

ON THREE APPARENTLY NEW SUBSPECIES OF MEXICAN BIRDS.*

BY WILLIAM BREWSTER.

Glaucidium gnoma hoskinsii, † new subspecies.—HOSKIN'S PIGMY OWL.

SUBS. CHAR. Similar to *G. gnoma californica* but smaller and grayer, the forehead and facial disc with more white, the upperparts less distinctly spotted.

♂ *ad.* (No. 14,153, collection W. Brewster, Sierra de la Laguna, Lower California, May 10, 1887; M. Abbott Frazar). Above faded brown tinged with ashy on the crown and back, with faint rusty on the wings and tail, the crown, nape, and back with numerous small, indistinct, irregular shaped spots of rusty white, the rump and upper tail-coverts with larger, rounder ones of nearly pure white; fore back crossed by a collar of rusty ochraceous, this bordered anteriorly by blackish and some nearly concealed white; scapulars and some of the wing-coverts with large conspicuous spots of white or rusty white; wing quills crossed by numerous light bars, nearly obsolete excepting on the outer webs of the third, fourth, and fifth primaries where, beyond the point of emargination, they are distinctly marked by white spots, two or three on each feather, and on the inner webs of all the quills (excepting those of the emarginated primaries beyond the point of emargination), where they are pure white for about two-thirds of the distance from the inner margin to the shaft; tail crossed by seven imperfect bands of white (the last **terminal**) formed by narrow, transverse, opposite spots not touching the shaft on either side; forehead, nasal plumes, and sides of head sparsely flecked with dusky on a pure white ground; sides of neck uniform with nape; underparts pure white, the chin, sides of throat, jugulum, middle of abdomen, and anal region immaculate, the sides of the breast and a broad band across the throat reddish brown; flanks and under tail-coverts with coarse longitudinal streaks of clove brown more or less tinged with rusty; under wing-coverts and bend of wing white, the former with some coarse blackish markings; feathering of legs white, tinged, or perhaps obscurely flecked, with brown along the back of the tarsus.

Wing, 3.25; tail, 2.55; tarsus, .73; bill: chord of culmen from base, .50; ditto from nostril, .35; depth of bill at nostril, .35.

Two other adult males from the same locality, taken respectively June 1 and June 4, measure: wing, 3.33, 3.21; tail, 2.51, 2.35; tarsus, .76, .77; bill: chord of culmen from base, .55, .50; ditto from nostril, .32, .34; depth at nostril, .31, .35.

Habitat. Lower California.

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† To Mr. Francis Hoskins of Triunfo, Lower California, by request of Mr. Frazar to whom Mr. Hoskins rendered invaluable aid in the exploration of the Sierra de la Laguna.

Mitrephanes phæocercus tenuirostris, new subspecies.—**SLENDER-BILLED FLYCATCHER.**

SUBS. CHAR. Similar to *M. phæocercus* but with the general coloring paler, the bill shorter and very much narrower.

♀ *ad.* (No. 14, 150, collection W. Brewster, near Oposura, Sonora, Mexico, June 7th, 1887; J. C. Cahoon, No. 1129). Above brownish drab, the wings and tail nearly uniform with the back and crown but perhaps a shade browner; middle and greater wing-coverts tipped with white, forming wing-bands; forehead tinged with ochraceous; lores dusky; a narrow orbital ring of buffy white; a band or half collar passing around the hind neck, sides of neck, auriculars, cheeks, bend of wing, under wing-coverts, and remainder of underparts clay color, palest on throat and under tail-coverts, deepest—somewhat ochraceous—on the breast, under wing-coverts, and sides of neck. Length,* 5.45; extent,* 8.50; wing, 2.72; tail, 2.42; bill: length from base, .45; length from nostril, .25; width at nostril, .20.

Habitat. Western Mexico (Sonora, Mazatlan).

The National Museum collection contains eight specimens labelled *M. phæocercus*, one from Guatemala, one from Coban, three from Orizaba, two from Mazatlan, and one marked simply Mexico. Of these the first five may be referred confidently to *phæocercus* (the Guatemala specimen, from the collection of Messrs. Salvin & Godman, is marked "compared with type"). Of the remaining three one (No. 51,506, Mazatlan, Feb. 1868; F. Bischoff) has an even smaller bill than the type of *tenuirostris*. Although somewhat deeper colored it doubtless belongs to the same form. The two remaining birds have broader bills and still deeper coloring and are probably intermediate between *phæocercus* and *tenuirostris*.

Dendroica æstiva sonorana, new subspecies—**SONORA YELLOW WARBLER.**

SUBS. CHAR. ♂ most nearly like ♂ *D. æ. morcomi* but with the underparts even more faintly and sparsely streaked, the upperparts, especially the rump, wings and tail much yellower, the light (yellowish) edging of wing-quills and coverts broader, the interscapulars with more or less conspicuous shaft-stripes of purplish chestnut; ♀ much paler and grayer than the ♀ of either *æstiva* or *morcomi*.

♂ *ad.* (No. 14, 151, collection W. Brewster, Oposura, Sonora, Mexico, April 7, 1887; J. C. Cahoon, No. 559). General coloring rich gamboge yellow, deepest beneath, tinged with brownish orange on the crown, with

* Collector's measurements of fresh bird.

faint greenish olive on the occiput, nape, back, scapulars, and outer edges of the primaries, secondaries, and greater wing-coverts; interscapulars with conspicuous shaft-streaks of purplish chestnut; rump, middle and lesser wing-coverts and both webs of tertials, pure yellow; upper tail-coverts yellow with broad shaft-stripes of dull brownish olive; tail feathers, rich yellow, the shafts black, bordered on the outer webs by dark brown for varying distances from the tips; on the outer pair the dark color extends backward about half an inch, on the others from an inch to an inch and three-eighths; on the middle pair it occupies most of the terminal two-thirds of the inner web also; all the tail feathers are yellow across both webs for half an inch or more from their bases, and on all the brown spaces are bordered outwardly with yellow; wing quills clove brown with the outer webs edged narrowly with greenish yellow, the inner webs rather broadly with pure yellow, the light edges failing to reach the tips of the outer seven primaries, but on all the remaining quills passing around and forming a more or less conspicuous tipping to the feathers; lining of wing and under wing-coverts pure yellow; breast and sides finely and sparsely streaked with faint chestnut red.

Wing, 2.55; tail, 1.79; tarsus, .70; bill from base, .50; from nostril, .32; width at nostril, .12.

♀ *ad.* (No. 14,152, collection W. Brewster near Oposura, Sonora, Mexico, April 14, 1887, J. C. Cahoon, No. 666). Above very pale smoke gray, tinged faintly with yellowish, the wing-coverts and tail feathers more strongly yellowish, the tail feathers with the brown markings more extended than in the ♂; entire underparts very pale straw yellow, the throat and jugulum creamy white.

Habitat. Southern Arizona, Western Texas (Frontera) and Sonora, Mexico.

The male of the form just described may be separated at a glance from the male of either *æstiva* or *morcomi** by its much yellower coloring above, the rump being usually pure yellow, and the back and wings only faintly tinged with greenish, whereas *morcomi* is ordinarily even greener above than true *æstiva*. The underparts are always (?) more faintly and sparsely streaked than in *morcomi*, while in several of my specimens they are nearly quite immaculate. The purplish streaking of the interscapulars is usually a marked feature, but it is not always present in *sonorana*, while I have found it faintly indicated in two specimens of *morcomi*.

The female of *sonorana* is quite as strongly characterized as the male. The underparts are so very pale straw yellow as to appear

* I have examined the type in this connection.

almost white in a poor light, and the upperparts are very gray, with scarce a tinge of greenish.

Among the large series of Yellow Warblers before me I find four from Southern Arizona* and one from Western Texas (Frontera) which are referable to *sonorana*. A Colorado example is a fair intermediate between *sonorana* and *morcomi*. Typical *morcomi* is represented from Utah, California, Lower California, and Alaska. I also have two specimens from Sonora, but both were taken early in the season and doubtless were migrants bound further north.

NOTES ON THE BIRDS OF FORT KLAMATH, OREGON.

BY DR. J. C. MERRILL, U. S. A.

With remarks on certain species by William Brewster.

In the fourth volume of the 'Bulletin' of the Nuttall Ornithological Club, † Dr. Mearns published a list of the birds of Fort Klamath, based upon the observations and collections of Dr. H. McElderry and Lieut. W. Wittich, U. S. A. The following paper is the result of my own collecting at the same place from September, 1886, to August, 1887, only such species as were personally observed or obtained ‡ by myself being recorded. These include most of the land birds mentioned in Dr. Mearns's list, § and a good many others; the water birds are relatively

* Since the above was written Mr. Allen has kindly sent to me for examination seven specimens (three males and four females) taken in Pinal County, Arizona, by Mr. Scott. All of these prove to be *sonorana*. They form part of the series of eleven specimens whose peculiarities were commented on with some detail in the last issue of Mr. Scott's paper (Auk, Vol. V, No. 1, p. 34). In the absence of sufficient material for comparison, Mr. Allen, at that time, very naturally referred them to *morcomi*.

† July and October, 1879, pp. 161-166 and 194-199.

‡ The collection—some two hundred and fifty skins—which I made at Fort Klamath is now in the possession of Mr. William Brewster, whose comments on technical points of especial interest are included in the present paper.

§ Except *Zonotrichia leucophrys*, *Pipilo m. megalonyx*, *Melospiza f. montana*, *Agelaius gubernator* and *Falco mexicanus*.