Island, Galapagos Group, April 4. (18492.)

This unique skeleton is from a young bird, probably a year old. There has been no time as yet to compare this skeleton carefully with other species, but it makes no marked departure from the larine type.

Family DIOMEDEIDÆ.

Diomedea oxulans (LINN.).

An adult specimen. (18554.)

Family SPHENISCIDÆ.

Spheniscus magellanicus (FORST.).

Mayne Harbor, Patagonia, February 5. (18541.)

Probably a bird of the year, as the xiphoid border of the sternum is still cartilaginous and the cranial sutures open.