

characters are not entirely constant, typical specimens may be without difficulty discriminated. There seems to be no material difference in size between any of the forms of *Hylocichla ustulata*.

Breeding specimens from Fort Klamath, Oregon, are not typical *ædica*, but are nearer this form than to *ustulata*. Birds from the northern part of the Californian coast, at least as far south as Nicasio, are intermediate and rather difficult satisfactorily to place, but they seem to be, on the whole, nearer *ustulata* than to *ædica*.

Specimens of *Hylocichla u. ædica* from the following localities have been examined, breeding records being designated by an asterisk:

California.—Santa Barbara\*; Santa Cruz\*; Panamint Mts.; San Francisco; Sacramento; Milpitas; Marysville\*; Tuolumne County\*; San Jose; Tehama; Laguna Station, San Diego County; Mountain Spring, San Diego County; Summit of Coast Range, Mex. Bound. Line, San Diego County; Jacumba, Mex. Bound. Line.

Oregon.—Fort Klamath\*.

Lower California.—Gardiners Laguna, Salton River, Mex. Bound. Line.

Arizona.—Fort Huachuca.

Mexico.—Chicharras, Chiapas.

The writer is indebted to Mr. Ridgway and to Dr. C. Hart Merriam for the use of material in the collections of the National Museum and Biological Survey, respectively.

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## DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW BIRDS FROM MEXICO.

BY E. W. NELSON.

The birds described below are from the collection of the Biological Survey, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

I am indebted to Mr. Robert Ridgway, Curator, and Dr. C. W. Richmond, Assistant Curator, of Birds, U. S. National Museum, for various courtesies while preparing the present paper.

All measurements are in millimeters.

***Colinus virginianus maculatus*, subsp. nov.**

## SPOTTED-BELLIED BOB-WHITE.

*Type*, No. 158471, ♂ ad., U. S. National Mus., Biol. Survey Coll. Alta Mira, Tamaulipas, Mexico. Collected May 16, 1898, by E. W. Nelson and E. A. Goldman.

*Distribution*.—From Tancanhuitz, San Luis Potosi, north to Victoria and Jaumave Valley, Tamaulipas, Mexico.

*Subspecific characters*.—Similar to *C. v. texanus* from which it differs in darker and grayer colors of dorsal surface and chestnut and spotted lower surface.

*Color of Male*.—Chin, throat and broad stripe from lores back over eye to nape white. Crown and nape black, with gray and brown edges to feathers on back of crown and nape. A well defined band of black extends from bill back below eyes and across neck, bordering white throat area. Feathers on back and sides of neck black, edged near tips with white and dull rufous. Feathers of shoulders dull rufous heavily marked with irregular black and gray cross bars and edgings. Rest of back and tertials blackish with gray and brown mottling and indistinct barring. Wing-coverts dull rufous with black bars and gray edges. Lower neck and fore part of breast usually plain dull rufous, rest of lower parts, including lower tail-coverts, of the same color heavily marked on borders of feathers, with black and white spots on sides of feathers near tips.

*Dimensions of type*.—Wing, 106; tail, 60; culmen, 13; tarsus, 31.

*Remarks*.—Compared with *C. texanus* the female is decidedly darker and grayer above with a better defined pectoral band of black, dull rufous and white markings just below buffy throat patch. The series at hand shows conclusively that *C. v. texanus* grades through the present bird directly into *O. graysoni*, thus reducing the latter to a subspecies of *O. virginianus*.

***Callipepla gambeli fulvipectus*, subsp. nov.**

## BUFF-BREASTED PARTRIDGE.

*Type*, No. 164093, ♂ ad., U. S. Nat. Mus., Biol. Survey Coll. Camoa, Rio Mayo, Sonora, Mexico. Collected Nov. 7, 1898, by E. A. Goldman.

*Distribution*.—Southwestern Sonora, Mexico.

*Subspecific characters*.—Differs mainly from typical *C. gambeli* in its generally darker or more intense colors and larger bill.

*Color*.—Crown patch rich burnt umber; neck olive washed; breast

patch dark buffy; abdomen dark buffy and feathers on posterior part of flanks and under tail-coverts, bordered with same.

*Dimensions of type.* — Wing, 110; tail, 96; culmen, 11; tarsus, 30.

☞ *Remarks.* — Dr. A. K. Fisher has traced Gambel's route and finds that the type of *Callipepla gambeli*, which is recorded as having been taken November 18, "some distance West [error for East] of California," must have been secured in southern Nevada or immediately adjacent part of eastern California. My comparisons, establishing the form described above, have been with specimens from the region of the type locality. Birds from southern Arizona also are typical *gambeli*.

### *Aphelocoma sieberi colimæ*, subsp. nov.

#### COLIMA JAY.

*Type*, No. 156052, ♀ ad., U. S. Nat. Mus., Biol. Survey Coll. From Jacala, Jalisco, Mexico. Collected March 6, 1897 by E. W. Nelson and E. A. Goldman.

*Distribution.* — Pine and oak forests from the Sierra Nevada de Colima north to the Santiago River in Jalisco, western Mexico.

*Subspecific characters.* — Similar to *A. sieberi* but smaller, with a lighter shade of blue on dorsal surface, grayer back and paler lower surface on which there is a dingy brownish wash as in *A. couchi*.

*Color.* — Top and sides of head and neck, with upper surface of wings, rump and tail, azure blue; chin and throat dingy grayish white with fine black shaft streaks and shading into dingy gray on breast and thence to dingy whitish on abdomen; under tail-coverts dingy whitish with faint gloss of blue.

*Dimensions of type.* — Wing, 173; tail, 156; culmen, 25; tarsus, 43.

### *Aphelocoma sieberi potosina*, subsp. nov.

#### SAN LUIS POTOSI JAY.

*Type*, No. 144642, ♂ ad., U. S. Nat. Mus., Biol. Survey Coll. Mountains near Jesus Maria, San Luis Potosi, Mexico. Collected by E. W. Nelson, Sept. 3, 1892.

*Distribution.* — Scrubby pine and oak forest on arid mountains of the tableland in northern Queretaro, Guanajuato, San Luis Potosi, eastern Zacatecas, Coahuila and southern border of Nuevo Leon, Mexico.

*Subspecific characters.* — Similar to *A. sieberi* but smaller, with larger

bill, paler or lighter shade of blue on dorsal surface and grayer on throat and breast.

*Color.*—Top and sides of head, neck and rump azure blue; upper surface of wings and tail a duller shade of same, back azure blue washed with ashy. Lower surface from chin to crissum dull ashy thinly washed with blue and shading into white of entire crissum.

*Dimensions of type.*—Wing, 170; tail, 148; culmen, 29; tarsus, 46.

*Remarks.*—In western-central Zacatecas this form is found intergrading with *A. gracilis* Miller, and the latter therefore becomes a race of *A. seiberi*. Compared with *A. couchi* the form described above is larger, more bluish on middle of back, and the lower surface is grayer.

### ***Pachyrhamphus major uropygialis*, subsp. nov.**

#### SINALOA PACHYRHAMPHUS.<sup>1</sup>

*Type*, No. 157150, ♂ ad., U. S. Nat. Mus., Biol. Survey Coll. Plomosas, Sinaloa, Mexico. Collected July 14, 1897 by E. W. Nelson and E. A. Goldman.

*Distribution.*—Western slope of Sierra Madre in Sinaloa and Tepic, Mexico.

*Subspecific characters.*—Similar to *Pachyrhamphus major* from which it may be distinguished by the distinctly paler rump (lateral upper tail-coverts are nearly white); the paler lower surface of body and larger size.

*Dimensions of type.*—Wing, 86; tail, 65; culmen, 15; tarsus, 22. Average of 3 ad. ♂s of *P. major* (topotypes from Jalapa, Vera Cruz, Mexico): Wing, 81; tail, 62.7; culmen, 15; tarsus, 21.

### ***Melospiza adusta*, sp. nov.**

#### MICHOACAN SONG SPARROW.

*Type*, No. 144046, ♂ ad., U. S. Nat. Mus., Biol. Survey Coll. Patzcuaro, Michoacan, Mexico. Collected July 27, 1892 by E. W. Nelson and E. A. Goldman.

*Distribution.*—Known only from vicinity of Patzcuaro, Michoacan, Mexico.

*Subspecific characters.*—Similar to but a little smaller than *Melospiza*

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<sup>1</sup> I am indebted to Dr. J. A. Allen, Curator of Mammals and Birds in the Am. Mus. Nat. Hist., New York, for the loan of five topotypes of *P. major*, collected by Mr. F. M. Chapman at Jalapa, Vera Cruz, Mex.

*mexicana* from which it differs also in being decidedly lighter and more rusty rufous on borders of feathers on entire dorsal surface, including wings. On sides of head the dark markings are suffused with rusty brown and the white markings have a slight wash of pale buffy.

*Dimensions of type.*—Wing, 67; tail, 64; culmen, 11; tarsus, 23.

*Remarks.*—The young in first plumage are readily distinguished from those of *mexicana* by being more rufous above, more buffy below and by the restriction of black shaft markings below, mainly to breast and sides of neck, leaving the rest of under surface almost unmarked buffy whitish. This form is based on two adults and one young of the year.

### *Melospiza goldmani*, sp. nov.

#### GOLDMAN'S SONG SPARROW.

*Type*, No. 159182, ♀ ad., U. S. Nat. Mus., Biol. Survey Coll. El Salto, Durango, Mexico. Collected July 17, 1898 by E. W. Nelson and E. A. Goldman.

*Distribution.*—Sierra Madre Mts., western Durango, Mexico.

*Specific characters.*—This species is considerably larger and grayer than either *M. mexicana* or *M. adusta*.

*Color.*—Feathers on top of head and nape dull vandyke brown with narrow shaft lines of black, and dull grayish edges on crown; feathers on shoulders and fore part of back brighter vandyke brown with narrow black shaft streaks and grayish edges; rump and upper tail-coverts dingy vandyke brown, slightly more rufous on coverts. Wing-coverts like middle of back without gray edges to feathers; rufous on secondary coverts brighter than on back; quills clove brown edged with dull vandyke brown; tail clove brown washed externally with dull rufous brown. Superciliary stripe ashy white; postocular and malar stripes, and streaks on ashy whitish cheeks and ear coverts, dark rufous brown. Throat and middle of abdomen whitish; sides of breast and sides of neck with small shaft spots of blackish, washed with dark rufous brown. Feathers on flanks dingy rufous brown edged with dull grayish brown.

*Dimensions of type.*—Wing, 75; tail, 77; culmen, 12; tarsus, 23.

*Remarks.*—The young are paler or grayer on dorsal surface than *M. mexicana* and much lighter and less heavily streaked below. This form is based on 2 adults and one young compared with a series of over 20 specimens of *M. mexicana*.

***Spizella socialis mexicana*, subsp. nov.**

## MEXICAN CHIPPING SPARROW.

*Type*, No. 143975, ♂ ad., U. S. Nat. Mus., Biol. Survey Coll. From San Cristobal, Chiapas, Mexico. Collected Sept. 24, 1895, by E. W. Nelson and E. A. Goldman.

*Distribution*.—Highlands of southern Mexico from Sierra Madre of Jalisco and Cofre de Perote, Vera Cruz, Mexico, south through Chiapas to border of Guatemala.

*Subspecific characters*.—Differs from *S. socialis* in generally larger size and darker and more rufous color on back.

*Color of type* (in winter plumage).—Crown dark, almost chestnut, rufous overlaid with black shaft lines and dull buffy brown edge to feathers near tips; back heavily streaked with black, chestnut brown and dull buffy brown; rump plumbeous ashy indistinctly streaked with diffused blackish shaft lines; ear coverts dingy brown; chin dingy whitish; throat, neck and breast dark ashy; crissum white; flanks ashy thinly washed with brown.

*Dimensions of type*.—Wing, 72; tail, 59; culmen, 10; tarsus, 17.

*Remarks*.—Mr. Ridgway has examined the type of *Spizella pinetorum* and refers to that form a specimen from Honduras which is decidedly darker colored and smaller than the form described above. *S. pinetorum* appears to be a race of *S. socialis* ranging through the parts of Guatemala lying east of the central highlands and thence into similar country in Honduras. From *S. s. arizonæ* the form described above may be distinguished by its much darker colors, slightly smaller size and larger bill.

***Vireo noveboracensis micrus*, subsp. nov.**

## SMALL WHITE-EYED VIREO.

*Type*, No. 158930, ♂ ad., U. S. National Mus., Biol. Survey Coll. Victoria, Tamaulipas, Mexico. Collected May 23, 1898 by E. W. Nelson and E. A. Goldman.

*Distribution*.—Lowlands of Tamaulipas, Mexico.

*Subspecific characters*.—Similar to *V. noveboracensis* but smaller and duller colored with a paler wash of yellow on flanks.

*Dimensions of type*.—Wing, 58; tail, 50; culmen, 10; tarsus, 20.

**Geothlypis flaviceps**, sp. nov.

YELLOW-HEADED WARBLER.

*Type*, No. 158741, ♂ ad., U. S. National Mus., Biological Survey Coll. From Alta Mira, Tamaulipas, Mexico. Collected April 20, 1898 by E. W. Nelson and E. A. Goldman.

*Distribution*.—Tulé marshes along coast lagoons near Tampico in southern Tamaulipas and northern Vera Cruz, Mexico.

*Description of type*.—Color: A broad black mask from bill to line back of orbits on crown and thence down over cheeks and ear coverts to sides of neck; rest of top and sides of head and nape distinctly yellow, slightly washed with olive green posteriorly. Back, including upper surface of wings and tail olive green. Entire lower surface almost uniform gamboge yellow, only a little duller on flanks.

*Dimensions of type*.—Wing, 60; tail, 56; culmen, 15; tarsus, 21.

*Remarks*.—This species is closely related to Mr. Ridgway's *G. flavovelatus*, also described from Alta Mira, but may be distinguished at once from that species by its larger bill, greater extent of yellow on top of head and deeper yellow under surface. The type of *G. flavovelatus* was taken in December and was probably a migrant from farther north while my specimens were taken in April and May and were undoubtedly resident birds. Dimensions of *G. flavovelatus*: Wing, 53; tail, 54; culmen, 12; tarsus, 21.

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A SYNOPSIS OF THE BLUE HONEY-CREEPERS OF  
TROPICAL AMERICA.

BY HARRY C. OBERHOLSER.

THIS very homogeneous group of Cœrebidæ has by some authors been called *Cœreba*, by some *Cæreba*, by others *Arbelorhina*, but unfortunately none of these names is properly applicable to the genus. As Mr. Ridgway has already shown<sup>1</sup> the

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<sup>1</sup> Manual of N. Amer. Birds, 1887, 590.