

- 3b. Disk subcircular; mouth large; branchiæ in 2½ pairs (I, 0; II, 1—1; III, 1—1; IV, 1—0).....*Halieutæa*.  
 2b. Palate dentigerous; rostral tentacle obsolete; carpus inclosed in common membrane.  
 3. Disk subcircular; mouth small.....*Halieutichthys*.

The genera have been made known as follows:—

### MALTHEINÆ.

#### MALTHE.

Malthe, *Curier*, Règne Animal, 1<sup>e</sup> éd., t. 2, 311, 1817.

Malthea, *Curier & Valenciennes*, Hist. Nat. des Poissons, t. 12, p. 438, 1837.

Type: Malthe vespertilio.

Atlantic coasts of America from Brazil to Labrador.

### HALIEUTÆINÆ.

#### DIBRANCHUS.

Dibranchus *Peters*, Monatsber. K. Akad. Wissensch. Berlin, 1875, p. 736.

Type: Dibranchus atlanticus *Peters*.

Atlantic Ocean, in deep water, near the coast of Africa.

#### HALIEUTÆA.

Halieutæa *Cuv. & Val.*, Hist. Nat. des Poissons, t. 12, p. 455, 1837.

Astrocanthus *Swainson*, Nat. Hist. and Class. Fishes, etc., v. 2, p. —, 1839.

Type: Halieutæa stellata *Val. & Wahl*.

Pacific Ocean, off China and Japan.

#### HALIEUTICHTHYS.

Halientichthys, *Poey, Gill*, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sc. Phila., [v. 15,] pp. 89, 90, 1863.

Type: Halientichthys reticulatus *Poey*.

Atlantic Ocean, off the Island of Cuba.

NOVEMBER 9, 1878.

### CATALOGUE OF THE BIRDS OF ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA, FROM COLLECTIONS MADE FOR THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION, BY MR. FRED. A. OBER, WITH HIS OBSERVATIONS.

By **GEORGE N. LAWRENCE.**

These collections were made by Mr. Ober in August and September, 1877. They were left in charge of the United States consul at Antigua, to be forwarded to Washington when an opportunity offered, and were sent soon thereafter; but from want of a proper notification or some other cause, their arrival was not known, and they were supposed to have gone astray.

In July of this year, they were ascertained to be in a public store in Brooklyn, where they had been since November, 1877.

The only bird sent of special interest is a species of Burrowing Owl from Antigua, which, on investigation, I considered to be undescribed.

The names given by Mr. Ober, with his observations, are inclosed in quotation-marks.

*From Antigua.*

Fam. TURDIDÆ.

1. *Margarops densirostris* (Vieill.).

"Thrush.

"In the valleys among the southern hills, where are about the only rivulets and trees, we find this bird. It is not common, rather rare, and its song is heard only morning and evening; at this season little more than a call-note. Think it identical with the 'Gros Grive'—Large Thrush—of Dominica. Not yet out of moulting stage; resident."

Fam. SYLVICOLIDÆ.

2. *Siurus nævius* (Bodd.).

"Water Thrush.

"Rare; along a river bed among the hills, very shy; when it would perceive me, it hastily ran along a few rods, and then darted into the thicket, reappearing at some distance up or down the stream."

3. *Siurus motacilla* (Vieill.).

4. *Dendrocæca petechia* (Linn.).

"Yellow Bird. Length,  $5\frac{1}{4}$ ; alar extent, 7; wing,  $2\frac{5}{8}$ .

"Not abundant; inhabits the acacia fields."

5. *Setophaga ruticilla* (Linn.).

"Redstart.

"Rare; seen only in the upper valleys of the southern hills. In perfect plumage and fat; evidently not a migrant. The people told me it was with them all the year."

Fam. VIREONIDÆ.

6. *Vireosylvia calidris* (Linn.).

"Vireo. Iris hazel.

"Found among the poisonous Manchineel trees, near the coast."

Fam. CÆREBIDÆ.

7. *Certhiola dominicana*, Taylor.

"Yellowbreast.

"Abundant, but not in the numbers found in Dominica."

Fam. FRINGILLIDÆ.

8. *Loxigilla noctis* (Linn.).

"Sparrow. Resident."

9. *Phonipara bicolor* (Linn.).

"Grass Bird.

"In large numbers, probably the most abundant species, sharing this honor with the Loggerhead and Sparrow Hawk."

## Fam. TYRANNIDÆ.

10. *Tyrannus rostratus*, Sci.

“Loggerhead. Resident.

“Extremely abundant; its cry of piperee, piperee, heard everywhere from morn till night. Old pastures its favorite haunt; but where the ‘Cabbage Palm’ is found (the *Oreodoya olivacea*) there the Piperee delights to stay, passing half the day perched upon the extreme tip of the terminal apex of the tree, leaving it only to chase and capture some insect flying by, or to sport a while with its mate.”

## Fam. TROCHILIDÆ.

11. *Eulampis holosericeus* (Linn.).

“Violet-breast Hummer. Rather numerous.”

12. *Orthorhynchus exilis* (Gm.).

“Crested Hummer. Very common.

“More in the fields than the gardens; especially likes the Tamarind trees.”

## Fam. CUCULIDÆ.

13. *Coccyzus minor* (Gm.).

“Four o’clock Bird. Sparsely distributed. Resident.”

## Fam. STRIGIDÆ.

14. *Speotyto amaura*, Lawr.

“Owl. Length, ♂, 8½ in.; alar extent, 21½; wing, 6¾.

“Length, ♀, 8½ in.; alar extent, 21; wing, 6¼.

“Iris bright yellow. Called here, ‘coo coo’, from its hoot at night. I considered it for a time as almost mythical, reports concerning its existence were so conflicting. Some described it as a large Bat, others asserted that it was (judging from the size of its eyes) as large as a ‘Guinea Bird’; all agreed that it was a night-bird, that it lived in old drains, holes in the cliffs and ruined walls; and that its hoot would strike terror to the stoutest heart.

“Like its congener of Dominica, it has a bad name; and though it may not be called here, as in Dominica, the ‘Jumbie Bird’ or bird of evil spirits—the name implies more than that—still it has the reputation of being a bad character. The blacks declare that it will not hesitate to tear the eyes out of any individual unfortunate enough to meet it at night. ‘Me rudder see de Debbil, any time’, is their forcible way of testifying to the powers, supernatural and otherwise, possessed by this poor Owl. Finding it impossible to shoot one, I offered a reward of two shillings for the first Owl brought me, and within three hours had three living birds which the men dug out of a cliff in the Chalk-hills. One that I kept two days gave frequent utterance to a chattering cry, espe-

cially if any one approached, but it did not hoot. It feeds upon lizards and mice, it is said."

*Male*.—Upper plumage of a fine deep brown color, marked with roundish spots of light fulvous; the spots are smallest on the crown, hind neck, and smaller wing-coverts; they are conspicuously large on the other wing-coverts, the dorsal region, scapulars, and tertials; the quills are blackish-brown, with indented marks of pale reddish fulvous on the outer webs of the primaries, and large roundish paler spots on the inner webs; under wing-coverts reddish fulvous sparsely mottled with black; tail dark brown, of the same color as the back, crossed with four bars (including the terminal one), of light reddish fulvous, which do not quite reach the shaft on each web; bristles at the base of the bill black, with the basal portion of their shafts whitish; front white, superciliary streak pale fulvous; cheeks dark brown, the feathers tipped with fulvous; upper part of throat pale whitish buff, the lower part grayish-white, with a buffy tinge, separated by a broad band of dark brown across the middle of the throat, the feathers of which are bordered with light fulvous; the sides of the neck and the upper part and sides of the breast are dark brown, like the back, the feathers ending with fulvous, the spots being larger on the breast; the feathers of the abdomen are pale fulvous, conspicuously barred across their centres with dark brown; on some of the feathers the terminal edgings are of the same color; the flanks are of a clear light fulvous, with bars of a lighter brown; under tail-coverts fulvous, with indistinct bars of brown; thighs clear fulvous, with nearly obsolete narrow dusky bars; the feathers of the tarsi are colored like the thighs and extend to the toes; bill clear light yellow, with the sides of the upper mandible blackish; toes dull yellowish-brown.

Length (fresh),  $8\frac{1}{2}$  in.; wing,  $6\frac{3}{4}$ ; tail,  $3\frac{1}{8}$ ; tarsus,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ .

The female differs but little from the male in plumage; the bars on the abdomen appear to be a little more strongly defined, and at the base of the culmen is a small red spot. There are two females in the collection, the other also having the red spot; in one the tarsi are feathered to the toes, in the other only for two-thirds their length.

Length of one (fresh), 8 in.; wing,  $6\frac{1}{2}$ ; tail,  $2\frac{7}{8}$ ; tarsus,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ .

Length of the other,  $8\frac{1}{2}$ ; wing,  $6\frac{1}{4}$ ; tail, 3; tarsus,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ .

Mr. Ridgway suggested a comparison with his *S. guadeloupenensis*, the type of which belongs to the Boston Natural History Society, and by the courtesy of Dr. Brewer I have been able to make it.

Compared with *guadeloupenensis*, the prevailing color is dark brown, instead of a rather light earthy-brown, and the spots on the interscapular region are much larger; it is more strikingly barred below, the other having the breast more spotted; the bars on the tail are four instead of six. In the Antigua bird each feather of the breast is crossed with but one bar, while those of the other are crossed with two.

Mr. Ober (who arrived here November 13) informs me that he could learn of no species of Owl inhabiting Guadeloupe, nor does the museum there possess a specimen.

## Fam. FALCONIDÆ.

15. *Pandion haliaëtus* (Linn.).

"Fish Hawk. Seen September 1st."

16. *Tinnunculus sparverius* var. *antillarum* (Gm.).

"Sparrow Hawk. 'Killee, Killee.'

"In large numbers all over the island. Resident."

17. *Buteo pennsylvanicus* (Wils.)?

"Hawk (seen), resident. Apparently same as the larger hawk of Dominica."

18. *Falco*?

"A large black hawk spoken of as appearing with the flocks of ducks."

## Fam. FREGATIDÆ.

19. *Fregata aquila* (Linn.).

"Man o' war Bird.

"Resident. Plentiful in harbor of St. John's."

## Fam. PELECANIDÆ.

20. *Pelecanus fuscus* (Linn.).

"Brown Pelican.

"Breeds abundantly on small islands off the coast. Resident."

## Fam. ARDEIDÆ.

21. *Garzetta candidissima* (Gm.).

"'White Gaulin.' Resident.

"Everywhere abundant; frequents the dry hills and plains (feeding upon grasshoppers, lizards, &c.) in preference to the pools and moist tracts."

22. *Florida cærulea* (Linn.).

"'Blue Gaulin.' Resident.

"Abundant. Habits same as the preceding."

23. *Butorides virescens* (Linn.).

"Green Heron.

"In small numbers. Resident."

24. *Ardea herodias* (Linn.).

"Great Blue Heron.

"Said to arrive later in the season."

## Fam. COLUMBIDÆ.

25. *Chamæpelina passerina* (Linn.).

“Ground Dove. Abundant everywhere.”

26. *Columba leucocephala* (Linn.).

“White-headed Pigeon.

“Rare among the southern hills. Think this their southern breeding limit, save perhaps Montserrat.”

27. *Zenaida martinicana*, Bp.

“Turtle Dove. Not common among the hills.”

## Fam. TETRAONIDÆ.

28. *Ortyx virginianus* (Linn.).

“Quail.”

“The pastures abandoned are fast becoming populated with quail; the acacia scrub forming agreeable shelter for them and protecting cover. So far as I can ascertain they were introduced; but at what period no one seems to know. They are now in sufficient numbers to make good sport. Think they breed at about the same season as the northern quail, as young but half-grown were plentiful in July and August.”

The single specimen sent, a male, resembles most the primitive northern stock; it differs in being smaller, the skin measuring in length  $8\frac{1}{4}$  inches, wing  $4\frac{1}{4}$ , and in having the crown and hind neck blackish, in this character resembling var. *floridanus*, but not otherwise; the transverse markings below being of the same size as those of the northern bird, which in the Florida race are twice the width.

In its upper plumage it is much like the male of *O. cubanensis* Gould (of which I have mounted specimens of both sexes), but they differ in their under plumage, the Antigua bird being like *O. virginianus*, but in *O. cubanensis* the black extends from the throat over the breast, and the feathers of the abdomen are rufous, with arrow-head markings of black and irregular tear-shaped white spots. The wing measures four inches.

The female of *O. cubanensis* has transverse markings on the under surface as in the typical form, but more strongly defined and wider; but they are not so wide as in var. *floridanus*; the crown, hind neck, and sides of the head are blackish where reddish-chestnut prevails in the northern bird; the back is grayish-ash, with no appearance of the pinkish-red, which exists in the female of *O. virginianus* on the back and on the upper part and sides of the breast.

## Fam. RALLIDÆ.

29. *Rallus*?

“Rail. Moor-hen. Resident; plentiful apparently, but shy.”

30. *Fulica*?

“‘Coot.’ Not seen; migrant.”

## Fam. CHARADRIIDÆ.

31. *Charadrius virginicus*, Borkh.

“Golden Plover.

“Sept. 7th, first of the season; generally arrive by last of August, or first storm after Aug. 25th. First of September rarely fails to bring them, but this year no storm hastened them along and they are very late. They arrive in large flocks and spread over the pastures, hills and plains, affording exciting sport. It is not an unusual thing to bag three or four dozen in a morning. Every one owning a gun turns out, and great slaughter ensues. If suffered to remain, they would acquire fat and stay for weeks, but they soon wing their way further south.

“They are accompanied later in the season by Curlew, Yellow-legs, etc.”

## Fam. SCOLOPACIDÆ.

32. *Himantopus nigricollis* (Vieill.).

“Black-neck Stilt.

“Rare; seen early in July.”

33. *Gallinago wilsoni* (Temm.).

“English Snipe.

“Occasionally; authority of sportsmen.”

34. *Ereunetes petrificatus* (Ill.).

“Sandpiper.

“Abundant, in flocks of four to six, along sandy shore. Resident.”

35. *Symphemia semipalmata* (Gm.).

“Willet. Rare.”

36. *Gambetta melanoleuca* (Gm.).

“Yellow-legs.

“In all the salt ponds or ‘fleshes’; sufficiently numerous, at times, to afford sport; said to be resident in small numbers; I found it here early in July.”

37. *Rhyacophilus solitarius* (Wils.).

“Sandpiper.

“Not common, but seen singly in every part of the island. I shot three specimens on the summit of McNish Mountain—the highest hill—where is a spring-hole of small size. From this mountain, by the way, the entire island can be viewed, as well as the islands of Barbuda, Guadeloupe, Montserrat, Redonda, Nevis and St. Kitts—a most delightful prospect.”

38. *Numenius hudsonicus* (Lath.).

“Curlew. Not common.”

Fam. LARIDÆ.

39. *Sterna dougalli*, Mont.

"Tern.

"Breeds in large numbers on the islands and rocks off shore; now finished breeding or young fully grown, though not in perfect plumage."

40. *Sterna*, sp. ?

"A larger Tern than the above, with black back; not many seen. Resident."

41. *Larus atricilla* (Linn.).

"Gull. Resident."

Fam. ANATIDÆ.

42. *Dafila bahamensis* (Linn.).

"Duck. Resident."

*From Barbuda.*

Fam. TURDIDÆ.

1. *Cinlocerthia ruficauda*, Gould.

"Thrush. Grive."

Fam. SYLVICOLIDÆ.

2. *Dendroeca petechia* (Linn.).

"Yellow Warbler.

"Not plentiful. Resident; breeds."

Fam. CÆREBIDÆ.

3. *Certhiola dominicana*, Taylor.

"Yellow-throat. Common; resident."

Fam. FRINGILLIDÆ.

4. *Loxigilla noctis* (Linn.).

"Sparrow. Resident; breeds.

"Now in small flocks in the overgrown fields. Abundant."

5. *Phonipara bicolor* (Linn.).

"Grass-bird. Resident; breeds.

"Very familiar about yards. Abundant."

Fam. TYRANNIDÆ.

6. *Myiarchus oberi*, Lawr.

"Flycatcher.

"Infrequently met with in the thick laurel scrub; cry sharp at long intervals; shy."

7. *Tyrannus rostratus*, Sel.

“ ‘Loggerhead.’

“ Common ; resident ; breeds.”

## Fam. TROCHILIDÆ.

8. *Eulampis holosericeus* (Linn.).

“ Hummingbird.

“ Common, especially about the prickly pear and the cacti near the beach.”

6. *Orthorhynchus exilis* (Gm.).

“ Crested Hummer.

“ Most numerous. Saw only these two species, but Rev. Mr. Couley (one of the proprietors) described a larger species, visiting the island later, resembling exactly (he said) the Mango, of which he had a colored plate.”

## Fam. CUCULIDÆ.

10. *Coccyzus minor* (Gm.).

“ Cuckoo ; ‘ four o’clock bird’ ; not common.”

## Fam. FALCONIDÆ.

11. *Tinnunculus sparverius* var. *antillarum* (Gm.).

“ Sparrow Hawk.

“ Very common ; resident ; breeds.”

12. *Falco communis* var. *anatum*, Bp. ?

“ Hawk ; answers to description of Duck Hawk ; arrives with the flocks of Plover, etc., forages upon the wild-ducks.”

## Fam. FREGATIDÆ.

13. *Fregata aquila* (Linn.).

“ Frigate Bird.

“ Resident ; breeds, lays in June, some young yet in nest.”

## Fam. PHÆTHONIDÆ.

14. *Phæthcn flavirostris*, Brandt.

“ Tropic Bird.

“ Breeds in cliffs at east end of island.”

## Fam. PELECANIDÆ.

15. *Pelecanus fuscus* (Linn.).

“ Brown Pelican. Breeds.”

## Fam. ARDEIDÆ.

16. *Ardea herodias*.

“ Great Blue Heron.

“ Arrives with the migratory birds about Sept. 1st.”

17. *Herodias egretta* (Gm.)?

"A large White Heron was described to me as visiting the island."

18. *Florida cærulea* (Linn.).

"Small Blue Heron.

"Very numerous; resident; young white."

19. *Butorides virescens* (Linn.).

"Green Heron. Common; resident, breeds."

Fam. ANATIDÆ.

20. *Dafila bahamensis* (Linn.).

"'White throat Duck.' Resident; not common."

21. *Clangula glaucion* (Linn.).

"Whistler. Migrant; arrives in October."

Fam. COLUMBIDÆ.

22. *Columba leucocephala*, Linn.

"White-head Pigeon.

"Resident; breeds in great numbers in June and July."

23. *Zenaida martinicana*, Bp.?

"Turtle Dove. Extremely abundant; breeds."

24. *Chamæpelis passerina* (Linn.).

"Ground Dove. Exceedingly numerous; breeds."

Fam. NUMIDIDÆ.

25. *Numida meleagris*, Linn.

"Guinea Fowl.

"Plentiful; breeds abundantly; thoroughly wild. Introduced over one hundred years ago."

Fam. RALLIDÆ.

26. *Rallus*?

"Rail. Not common; resident."

27. *Fulica*?

"'Coot.' Migrant."

Fam. CHARADRIIDÆ.

28. *Charadrius virginicus*, Borkh.

"Golden Plover.

"Arrive in immense flocks first storm (N. W.) after Sept. 1st. Good shooting through September and October if weather is stormy; if fine, the bulk of them keep on."

29. *Ægialitis semipalmata* (Bp.)?

"Ring-neck Plover. Not common."

## Fam. SCOLOPACIDÆ.

30. *Himantopus nigricollis* (Vieill.).

"Black-neck Stilt. Not common. Resident"?

31. *Gallinago wilsoni* (Temm.).

"Snipe.

"A species not seen by me, described by Mr. Hopkins (one of the lessees of the island) as an English Snipe, in color, flight and voice; in small numbers; resident."

32. *Ereunetes petrificatus* (Ill.).

"Least Sandpiper.

"Resident; breeds; now in flocks of 4-6."

33. *Symphemia semipalmata* (Gm.).

"Willet. Common; said to breed."

34. *Gambetta flavipes* (Gm.).

"Yellow-legs (smaller).

"Common; resident, or nearly so."

35. *Rhyacophilus solitarius* (Wils.)?

"Sandpiper.

"Resident; solitary about the lagoons and fresh-water ponds."

36. *Numenius hudsonicus* (Lath.).

"Curlew. Resident; breeds; common."

## Fam. LARIDÆ.

37. *Sterna maxima*, Bodd.?

"Royal Tern. Seen only."

38. *Larus atricilla*, Linn.

"Gull. Breeds; resident."

## Fam. PODICIPITIDÆ.

39. *Podilymbus podiceps* (Linn.)?

"'Diver' (Grebe?).

"Think it resident, as it is irregular in its appearance and disappearance."

NEW YORK, November 14, 1878.