

Females (presumed and ascertained; two specimens): Wing, 16.75-18.00 (17.37); tail, 7.40-8.40 (7.90); culmen, 2.30-2.35 (2.32); depth of bill through angle, .80; at base, .83-.88 (.85); tarsus, 2.60-2.72 (2.66); middle toe (with claw) 2.68-2.75 (2.71).

There is apparently no difference in plumage between the two species in the immature plumages, of which the National Museum collection possesses a good series in all stages; but they may be very readily distinguished by the size and shape of the bill, as pointed out above.

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF OYSTER-CATCHER FROM THE GALAPAGOS ISLANDS.

BY ROBERT RIDGWAY.

Hæmatopus galapagensis, sp. nov.

SP. CHAR.—Somewhat similar to *H. palliatus* Temm., but differing as follows: Back, scapulars, and wings sooty black (as in *H. leucopus* Garn.), instead of grayish brown; shorter upper tail-coverts entirely black, and the longer ones barred or spotted with black at ends; under primary-coverts chiefly black; white of greater wing-coverts and secondaries much more restricted. Wing, 10.00; tail, 3.80-3.90; culmen, 3.12-3.42; depth of bill at thickest portion anterior to nostril, .50; tarsus, 2.12-2.20; middle toe, 1.65. (Type, No. 101,319. U. S. Nat. Mus.)

HABITAT. Chatham Island, Galapagos. (Three specimens, collected by Dr. Wm. H. Jones, U. S. N., Surgeon U. S. S. 'Wachusett'.)

PRELIMINARY DESCRIPTIONS OF SOME NEW SPECIES OF BIRDS FROM SOUTHERN MEXICO, IN THE COLLECTION OF THE MEXICAN GEOGRAPHICAL AND EXPLORING COMMISSION.

BY ROBERT RIDGWAY.

PUBLICATION of the annotated catalogue* of the beautiful and unique collection of birds made by the naturalists of the Mexican

*To be published in Vol IX, 'Proceedings' of the U.S. National Museum, with full descriptions and appropriate critical remarks. The author is indebted to the Director of the National Museum, for his kind permission to publish in advance these condensed diagnoses.