L. ludovicianus.

South Carolina	11
Georgia	10
Florida	38
Alabama	3
Mississippi	2
Louisiana	8
Total	72
Total of both forms	176

I am under special obligations to many friends: To Mr. Ridgway for the use of the National Museum series; to Dr. T. S. Roberts, of Minneapolis, who sent me the entire Minnesota State collection; to Dr. A. K. Fisher for the use of many specimens; to Mr. Gustave Kohn, of New Orleans; Mr. Ora W. Knight, of Maine; Dr. C. K. Clarke, of Kingston, Ontario; Mr. W. R. Robinson, of Wingina, Virginia, and Mr. James Gaut, of Washington, D. C.

DESCRIPTIONS OF TWO NEW BIRDS FROM THE SANTA BARBARA ISLANDS, SOUTHERN CALIFORNA.

BY EDGAR A. MEARNS.

Carpodacus clementis, new species.

SAN CLEMENTE HOUSE FINCH.

Carpodacus frontalis TOWNSEND, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., XIII, No. 799, 1890, pp. 139 (Santa Barbara Island, California), 140 (San Clemente and Santa Rosa Islands, California).

Carpodacus mexicanus frontalis GRINNELL, Rep. on the Birds of Santa Barbara, San Nicolas and San Clemente Islands, Pub ication No. I of the Pasadena Academy of Sciences, August, 1897, pp. 6 (Santa Barbara Island, California), 10 (San Nicolas Island) 16 and 17 (San Clemente Island.)

Type from San Clemente Island, California, adult male, No. 134,784, U. S. National Museum. Collected by the author, August 25, 1894.

(Original number, 11,345.) In somewhat worn and faded breeding plumage.

Diagnosis. — Similar to *Carpodacus mexicanus frontalis* (Say), but with larger legs and feet and heavier coloration. The striping of the under surface is much broader than in typical specimens of *frontalis* from the eastern base of the Rocky Mountains. The wings are shorter, the tail perhaps a trifle longer, and the bill much larger and more convex above. It is, in fact, intermediate between the form of *frontalis* inhabiting the neighboring mainland of California and *Carpodacus mcgregori* Anthony,[1] from San Benito Island, about twenty miles west of Cerros (or Cedros) Island, Lower California, which latter (*C. mcgregori*) is but another step towards *Carpodacus amplus* Ridgway of Guadalupe Island.

C. clementis requires no comparison with typical *C. mexicanus* or with the subspecies *ruberrimus* from the peninsula of Lower California. The form *rhodocolpus*, of the tableland of southwestern Mexico, is quite similar in coloration, but much larger, with a much smaller and differently shaped bill.

Measurements. — Length, 162 mm.; alar expanse, 250; wing, 80; tail, 65; chord of culmen, 13; height of bill, 9; width of maxilla, 8.8; width of mandible, 9; tarsus, 19; middle toe and claw, 20.5.

Remarks. — This House Finch was obtained by Mr. Charles H. Townsend, in 1888 and 1889, on San Clemente and Santa Barbara Islands. In August, 1894, Mr. Anthony and myself obtained a good series of them on San Clemente; and, in 1897, Mr. Joseph Grinnell collected specimens on Santa Barbara, San Nicolas, and San Clemente. There are other specimens in the Smithsonian collection, gathered by Drs. Palmer, Henshaw, Cooper, and others from Santa Catalina, Santa Rosa, San Miguel, and Santa Cruz Islands of the Santa Barbara group.

Mr. Grinnell has published (l. c. pp. 16, 17, etc.) the following important notices of this bird: "The most abundant bird of San Clemente Island. Common everywhere, but most numerous in the deep gorges, whose walls are broken by dark caverns and festooned with cactus. In such places, especially in the vicinity of the water 'tanks,' the linnets fairly swarmed, and their full, rollicking songs reverberated incessantly. Their food appeared to be mainly composed of the fleshy cactus fruits, of which there

[1] Auk, XIV, April 1897, p. 165.

was certainly an abundant supply. The nests are built either in cactus, or in niches in the roofs and walls of the caverns. In the latter places the nests vary much in bulk, being fitted to the cavities in which they are built. A large cavity is nearly filled with a mass of fine grasses, weed stems and wool, with only a narrow aperture left at the top. Nests in cactus are built in the center of a clump of spiny stems, from one to three feet above the ground. These can seldom be reached except by breaking down the cactus. They are more compact than those in the rocks, but made of the same materials. Two to five eggs form a full set. They are similar to those of the mainland bird except in size, being decidedly larger. A fresh set taken March 30, measure, .84 × .60 [inch], .80 × .63, .82 × .62, .80 × .63. A partially incubated set of five taken March 31, measure, .80 × .56, .80 × .59, .82 × .57, .85 × .56, .86 × .58. The nesting season begins early, as nearly-fledged young were noted on March 28. On June 5, incubated eggs were taken. The House Finches on San Clemente Island average larger and brighter colored than those of the mainland. This case well illustrates the tendency of the insular birds to acquire larger proportions of the bill or feet. In this genus, the extremes are reached further south in *C. mcgregori* and *C. amplus*. The following are the average measurements of the bills of a series each of the San Clemente and mainland House Finches:

	Gonys.	Culmen.	Depth of bill at base.	Width of upper mandible.
San Clemente Is.....	.32	.43	.35	.30
Pasadena.....	.29	.40	.33	.28

"Forty-seven specimens of the House Finch were obtained on this island.

On Santa Barbara Island, Mr. Grinnell found it "common on the eastern part of the island among the patches of cholla cactus, the fruit of which the linnets were eating. Juveniles were plentiful. A nest was found on the side of a ravine, May 17; it was

built between the leaves [joints] of a cactus about eighteen inches above the ground, and composed entirely of fine dry grass-blades. It contained four badly-incubated eggs, three of which measure: .76 × .56, .75 × .59, .83 × .59. Fourteen House Finches were taken on this island."

On San Nicolas Island, Mr. Grinnell notes that "only about twenty were seen during our stay on the island, so this bird is by no means common. Fully fledged juveniles were noted, and a nest found May 25. It was in a hole in the sand-stone bluff above the beach, but could not be reached. The female was seen to leave it on several occasions. Four specimens of the House Finch were taken."

Lanius ludovicianus anthonyi, new subspecies.

ISLAND SHRIKE.

Lanius ludovicianus gambeli GRINNELL, Rep. on the Birds of Santa Barbara, San Nicolas, and San Clemente Islands, Publication No. I of the Pasadena Academy of Sciences, August, 1897, pp. 19, 20. (San Clemente Island.)

Type from Santa Cruz Island, California. Adult female, No. ——, U. S. National Museum. Collected by Mr. R. H. Beck, May 6, 1897. (Original number, 131.)

Adult. — Upper surface of head and body, dark slate-gray, paler — but usually not whitish — on the scapulars and upper tail-coverts, and darkest on the head, which has the faintest trace of a hoary line behind the black rictus, extending above the eye. Wings and tail black and white, the former gray and white below; white areas on wings and tail much more restricted than in the other forms of the *Lanius ludovicianus* group. The white on the upper surface of the wing is confined to the extreme base of the primaries and the extreme tips of the secondaries. The scapulars are edged externally with light gray — not white. Under surface of wing mostly gray, but white along the bend of the wing and across the base of the quills. Tail-feathers all black at base, tipped with white, with white on terminal two-thirds of outer web of lateral feathers. The terminal white on middle pair of rectrices is confined to a narrow edging which soon disappears with wear. The under surface of body is gray, palest mesially, and becoming white on throat and crissum. Iris brown. Bill plumbeous black. Feet black.

Young in first plumage. — Pattern similar to that of adult, but with head and body everywhere vermiculated with dusky and pale fulvous, except on the chin, which is white. Wings and tail with the light areas