

ON A COLLECTION OF BIRDS FROM THE VICINITY OF BOGOTA, WITH A
REVIEW OF THE SOUTH AMERICAN SPECIES OF SPECTYTO
AND TROGLODYTES.

BY WITMER STONE.

Through the generosity of Dr. Samuel G. Dixon, President of the Academy, the institution has come into possession of a collection of birds made in 1888-89, by the late Dr. J. W. Detwiller in the vicinity of Bogota, Colombia. So many specimens have been obtained from this region that a list of the species adds but few to those already recorded in Bogota collections. The fact, however, that these specimens, with but few exceptions, are marked with definite localities renders them of greater importance as throwing some light upon the distribution of the species.

The principal points at which specimens were obtained are Honda, on the Magdalena river, seventy miles northwest of Bogota; Ambalema, farther up the Magdalena, about forty miles from Bogota; Ibague, ninety miles west, on the slopes of the central Cordilleras, and on the Nevada del Tolima, about twenty miles west of Ibague. A few were also collected at Villa Vicencia east of the eastern Cordilleras in the Territory of San Martin, sixty miles southeast of Bogota, and on the headwaters of the Meta, a branch of the Orinoco.

The list follows. Unless otherwise stated only one specimen was secured, and where no locality is mentioned the labels have been lost.

Merganetta columbiana (DeMurs).

No exact data.

Belonopterus cayennensis (Gmel.).

Plain of Tolima.

Ortalis caracco (Wagl.).

Magdalena river, February 5, 1888.

Zenaida ruficauda (Gray).

Plain of Tolima.

Speotyto cunicularia tolimæ sub. sp. nov.

Five specimens secured May 27, 1889, on the Plain of Tolima, where they were breeding and had eggs at this date.

Type No. 35,239, Coll. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila., ♀. March 27, 1889.

Smaller and darker than any of the other forms of *Speotyto* with less white above, approaching nearest to *S. brachyptera* Richm., from Margarita Island, Venezuela. General ground color above dark Prout's brown to almost sepia, spots on margins of remiges mainly buff, on coverts and scapulars white. Forehead and throat pure white. Five narrow buff bands on the tail and narrow buff tips to the feathers. The bars on the abdomen are somewhat broken and irregular, and are dark brown edged narrowly with cinnamon. Length of wing, 6 ins.

There seem to be at least five races of Burrowing Owls in South America as follows:

1. *S. cunicularia* (Molina).

(Type locality, Chile).

Distributed over the southern part of the continent from Chile and Uruguay southward. It differs from all the more northern forms in its larger size, and in the large amount of white on the outer tail feathers. In these the ground color is white with rather narrow brown cross bars. *S. patagonica* Peale and *S. urucurea* Lesson, I take to be synonyms of this form.

All the more northern birds that I have seen are smaller and darker, with the ground color of the outer tail feathers brown, marked with white spots on the sides. These spots are sometimes nearly confluent into bands, but the white never surpasses the brown in extent as in *S. cunicularia*.

2. *S. c. grallaria* (Spix).

(Type loc., Para, Brazil).

Apparently agrees with the characters just given—thus differing from *cunicularia*. I have been unable to examine specimens of the Brazilian bird and am forced to rely upon descriptions, so that I am unable to show in what respects this differs from the following. From its geographical range it is almost certainly distinct.

3. *S. c. nanodes* Berl. and Stolzm. P. Z. S., 1892, p. 388.

(Type loc., Lima, Peru.)

This is the bird identified by Peale and Cassin as *grallaria*, and they have been followed provisionally by Ridgway. On geographical grounds it is extremely doubtful that this is identical with the Brazilian form, and I think the authors have done well to separate it.

The U. S. Exploring Expedition specimens are much bleached, but otherwise agree with Berlepsch's description.

4. *S. c. tolimæ* Stone.

(Type loc., Tolima, Colombia.)

Smaller and darker than the last, as above described. In *nanodes* the white on the outer tail feathers generally extends across as distinct bands and the brown bands are of nearly uniform width throughout. In *tolimæ*, however, the brown bands are wider in the middle, and confluent along the shaft, separating the white into rounded spots.

On the middle tail feathers, the buff cross bands are extremely narrow in *tolimæ* (.10-.12 in.), and do not reach the outer margins of the feathers, while in *nanodes* they are broad (.20-.25 in.), and extend to the margin.

5. *S. brachyptera* Richm.

(Type loc., Margarita Isl., Venezuela.)

An island form allied to the last.

Megascops brasiliensis (Gmel.).

Honda, March 27, 1889.

Rupornis magnirostris (Gmel.).

Honda and Ibaguè.

Falco sparverius æquatorialis Mearns.

Two specimens. Plains of Tolima.

Brotogerys jugularis (Müll.)

Pionus menstruus (L.).

Ambalema.

Psittacula conspicillata Lafr.

Villa Vicencia, Llanos San Martin, and Ambalema.

Diplopterus nœvius (L.).

Ibaguè.

Momotus æquatorialis (Gould).

Ibague (Rio Combeima).

Momotus subrufescens Sel.

Ambalema and Honda.

Urospatha martii (Spix).

Honda, March 17, 1889.

Aulacorhamphus castaneorhynchus Gould.

Rio Combeima, above Ibague.

Galbula ruficauda Cuv.

Honda and Ambalema. Nine specimens.

Chelidoptera tenebrosa Vieill.

Villa Vicencia, Llanos San Martin.

This capture extends the westward range of this bird materially, and indicates how closely the Venezuelan fauna of the Orinoco valley approaches Bogota, which lies in the highlands just over the eastern Cordilleras.

Bucco ruficollis (Wagl.).

Picumnis olivaceus Lafr.

Ibague. Two specimens.

Melanerpes cruentatus (Bodd.)

Villa Vicencia, Llanos San Martin.

Trogon collaris Vieill.

Nevada del Tolima, Rio Cambeima. Two specimens.

Pharomacharus pavoninus (Spix).

Nevada del Tolima. Two specimens.

Hemiprocne zonaris (Shaw).

Island on Magdalena river, near Ambalema, April 12, 1889.]

Nyctidromus albicollis (Gm.).

Honda, March 29, 1889.

Rhamphomicon heteropogon (Briss.).

Eriocnemis smaragdinipectus Gould.

Cyanophaia goudoti (Bourc.).

Ibague.

Metallura tyrianthina (Bodd.).

Lesbia victoriæ (Bourc. and Muls.).

Petasphora iolata Gould.

Aglæactis cupreipennis (Bourc. and Muls.).

Thalurania columbica (Bourc.).

Ibague.

Damophila juliæ (Bourc.).

Ibague.

Rupicola peruviana (Lath.).

Nevada del Tolima.

Manacus manacus abditivus Bangs.

Honda.

Todirostrum cinereum (L.).

Ochthoeca fumicolor ScL.

Leptopogon superciliaris Cab.

Milvulus tyrannus (L.).

Honda, March 17, 1889.

Legatus albicollis (Vieill.).

Ambalema, April 6, 1889.

Sayornis nigricans (Swains.).

Ibague.

Pyrocephalus rubineus (Bodd.).

Ambalema. Six specimens. April 12-16, 1889.

Thamnophilus multistriatus (Lafr.).

A typical male specimen from Antioquia. Also a female without locality which resembles it exactly in size of bill and general proportions, but is uniform rufous above, lighter beneath, with a lighter collar on the hind neck, obscurely streaked with black; sides of face similarly streaked, throat whitish. It looks very much as if this was the female of this species, though it is said to be barred below in the British Museum Catalogue.

Dendroplex picirostris Lafr.

Ambalema, April 12, 1889.

Synallaxis subpudica Selater.

Ambalema, April 12, 1889.

Scytalophus griseicollis (Lafr.).

Icterus giraudi Cass.

Ibague.

Hypopyrrhus pyrohypogaster De Tarr.

Nevada del Tolima. Two specimens.

Ostinops salmonii Scl.

Rio Combeima, Nevada del Tolima.

Ostinops decumanus (Pall.).

Honda (Rio Guali) and Rio Combeima, Nevada del Tolima.

Embernagra conirostris.

Ambalema, April 8, 1889.

Phrygilus unicolor geospizopsis (Bp.).

Sporophila minuta (L.).

Honda, March 29, 1889.

Sycalis flaveola (L.).

Eutheia bicolor (L.).

Ibague. Two specimens.

Rhamphocelus icteronotus Bp.

Ibague.

Rhamphocelus jacapa (L.).

Villa Vicencia, Llanos San Martin, April 9, 1888.

Rhamphocelus dimidiatus Lath.

Ambalema and Ibague, April 8-16, 1889.

Calospiza cyaneicollis granadensis Berl.

Ibague. Two specimens.

Calospiza vitriolina (Cab.).

Ibague.

Calospiza labradorides (Boiss.).

Ibague.

Calospiza aurulenta Lafr.

Ibague.

Calospiza gyroloides (Lafr.).

Ibague.

Dubusia tæniata (Boiss.).

Buarremon pallidinucha (Boiss.).

Arremon spectabilis Scl.

Honda, March 21, 1889.

Piranga rubra (L.).

Honda, March 21, 1889.

Conirostrum rufum Lafr.

Heleodytes nuchalis (Cab.).

Two specimens, without locality, have the sandy tint on the nape, and thus differ from *H. pardus* Sel., the Colombian form, indicating that the latter may be, as suggested (Brit. Mus. Cat., vi, p. 204) only an individual variation of *nuchalis*.¹

Troglodytes striatulus Lafr.

Honda, two specimens.

Troglodytes columbæ sp. nov.

Type 35,354, Coll. Acad. Nat. Sci. Vicinity of Bogota.

It is with some hesitation that I add another to the long list of names proposed for South American Wrens, but this is so different from any described form that there seems no alternative.

This bird is nearest to *T. striatulus*, but is darker and more olive brown above, without a trace of the rufous tints so characteristic of South American species of *Troglodytes*. *T. striatulus* is practically without rufous tints, but the feathers of the rump or upper tail coverts as well as the tail are lighter and incline to rufous or yellowish brown. There is no trace of this, however, in *T. columbæ*, both rump and tail being dark olive brown. The black bands on the tail are rather more irregular than in *striatulus* and those on the back are a little more pronounced. The under surface is quite as different from *T. striatulus* as are the upper parts; it is uniform ochraceous or vinaceous from the chin to the vent without a trace of white, and no trace of fulvous on the flanks which are uniform in ground color with the rest of the lower surface. The sides and flanks are shaded with olive brown and obscurely banded. The under tail coverts are buffy, with a slight rufous tinge, and are strongly barred with black. The bars do not quite reach the edges of the feathers, and are connected down the shaft. The sides of the head are almost exactly like *T. striatulus*, but with the ground color darker. Length of wing, 2.15 ins.

This is the darkest *Troglodytes* that I have seen from South or

¹ It is possible this, as well as some others of the unlabelled specimens, came from Cartagena. See pp. 312-13.

Central America, and can be recognized at a glance from any of the other species.

Though its dark under surface makes it appear very different from the white-throated and white-bellied *T. striatulus*, it is evidently most closely allied to that species.

Unfortunately, the label has been lost from the specimen, so that the exact locality is unknown.

The identification of this bird involved a study of all the South and Central American species of *Troglodytes*, and an examination of the specimens in the collections of the Academy and the U. S. National Museum, the latter having been kindly loaned me for the purpose.

While the material is insufficient for a monograph, the results of the investigation may be of value to those engaged in studying this rather perplexing group.

The tropical American species of *Troglodytes* may at once be separated into two groups, those with distinct superciliaries, sharply defined against the color of the head, and those with superciliaries indistinct. The first are not difficult, and stand as given in the British Museum Catalogue, Vol. vi, p. 248. The other group is much more confusing.

From southern Mexico to Panama south of the range of *T. aedon* and its races, we have a Wren with rufous-tinted rump and tail, and vinaceous below, with under tail coverts strongly barred with black, white and vinaceous. This is *T. intermedius* Cab. in Nicaragua and northern Costa Rica (type loc., San José) and *T. inquietus* Baird, in Costa Rica and Panama (type loc., Panama), the more southern form differing in larger size.

The two are, however, so close that it seems undesirable to separate them.

In the vicinity of Bogota we find a totally different bird, *T. striatulus*, which compared with the preceding is olive brown instead of reddish brown above, and much lighter beneath, being pure white on the throat and middle of the abdomen. The under tail coverts are banded with black and white.

Next to this comes the very much darker *T. columbae* Stone above described.

The rest of South America is inhabited by various races of one wide-ranging form, all of which are peculiar in their strongly

rufous tail contrasting with the browner tint of the back and the strongly rufous under tail coverts and thighs, the former with the bars much reduced and sometimes nearly wanting.

Many names have been proposed for the birds of this group, of which the following seem to be recognizable.

1. *Troglodytes musculus* Naum. Vogel's Deutschland, 1823.

T. furrus Wiedii Berl.

T. platensis Wied.

Distribution.—Brazil, Argentine and Uruguay (type loc., Bahia, Brazil).

This is the darkest form, with obscure bars of blackish on the back always present. Under surface vinaceous, darker and inclining to rufous on the flanks and under tail coverts, but not nearly so tawny as in the west-coast races. Under tail coverts barred or distinctly spotted with black, in direct contrast to the nearly uniform rufous-coverts of the western races.

This bird has been frequently called *T. furrus* Gm., but I agree with Sharpe and Allen in the impossibility of satisfactorily identifying the "Brown Warbler" of Brown's *Illustrations of Zoölogy*, upon which Gmelin based his name. Berlepsch seems to have regarded the Guiana bird (*rufulus*) as true "*furrus*," and renamed this form *T. f. Wiedii*, claiming that although Wied's description of *T. platensis* is unquestionably this form, it is not *Sylvia platensis* Lath., which he quotes. *T. musculus* Naum antedates Berlepsch's name, and must of course be adopted.

2. *Troglodytes musculus rufulus* Cab. Schomb., Reis. Guian., iii, p. 672 (1848).

T. tobagensis Lawr.

Distribution.—Guiana, Venezuela and N. E. Colombia (type loc., Roraima, Guiana).

This is a light-colored race banded on the back as in *T. musculus*, but much paler and sometimes quite white below.

3. *Troglodytes musculus rex* (Berl. and Leverk.).

Distribution.—Eastern Bolivia (type loc., Samarpatá).

A pale form of *musculus*.

4. *Troglodytes musculus hornensis* (Less.).

T. rosaceus Less.

T. pallida Lafr. and d'Orb.

T. magellanicus Gould.

Distribution.—Chile and Patagonia.

The Wrens of the Pacific coast of South America are paler than true *musculus*, and are generally without bars on the back, and with the under tail coverts nearly or quite uniform tawny, the flanks and rump are also much more conspicuously tawny and the whole plumage paler. The specimens I have examined from Patagonia and Chile are darker than those from Callao, Peru, which seem to be *T. m. audax*. If this determination is correct, then *T. m. audax* is the lightest colored, most rufous of the genus, and *T. hornensis* is intermediate between that and *T. musculus*. If *hornensis* and *audax* are both based on pale-colored birds, then they may have to be regarded as synonyms, and *T. magellanicus* revived for the darker more southern birds.

T. hornensis is usually described as very pale and rufous, in which case I cannot separate it from *T. audax* of Callao. Sharpe (*Cat. Bds.*, vi, p. 207) seems to regard *T. audax* as not determinable; if this view is followed then probably *hornensis* and *magellanicus* should be adopted as above.

The darker Chilean birds which I here regard as *T. hornensis* are lighter than *musculus* with more tawny tail, under tail coverts with but few spots and back without bars.

5. *Troglodytes musculus audax* (Tschudi).

Distribution.—Coast of Peru (type loc., Peru).

Palest of the group; rump, flank and tail very bright tawny, and dark bars on the tail indistinct and suffused with the prevailing tawny tint. No bars on the back.

6. *Troglodytes musculus tecellatus* (Lafre. and d'Orb.).

(?) *T. murinus* Less.

Distribution.—Peru (type loc., Tacna).

This is a darker bird with distinct cross bars on the back differing in this respect from all the other trans-Andean forms. From *musculus* it differs in being much more rufous both above and below. The tail is very distinctly barred with black, presenting a very different appearance from that of *T. audax*. Mr. Ridgway states that the specimens in the Lafresnay collection labelled as the types of this species are in reality *T. brunneicollis* of Mexico. The labels must have been confused, however, as the description is certainly not from that bird.

7. *Troglodytes musculus puna* (Berl. and Stolz.).

Distribution.—Highlands of Peru (type loc., Queta).

Larger than *T. musculus* and color below not at all rufescent. Under tail coverts with very few spots.

8. *Troglodytes musculus albicans* (Berl. and Tacz.).

Distribution.—Ecuador (type loc., Guaquil).

Throat and middle of abdomen pure white, paler and grayer above than *musculus* and sides more rufescent.

The last two and *T. m. rex* I have not seen, and am therefore in much doubt as to the forms from Peru, Ecuador and Bolivia. If *tecellata*, *puna* and *audax* all occur in Peru, and are perfectly separable, they must occupy very different geographic areas.

The confusion of the tropical American Wrens in the published works is very perplexing. The *Biologia Centrali Americana* recognizes but two forms of the group here treated, *i. e.*, *T. intermedius* of Central America and *T. furvus* of South America! The British Museum Catalogue is much better, but it is difficult to imagine how Dr. Sharpe can unite the Wrens of Panama and Bogota under *T. striatulus* and separate *T. intermedius*. The Panama birds which I have seen are scarcely distinguishable from *T. intermedius*, while the true *striatulus* from Bogota is very different.

Cinclus leuconotus Lafr.

Bogota, January 5, 1889.

Mimus gilvus Vieill.

Plain of Tolima.

Merula ignobilis Selater.

Rio Totare, Plain of Tolima and Ibague.

Merula gigas (Frazer).

Bogota, March 28, 1888.

A few specimens were obtained by Dr. Detwiller on the north coast of Colombia near Cartagena. These are as follows:

Chrysolampis moschatus (L.).

Four specimens.

Cyanophaia goudoti (Bourc.).

Three specimens doubtfully referred to this species. They are a little smaller than the specimen from Ibague mentioned above, which is evidently an adult male; and also differ in having the lower part of the abdomen and flanks grayish white, and the back more bronze tinted, one specimen especially showing brilliant coppery reflections. The under tail coverts are greener than in the Ibague specimen, which is exactly the reverse of the supposed females described in the British Museum Catalogue, xvi, p. 235.

While these may be females or young of *C. goudoti*, it seems quite likely that they represent a northern race of this bird.

Synallaxis candæi Lafr. and d'Orb.

Base of La Popa, Cartagena, January 23, 1888.

Arremon schlegeli Bp.

Two-thirds up La Popa, 600 feet elevation, Cartagena, January 23, 1888.

Cœreba luteola (Cab.).

Base of La Popa, Cartagena, January 23, 1888.