

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

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No. II.—BIRDS COLLECTED ON THE ISLAND OF SANTA LUCIA, WEST INDIES, THE ABROLHOS ISLANDS, BRAZIL, AND AT THE STRAITS OF MAGELLAN, IN 1887-'88,

BY

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A.—ISLAND OF SANTA LUCIA.

Family MIMIDÆ.

1. *Margarops montanus* (VIEILL.).

Port Castries, December 2; one specimen.

Family MNIOTILTIDÆ.

2. *Leucopeza semperi* SCL.

Port Castries, December 1; one specimen.

3. *Dendroica delicata* (RIDGW.).

Dendroica adelaidæ delicata RIDGW., Pr., U. S. Nat. Mus., v, 1882, 525.

Dendroica delicata SHARPE, Cat. B. Brit. Mus., x, 1885, 306.

Family CÆREBIDÆ.

4. *Cærebamartinicana* (REICH.).

Seven specimens. Four of these have the superciliary stripe wholly white, and three bright yellow passing into white anteriorly, thus showing that my *Certhiola finschi* (Pr. U. S. Nat. Mus., VIII, September 20, 1885, 25) is untenable.

Family VIREONIDÆ.

5. *Vireo calidris dominicana* (LAWR.).

Two specimens.

Family FRINGILLIDÆ.

6. *Loxigilla noctis sclateri* ALLEN.

Three specimens.

7. *Euethia richardsoni* (CORY).

Loxigilla richardsoni, CORY, Auk, III, 1886, 382; Ibis, 1886, 472, 475; B. West Indies, 1889, 290.

One specimen.

The bill of this species is so very different in shape from that of any species of *Loxigilla*, that it should either be made the type of a new genus or referred to *Euethia*, the latter alternative being my preference.

8. *Euethia bicolor* (LINN.).

Two specimens.

Family ICTERIDÆ.

9. *Icterus laudabilis* SCL.

One specimen.

10. *Quiscalus inflexirostris* SW.

One specimen.

Family TYRANNIDÆ.

11. *Tyrannus rostratus* SCL.

One specimen.

12. *Elainea martinica* (LINN.).

One specimen.

Family TROCHILIDÆ.

13. *Eulampis holosericeus* (LINN.).

Two specimens.

14. *Bellona cristata* (LINN.).

Four specimens.

Family CUCULIDÆ.

15. *Coccyzus minor* (GM.).

Two specimens.

B.—ABROLHOS ISLANDS.

Family PHAËTHONTIDÆ.

1. *Phaëthon æthereus* (LINN.).

Five specimens.

Family SULIDÆ.

2. *Sula cyanops* (SUND.).

One specimen.

3. *Sula leucogastra* (BODD.).

Two specimens, adult male and female. These are alike in plumage, but have the feet very differently colored, those of the male being dull greenish while those of the female are clear pale yellow. It would be interesting to know whether this difference is constant.

Family ARENARIIDÆ.

- 4.
- Arenaria interpres*
- (LINN.).

One specimen.

Family CHARADRIIDÆ.

- 5.
- Ægialitis semipalmata*
- (BP.).

One specimen.

C.—STRAITS OF MAGELLAN.

Family TURDIDÆ.

- 1.
- Merula magellanica*
- (KING).

Laredo, Port Otway, and Port Churruca, four specimens.

Family TROGLODYTIDÆ.

- 2.
- Troglodytes hornensis*
- LESS.

Laredo, four specimens.

- 3.
- Cistothorus platensis*
- (LATH.) ?.

Gregory Bay. An adult female, apparently this species, but very much paler than two adults from Santiago, Chili (July). The difference in color may be seasonal, the Gregory Bay specimen having the plumage considerably worn and evidently faded; but it may prove to belong to a different race or subspecies.

Family MOTACILLIDÆ.

- 4.
- Anthus correndera*
- (VIEILL.).

Gregory Bay, one specimen; Point Elizabeth, two young (full-fledged).

Family HIRUNDINIDÆ.

- 5.
- Tachycineta meyeri*
- (BONAP.).

Laredo Bay, one specimen.

- 6.
- Atticora cyanoleuca*
- (VIEILL.).

Port Elizabeth and Gregory Bay, two specimens.

Family FRINGILLIDÆ.

- 7.
- Spinus barbatus*
- (MOL.).

Sandy Point, two specimens, male and female. Laredo, one specimen, young.

- 8.
- Phrygilus formosus*
- (GOULD), =
- P. gayi*
- (EYD. and GERV.) AUCT.*

Sandy Point, one specimen.

* Cf. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., vol. x, 1887, pp. 431-433.

9. *Phrygilus gayi* (EYD. and GERV.).

Gregory Bay, two adults; Laredo Bay, two young. (*Cf.* Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., vol. x, 1887, pp. 431-433.)

10. "*Zonotrichia*" *canicapilla* GOULD.

Gregory Bay, two specimens; Elizabeth Island, two specimens.

Family ICTERIDÆ.

11. *Trupialis militaris* (LINN.).

Gregory Bay, two specimens; Laredo Bay, one specimen.

12. *Curæus curæus* (MOL.).

Port Churruca and Laredo Bay, two specimens.

Family TYRANNIDÆ.

13. *Tænioptera pyrope* (KITTL.).

Laredo Bay, four specimens; Port Otway, one specimen.

14. *Muscisaxicola mentalis* D'ORB. and LAFR.

Sandy Point, one specimen; Latitude Cove, one specimen (young); Mayne Harbor, one specimen.

Mr. Selater has recently (*Cat. B. Brit. Mus.*, XIV, p. 56) referred this species to *M. macloviana* (Garn.) of the Falkland Islands, but seems to be not quite convinced of their identity, since he states his inability to see how they "can be fairly separated." The doubt expressed by the word "fairly" (not italicized in the original) would seem to imply that some difference exists, and until they can be proven identical I prefer to keep them separate, as the safer course.

15. *Centrites niger* (BODD.).

Gregory Bay, four specimens; Elizabeth Island, two specimens.

16. *Elainea albiceps* (D'ORB. and LAFR.).

Laredo Bay, three specimens; Sandy Point, three specimens; Port Otway, one specimen; Port Churruca, one specimen.

17. *Anæretes parulus* (KITTL.).

Sandy Point, two specimens; Mayne Harbor, one specimen.

Family DENDROCOLAPTIDÆ.

18. *Oxyurus spinicauda* (GMEL.).

Laredo Bay, four specimens; Port Otway, one specimen.

19. *Synallaxis anthoides* (KING).

Laredo Bay, one specimen.

20. *Cinclodes patagonicus* (GMEL.).

Gregory Bay, Elizabeth Island, and Port Otway, three specimens.

21. *Cinclodes fuscus* (VIEILL.).

Gregory Bay, Laredo Bay, and Elizabeth Island, three specimens.

22. *Geositta antarctica* LANDB. ("Weigm. Archiv., Jahr. 46, 1, 275")?

Elizabeth Island, one specimen.

This bird is referred, with doubt, to *G. antarctica* for the reason that it does not agree with either of the six species given in the *Nomenclator Avium Neotropicalium* (four of which are in the National Museum collection), nor with any of the species not therein mentioned, with the possible exception of *G. antarctica*, a description of which I have not been able to consult.*

Compared with *G. cucularia* (Vieill.), *G. crassirostris* Sel., *G. isabellina* (Ph. and Landb.), *G. fasciata* (Ph. and Landb.), *G. frobeni* (Ph. and Landb.†), and *G. maritima* LAFR. and D'ORB., with all of which it has been directly compared, the bird in question is found to differ strikingly from them all in much longer wings and tail and shorter bill, which raises the suspicion that it may not be a *Geositta* at all, though it certainly cannot be referred to the allied genus *Cinclodes*, or any other thus far characterized. Of the species named above it comes much nearest to *G. cucularia*, both in size and coloration; but the bill is not more than two-thirds as long, the wing about .70 of an inch longer (with primaries .85 of an inch longer than longest tertials, instead of barely exceeding them in length), and the tail .40 of an inch longer. The coloration is, at first glance, very similar to that of *G. cucularia*, the upper tail-coverts being of exactly the same buffy whitish; but the upper surface is more ashy, the tail-feathers much darker, the breast very faintly instead of heavily marked, and the inner webs of the primaries a dull isabella color instead of bright cinnamon, while the secondaries (except tertials) are wholly uniform drab, without the broad subterminal dusky band of *G. cucularia*.

Should the species prove to be distinct from *G. antarctica*, I propose to name it *G. longipennis*.‡

* The reference quoted above, the source of which I have forgotten, is evidently incorrect, no such bird being mentioned in Weigman's "Archives" for 1846.

† *G. frobeni* (*Certhilanda frobeni*, PH. and LANDB., Weigm. Archiv., 1865, 62; *Geositta frobeni* TACZ., Orn. du Pérou, II, 95) is perfectly distinct, differing from all the other species, as correctly stated by its describers, in the distinctly white color of the basal half of the tail, nearly the whole of the outer feather being of that color. The U. S. National Museum possesses a single, very imperfect, skin obtained by Mr. Walter S. Church at Andahuaylas, Ayacucho, Peru, October 14, 1864.

‡ With the following characters:

***Geositta longipennis* sp. nov.**

SP. CHAR.—*Adult female* (type, No. 116173, Point Elizabeth, Straits of Magellan, January 20, 1888; U. S. S. *Albatross*): Above dull brownish gray, the forehead and hind neck indistinctly spotted or mottled with pale grayish buffy; upper tail-coverts buffy whitish; general color of closed wing drab, the middle and posterior row of lesser coverts broadly but not sharply margined at tips with pale grayish buffy; primary coverts dusky terminally, their tips margined with pale grayish buffy; tertials with a wedge-shaped basal patch of cinnamon-drab, succeeded by a somewhat v-shaped patch of dusky, terminal and exterior portion drab, narrowly edged with whitish; secondaries and four inner primaries uniform drab, the color exactly the

23. *Upucerthia propinqua* sp. nov.

SP. CHAR.—Similar to *U. dumetoria* Geoff. and D'Orb., but much grayer above, less tinged with brown beneath, the squamate markings on the breast much more distinct, tail-feathers (except middle pair) much blacker, with ochraceous more restricted, inner webs of secondaries decidedly dusky for terminal half, tawny spaces on inner webs of primaries much more sharply defined against much darker color of terminal portion, and the bill shorter and proportionally broader at the base.

HAB.—Straits of Magellan (Gregory Bay).

Adult female (type, No. 116224, Gregory Bay, Straits of Magellan; U. S. S. *Albatross*): Above hair-brown, somewhat darker on pileum and browner (broccoli-brown) on middle tail-feathers; alula, terminal portion of primaries and their coverts, and outer webs of six outer primaries, except at base of fifth and sixth, dusky; outer webs of secondaries (except tertials) and four inner primaries, and basal portion of the fifth and sixth, dull russet or tawny-brown, the basal half (approximately) of inner webs of secondaries and extensive wedge-shaped spaces on inner webs of primaries clearer tawny; three outer tail-feathers dull black, tipped with ochraceous-buff, this broadest on exterior feathers, where extending along outer web nearly an inch from tip; fourth feather dull black terminally, fading into broccoli-brownish basally, the tip narrowing and indistinctly dull whitish; fifth feather broccoli-brown suffused with dusky near tip. A broad superciliary stripe of dull brownish white sparsely streaked with dusky; auriculars grayish brown streaked with dusky; cheeks and entire under parts dull white, the former, with chest, breast, and anterior portion of sides marked with squamate edgings of dull blackish or dusky, these largest on pectoral region; feathers of throat tipped with blackish; longer under tail-coverts pale brown, tipped with whitish; axillars and under wing-coverts pale cinnamon-buff. Bill black, under mandible more brownish basally; tarsi dusky horn-color; feet brownish black. Length (skin), 7.90; wing, 3.95; tail, 3.35; exposed culmen, 1.08; tarsus, 1.02; middle toe, .68.

The specimen described above differs equally from each of the four same on both webs; rest primaries similar, but with a broad, abruptly black, sub-terminal space, succeeded by a whitish terminal margin; six middle tail-feathers dull blackish, passing into drab exteriorly and terminally, the edges still paler, the concealed basal portion buff; next feather similar, but outer web chiefly pale buff; next similar, but with more buff on inner web; outer feather with exterior web wholly pale buff, the inner web deeper buff, with an oblique dusky space near tip, following curve of margin; a broad superciliary stripe of pale grayish buff, less distinct anteriorly; chin and throat white; rest of lower parts pale, dull grayish buff, or dull buffy whitish, becoming nearly pure white on belly and clear pale buff on lower tail-coverts; breast faintly variegated with broad but very indistinct edgings of grayish brown; axillars and under wing-coverts deep cinnamon-buff. Length (skin), 6.30; wing, 4.30; tail, 2.55; exposed culmen, .52; bill from nostril, .33; tarsus, .88; middle toe, .53.

examples of *U. dumetoria* from Chili (Santiago and Valley del Yeso) with which it has been compared. All the latter also show quite distinct paler streaks on the hind neck, which are not observable in the Gregory Bay bird.

Family PTEROPTOCHIDÆ.

24. *Hylactes tarnii* KING.

Port Otway; two specimens.

25. *Pteroptochus rubecula* KITTL.

Port Otway; four specimens.

26. *Scytalopus magellanicus* (LATH.)?

Otter Bay, one adult female; Port Churruca, two young.

I am unable to determine whether these specimens are *S. magellanicus* or *S. obscurus* (King). According to Dr. Scater (Ibis, 1874, pp. 192-194), these two species are "easily distinguishable," the latter "by its larger size, more cinereous color, longer tail, and the faint bars across the rump and lower belly." Yet the alleged difference of size is by no means shown by the measurements which Dr. Scater himself gives, which are as follows:

S. magellanicus ("smaller"). Wing, 2.20; tail, 1.50.

S. obscurus ("larger"). Wing, 2.00; tail, 1.60.

The adult female from Otter Bay measures: wing, 2.00; tail, 2.30. On the other hand, an adult female from Santiago, Chili, determined by Dr. Scater as *S. magellanicus*, has the wing 1.95 and the tail 1.60, while it has the hinder parts of the body, both above and below, distinctly barred with dusky—a character said to distinguish *S. obscurus*.

It is very evident that the birds of this genus need careful revision; but lacking sufficient material I am unable to give them further attention at present.

27. *Scytalopus albifrons* (LANDB.).

Port Otway, two specimens, adult female and young, the former agreeing minutely with a specimen from Valdivia, Chili, received from the National Museum of Chili.

This species is certainly distinct from *S. magellanicus*, as Mr. Allen has already shown (Bull. Am. Mus. Nat. Hist., vol. II, No. 2, p. 99).

Family TROCHILIDÆ.

28. *Eustephanus galeritus* (MOL.).

Port Otway, two specimens.

Family PICIDÆ.

29. *Dryobates lignarius* (MOL.).

Laredo Bay, one specimen.

30. *Campephilus magellanicus* (KING).

Laredo Bay and Sandy Point, two specimens.

Family *ALCEDINIDÆ*.31. *Ceryle stellata* (MEYEN).

Port Otway and Port Churruca, two specimens.

Family *ARIDÆ*.32. *Pyrrhura smaragdina* (G MEL.).

Sandy Point, three specimens.

Family *BUBONIDÆ*.33. *Glaucidium nanum* (KING).

Laredo Bay, two specimens.

34. *Bubo magellanicus* (GM.).

Gregory Bay, one specimen.

Family *FALCONIDÆ*.35. *Falco peregrinus* TUNST.

Elizabeth Island, one specimen (adult male).

36. *Falco sparverius cinnamominus* (SW.).

Sandy Point, one specimen (young female).

37. *Polyborus tharus* (MOL.).

Elizabeth Island, two specimens.

38. *Milvago chimango* (VIEILL.).

Laredo Bay, three specimens.

Family *BUTEONIDÆ*.39. *Geranoaëtus melanoleucus* (VIEILL.).

Elizabeth Island, one specimen.

Family *HÆMATOPODIDÆ*.40. *Hæmatopus ater* (VIEILL.).

Elizabeth Island, two specimens.

41. *Hæmatopus leucopus* (GARN.).

Elizabeth Island, one specimen.

Family *CHARADRIIDÆ*.42. *Belonopterus chilensis* (MOL.).

Gregory Bay, one specimen.

43. *Ægialitis falklandica* (LATH.).

Laredo Bay, one specimen.

44. *Zonibyx modesta* (LICHT.).

Port Otway, one specimen.

The single specimen obtained appears to be the true *modesta* and not the Chilean form, distinguished by Mr. Seeböhm (Geog. Distr. Charadriidæ, p. 106) as *Charadrius modestus rubecola* (ex *Charadrius rubecola* Vig., Zool. Jour., IV, 1829, p. 96).

Family SCOLOPACIDÆ.

45. *Gallinago paraguayæ* (VIEILL.).

Gregory Bay and Laredo Bay, two specimens.

46. *Tringa fuscicollis* VIEILL.

Gregory Bay, one specimen.

47. *Totanus flavipes* (GMEL.).

Gregory Bay, one specimen.

Family RALLIDÆ.

48. *Fulica leucoptera* VIEILL.

Sandy Point, one specimen; certainly referable to this species rather than to *F. leucopyga* Licht.

Family ARDEIDÆ.

49. *Nycticorax obscurus* BONAP.

Port Otway, two specimens.

In the "Water Birds of North America" (vol. I, p. 56), I have expressed my inability to distinguish satisfactorily this form from the ordinary American bird (*N. nycticorax naevius*); but the specimens obtained by the naturalists of the *Albatross* show that the examples (eight in number), on which that statement was based, were not the true or typical *N. obscurus*, as was supposed.

Neither of the two *Albatross* specimens is adult, though one is very nearly so. This one (No. 116282, obtained February 10) is wholly of a dark sooty color, approaching black on the head and neck, and the back glossed with greenish bronze. The under surface of the body is nearly as dark as the upper, but rather more brownish in hue. The younger specimen (No. 116283, ♀, same date) is essentially similar in color except that the throat, fore neck, under parts, back, scapulars, and wing coverts are narrowly streaked with buff, these streaks broadest on the under surface of the body.

Without having seen adult specimens, I can not, of course, express a decided opinion as to whether the present bird should rank as a species or subspecies; but, considering the marked individual variation in color among the eight examples examined when the remarks above referred to were written, I am at present inclined to the belief that the true *N. obscurus* is simply an extreme variation, or melanism, of the same form as the lighter colored birds from Chili and other parts of southern South America.

Family ANATIDÆ.

50. *Chloephaga magellanica* (GMEL.)
Elizabeth Island, one specimen (adult female).
51. *Chloephaga antarctica* (GMEL.).
Two specimens (male and female), without labels.
52. *Tachyeres cinereus* (GMEL.).
Elizabeth Island, one specimen. Also two specimens without labels.
53. *Pœcilonetta cristata* (GMEL.).
Elizabeth Island, one specimen (adult female).
54. *Nettion flavirostris* (VIEILL.).
Port Famine, two specimens; Sandy Point, one specimen.
55. *Querquedula versicolor* (VIEILL.).
Gregory Bay; one specimen.

Family PHALACROCORACIDÆ.

56. *Phalacrocorax vigua* (VIEILL.).
Port Otway, one adult female, in nearly full nuptial plumage.
This species is the *P. brasilianus* (GMEL.) of authors, based on *Puffinus brasiliensis* BRISSON, the latter based on the *Majague* of PISON; but it is almost incomprehensible how such an identification should have been made, Pison's bird being described by Brisson as having the feathers of the throat or lower neck yellow ("quæ partem colli inferiorem obtegunt, sunt flavæ") and if a *Phalacrocorax* at all cannot possibly be identified with this or any other known species. On the other hand, Vieillot's "*Le Cormoran vigua, Hydrocorax vigua*" (Nouv. Dict. Hist. Nat., VIII, 1817, p. 90) from Paraguay, is unquestionably this species, and probably the oldest name for it.* Vieillot's description coincides very minutely with the *Albatross* specimen, except that the latter lacks the lengthened whitish filamentous feathers behind the eyes, which, being exceedingly temporary, have probably been lost, or possibly not yet assumed.

Phalacrocorax vigua (Vieill.) is very closely allied to *P. mexicanus* (Brandt); so closely, in fact, that the differences are not readily expressed, being, in fact, not greater than between the different races of *P. dilophus*, as, for example, the true *P. dilophus* and *P. dilophus floridanus*. The only differences which I am able to discern consist in the somewhat smaller size of *P. mexicanus*, and somewhat paler and browner central areas of the wing-coverts, scapulars, and interscapulars, rendering

* Bonaparte (*Consp.*, II, p. 172) and Schlegel (*Hist. Nat. Mus. P.-B.*, VI, No. 21, livr. 4, *Pelecani*, p. 22) make matters still worse, by including *P. dilophus* and other species together with the present one under the species they call *P. brasilianus*!

the black borders to these feathers rather more distinct. But I very much doubt whether these slight differences in coloration would prove constant were a series of specimens of the two forms compared. In short, it seems almost certain that *P. mexicanus* is simply a smaller intertropical race of *P. vigua*, in which case it should be called *P. vigua mexicanus*.

57. *Urile magellanica* (Gmel.).

San Martin Island, one specimen.

58. *Urile albiventer* (Less.)?

San Martin Island, one adult female.

This is apparently the species called *Phalacrocorax albiventris* by Selater and Salvin (Voy. *Challenger*, Zoölogy, vol. II, pt. VIII, p. 121, pl. 25, fig. 2), but the crest is different both as to position and form from that indicated in both the description and figure cited, since it springs directly from the forehead instead of the middle of the crown, and the feathers are quite straight instead of being distinctly recurved.

Family LARIDÆ.

59. *Larus dominicanus* Licht.

Sandy Point, six specimens; Elizabeth Island, one specimen.

60. *Larus glaucodes* Meyen.

Port Otway, three specimens.

61. *Sterna hirundinacea* Less.

Elizabeth Island and Point Grappler, two specimens.

Family STERCORARIIDÆ.

62. *Megalestris antarcticus* (Less.).

St. Peter and St. Paul Island, one specimen.

Family DIOMEDEIDÆ.

63. *Diomedea melanophrys* Temm.

One specimen, without label.

Family PROCELLARIIDÆ.

64. *Puffinus major* Fabr.

"Off Patagonia," one specimen.

Family COLYMBIDÆ.

65. *Colymbus rollandi* (Quoy and Gaim.).

One specimen; locality not given.

Family SPHENISCIDÆ.

66. *Spheniscus magellanicus* (Forst.).

Two specimens, without labels.