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DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF *CONTOPUS* FROM TROPICAL AMERICA.

p.
By ROBERT RIDGWAY.

Contopus pileatus, sp. nov.

SP. CHAR.—Above uniform olive-gray or hair-brown, the feathers abruptly ash-gray beneath the surface. Entire pileum dull sooty brown, much darker than the back, and in marked though not abrupt contrast with the ash-gray of the postocular region and sides of occiput. Lores and suborbital region dusky, like pileum, but passing gradually into a lighter sooty grayish on the auriculars. Lower parts brownish gray, paler on the chin and upper part of the throat, the abdomen dull buffy whitish, the lower tail-coverts dull white with very pale brown central cuneate spots. Wing coverts with barely perceptible paler margins; secondaries more distinctly edged with pale grayish, or grayish white; primaries blackish brown or dusky, without perceptible lighter edges. Tail even, uniform hair-brown. Wing 3.00, 2d and 3d primaries longest, 4th next, the 2d shorter than the 5th; tail 2.80, culmen .55, width of bill at base .30, tarsus .60, middle toe .32.

Hab. ignot., but probably some portion of Tropical America.

Type in American Museum of Natural History, New York City.

The type specimen of this new species has been compared directly with examples of fifteen of the sixteen known species of the genus, but does not correspond at all with any of them. The only two which it in the least resembles are *C. ardesiacus* (Lafr.) and *C. richardsoni* (Aud.). The former, however, is very much larger and altogether darker in general coloration, while the latter is also decidedly larger, with emarginate tail, the colors much more olivaceous above and paler beneath. Apart from its peculiar proportions (being the smallest member of the genus), the new species is distinguished by its quite marked sooty gray cap, the absence of light edgings to the wing-coverts, and the very uniform light ash-gray color of the breast, jugulum, sides of head and neck, and sides.

Unfortunately nothing is known as to the locality or origin of the type specimen, the only example I have seen.

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NOTE ON THE ANSER LEUCOPAREIUS OF BRANDT.

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By ROBERT RIDGWAY.

Much confusion has hitherto existed regarding the white-cheeked geese of North America, among which there are variations of size probably unequaled in any other bird in the feral state. At least four very strongly characterized forms exist, which perhaps represent two distinct species, each with a larger and a smaller race. These forms have been