

THE *VIREO HUTTONI* GROUP, WITH DESCRIPTION OF A NEW RACE FROM VANCOUVER ISLAND.

BY SAMUEL N. RHOADS.

IN 'The Auk' for January, 1893, I referred to the specimens of *Vireo huttoni* taken on Vancouver Island, British Columbia. as follows: "*Vireo huttoni obscurus*. Anthony's Vireo. This may be considered a rather rare visitor on Vancouver Island. I secured one near Victoria. This specimen, also two secured on the same spot by Mr. Maynard in 1891, and which I had the privilege of examining, belong to the strongly characterized race of *Vireo huttoni* proposed by Mr. A. W. Anthony in 1890."¹ Since the publication of this I have had frequent correspondence with Mr. Anthony regarding the real status of his *V. h. obscurus* and have received the skins upon which his original description is based. These skins differ so essentially from the Vancouver Island birds, and so slightly from typical *huttoni* then available for comparison, that it was decided to make a more thorough examination. Through the kind offices of Messrs. Ridgway and Allen, on behalf of the Smithsonian Institution and the American Museum of Natural History, and by the courtesy of Mr. William Brewster, I have been able to examine in all a series of 81 skins of the *Vireo huttoni* group. The whole series may be listed as follows:—

Vireo huttoni Cass.

Humbolt Bay, Cala.,	1	Riverside, Cala.,	4
Nicasio, "	20	Santa Barbara, "	1
Napa Valley, "	1	Temescal, "	1
San Francisco, "	1	San Gabriel, "	1
Oakland, "	3	Beryessa, "	1
Berkeley, "	2	Alhambra, "	4
Mt. Diablo, "	1	Santa Ysabel, "	4
Wilson's Peak, "	1	"Mexico" (?)	1
Santa Cruz Island, "	1		

¹ Zoe, Dec. 1890, p. 307.

Vireo huttoni stephensi Brewst.

Santa Catalina Mts., Ariz.,	2	Mina Abunda, Chihuahua,	1
Huachuca Mts.,	" 3	Jesus Maria,	" 3(?)
Santa Rita Mts.,	" 3	Bravo,	" 1
Bacadehuachu, north'n Sonora	1	Carmen,	" 1(?)
Triumfo, Lower Cala.	1	Pinos Altos,	" 1
Sierra de Laguna, Lower Cala.	9		

Vireo huttoni obscurus, Anth.

Beaverton, Oregon,	1	Salem, Oregon,	1
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Vireo huttoni insularis subsp. nov.

Victoria, Vancouver Isl.	3
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Three winter specimens from Chihuahua are of questionable identity. I have placed them under *stephensi*, but they are possibly stragglers, driven by stress of weather from the habitat of true *huttoni*. The rest of the specimens are as easily separated by their geographic range as by measurements and plumage, *stephensi* showing an unusual scarcity of intermediates for a subspecies, and the usual variation due to sex, age, and season being so slight in the whole group as to make their classification a comparatively easy task. When compared with a series of true *huttoni* from localities within a radius of a hundred miles of Monterey where Cassin's type was taken,¹ Mr. Anthony's Oregon birds show no characters which make them separable from darker examples of that series. Mr. Anthony, after making more extended comparisons than he was able to make previous to his published description of *obscurus*, had already expressed to me some doubt as to its validity, and as it does not prove to be intermediate between *huttoni* and Vancouver Island specimens, *Vireo huttoni obscurus* will have to be ignored, and another name given the insular form. I would propose the following.

***Vireo huttoni insularis*, subsp. nov. VANCOUVER VIREO.**

Types, ♂ and ♀, Victoria, British Columbia, Feb. 12, 1891, Provincial Museum collection, A. J. Maynard, collector.

¹ Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila., 1851, p. 150.

Subsp. char. Colors as in *Vireo huttoni*, but much darker, being uniformly shaded over the whole plumage with a sooty suffusion. The oliveaceous buffy tints of *huttoni* nearly obsolete in *insularis*. Average measurements slightly less than those of *huttoni*. Sexes alike. Young, in nesting plumage, of similar color to *huttoni*.

Measurements of the entire series were made in millimetres, according to the system used by Mr. Ridgway in his 'Manual,' except that all bill measurements were taken with dividers from pit of nostril to tip of upper mandible.

	Wing	Tail	Bill
<i>Vireo huttoni</i> ,	60 (58-62)	50 (48-52)	6½ (5½-6½)
" " <i>stephensi</i> ,	65 (63-68)	52 (49-54)	6¾ (6 -7¼)
" " <i>obscurus</i> ,	60 (60-61)	49 (48-50)	6¼ (6 -6½)
" " <i>insularis</i> ,	61 (61-61)	49 (48-50)	5¾ (5½-6)

The favorite habitat of Hutton's Vireo and its conspecific allies agrees closely with the sparsely wooded areas where the oak belt overlaps the pine belt, and ranges in conformity with these floral conditions from the sea level in the north to elevations of several thousand feet in more tropical latitudes. The series in my custody shows that this species is resident wherever found, and, with two or three exceptions only, specimens taken south of the United States in winter do not show close enough affinity to true *huttoni* to indicate there is any migration of the northern forms into Mexico or Lower California. It is interesting to note that the oaks, so characteristic of the Pacific coast region, terminate rather abruptly at the Columbia River, and, so far as I have personally investigated the subject, are not found in the State of Washington.¹ On the island of Vancouver, a species of oak (*Quercus garryana*) reappears, and, according to Prof. Macoun, its range in British Columbia is locally restricted to the southern part of that island.

We find here a reproduction of all those conditions which seem so indispensable to the presence of Hutton's Vireo in the south. When we add to this the climatic conditions which have been so notoriously conducive to the development of dark races on the Northwest Coast, with the isolation of *insularis* from the nearest habitat of *huttoni* and its permanent residence on the island, its differentiation becomes almost a foregone conclusion.

¹"California to Oregon and British Columbia." Sereno Watson, Geol. Cala., Vol. II. "San Francisco Bay to Puget Sound." Green and Kellogg in W. Amer. Oaks.

The habitat of each member of the group may be now quite closely defined.

Vireo huttoni. — (Californian.) From the slopes of the West Cascade and Sierra Nevada Mountains to the coast, and from the Columbia River to Lower California, including the near-by coast islands. Occasionally wandering northward into Mexico and Lower California in winter.

Vireo huttoni stephensi. — (Lower Southern.) Mountain ranges of the Sierra Madre and Sierra de Capatzen from the Gila River and southern California south to the 25th parallel, and from the Rio Grande to the Pacific Ocean.

Vireo huttoni insularis. — (Boreal.) Coextensive with range of *Quercus garryana* on Vancouver Island, British Columbia.

SOME ADDITIONS TO THE AVIFAUNA OF NORTH CAROLINA, WITH NOTES ON SOME OTHER SPECIES.

BY C. S. BRIMLEY.

DURING the past five years I have endeavored to gain what information I could in regard to the occurrence of the rarer North Carolina birds, and am now able to add several to the list of species hitherto found in the State, as well as to offer some further facts concerning other species already recorded from North Carolina.

The following notes are based on observations made by my brother, H. H. Brimley, and myself, and on those of Messrs. J. S. Cairns, of Weaverville, Buncombe County, and Thomas A. Smithwick of Bertie County.

ADDITIONS TO THE AVIFAUNA OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Glaucionetta islandica. — Among the specimens which were purchased by the State to exhibit at Chicago was a Goldeneye, mounted at New Berne in 1892 and said to have been taken near that place. The white of