

Zeledon's Catalogue of the Birds of Costa Rica.* — This is simply an enumeration of the birds of Costa Rica, without notes. The catalogue numbers 692 species, about eight to nine tenths of them being indicated as represented in the National Museum by *Costa Rican specimens!* The identification of the species is therefore doubtless beyond question. This list is intended as preliminary to a work of a more extended character to contain descriptions of the genera and species, with notes on their habits and geographical distribution, which the author has in contemplation, and for which his long residence in the country, and his unrivalled experience with the birds of Costa Rica eminently fit him to prepare. — J. A. A.

Ridgway on New American Birds. — Mr. Ridgway has separated the Boat-billed Heron of Central America from that of Guiana and Brazil, under the name *Cancroma zeledoni*.† Twelve examples from southern and western Mexico, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Veragua are found to differ constantly from two South American specimens (British Guiana and mouth of the Amazon) in having the upper parts much deeper pearl-gray, the neck and breast deep buff instead of white, and the crest less developed.

The same author has also described a new Hawk from Cozumel, under the name *Rufornis gracilis*.‡ It is compared with *R. ruficauda griseicauda* of Mexico, from which it differs in being decidedly smaller, with the thighs and under wing-coverts nearly immaculate instead of barred and spotted.

A re-examination of some specimens of *Peucea* collected by Dr. J. C. Merrill, and identified by Mr. Ridgway as *Peucea arizonæ* (Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., I, p. 127), in the light of additional material, shows that the specimens represent *Coturniculus mexicana* of Lawrence, described from Mexican specimens in 1867, and subsequently referred by Mr. Ridgway (Hist. N. Am. Birds, II, p. 38, footnote) to *P. botteri*. A second examination of the Texas specimens, in comparison with the Mexican examples, results in the addition of a new bird to the fauna of the United States, which Mr. Ridgway calls *Peucea mexicana* (Lawr.).

In a paper on the Golden Warblers§ Mr. Ridgway describes a new subspecies from Western Mexico and Cape St. Lucas as *Dendroca bryanti castaneiceps*. *D. bryanti* is now separated specifically from *D. vieilloti*, to which it was originally referred as a subspecies, and its habitat is restricted to the "Atlantic coast, Belize to Northern Yucatan (Merida)."

* Catalogue of the Birds of Costa Rica, indicating those species of which the United States National Museum possesses specimens from that Country. By José C. Zeledon, of San José, Costa Rica. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., VIII, pp. 104-118. Published May 23, 1885.

† Description of a New Species of Boat-billed Heron from Central America. By Robert Ridgway. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., VIII, pp. 93, 94. Published May 20, 1885.

‡ Description of a New Hawk from Cozumel, *Ibid.*, pp. 94, 95.

§ A Review of the "Golden Warblers." *Ibid.*, pp. 348-350. Published Sept. 2, 1885.

the Lower California bird receiving the new name *castaneiceps*. Seven species and ten subspecies of Golden Warblers are now recognized only two of which (*D. æstiva* and *D. bryanti castaneiceps*) pertain to the fauna of North America, as defined in the new 'A. O. U. Check List,' the remainder being West Indian and Central American.—J. A. A.

Ridgway on the Type Specimen of *Buteo oxypterus* Cassin.*—A re-examination of the type specimens of *Buteo oxypterus* Cassin, preserved in the Museum of the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences, has led Mr. Ridgway to refer *B. oxypterus* to *B. swainsoni* as a pure synonym, the type of *oxypterus* proving to be unquestionably a young *B. swainsoni*. "Upon the whole," says Mr. Ridgway, "I cannot see the slightest reason for recognizing '*B. oxypterus*' even as a local race of *swainsoni*, . . ." He also adds that the "specimen described in 'History of North American Birds' (III, p. 266) as the melanistic adult of '*Buteo swainsoni* var. *oxypterus* is not *B. swainsoni* at all, but *B. fuliginosus* Scl." Comparative diagnoses are given of these two species.—J. A. A.

Ridgway's List of Emended Names of North American Birds.†—The names "represent new or hitherto unpublished combinations" adopted by the A. O. U. 'Committee on Classification and Nomenclature of North American Birds.' "They are here presented in order that the first known use of such combinations may be cited among the references which the committee has decided to give under each species, viz., the first pertinent binomial or trinomial appellation, and the first use of the name as adopted in the new list now being prepared by the committee." The changes, some 77 in number, relate chiefly to the generic part of the name, and result largely from the depression of formerly current genera to the rank of subgenera, partly from the change of status of the form in question from specific to subspecific rank, or the reverse, and in small part from actual change of names, found necessary on synonymic grounds. Comparatively few are therefore of a very 'radical' character, and are mainly the following, with which are given their current equivalents.

Parus cinctus obtectus (Cab.) = *P. cinctus*.

Sylvania microcephala Ridgw. = *Myiodiocetes minutus*.

Pyrranga rubra cooperi = *P. æstiva cooperi*.

Loxia curvirostra stricklandi Ridgw. = *L. c. mexicana*.

Ammodramus savannarum passerinus = *Coturniculus passerinus*.

Melospiza georgiana (Lath.) = *M. palustris*.

Corvus corax sinuatus (Wagl.) = *C. c. carnivorus*.

Aphelocoma sieberii arizonæ = *A. sordida arizonæ*.

Zenaidura macroura = *Z. carolinensis*.

* Remarks on the Type Specimen of *Buteo oxypterus*, Cassin. By Robert Ridgway, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., VIII, pp. 75-77. Published April 22, 1885.

† Some Emended Names of North American Birds. By Robert Ridgway, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., VIII, pp. 354, 355. Published Sept. 2, 1885.