

"alarming rapidity of the destruction" of the original biota of the island that is taking place, "due to the introduction of goats and cats. Already," it is stated, "many plants and three birds are gone and others are reduced to very small numbers, and the whole island seems threatened in the near future with absolute desolation — doomed to become a barren rock." The three birds that have already become extinct are the Caracara (*Polyborus lutosus*), a Wren (*Thryomanes brevicauda*), and a Towhee (*Pipilo consobrinus*). While the island is uninhabited at present by man, it is overrun by "between six and eight thousand" goats; cats are also numerous, and the house mouse (*Mus musculus*) has become well established. In the present paper 17 species are recorded as taken, several of them in large series, and two others as seen by Mr. Brown and his assistants. The list is copiously annotated with field notes made by the collectors, who were on the island from May 1 to June 28, but too late for the breeding season of most of the species. The Burrowing Owl (*Speotyto cunicularia becki* Rothschild and Hartert, based originally on a single specimen), of which 27 specimens were taken, is said to be "absolutely indistinguishable in any way" from the mainland form. While this is not quite true, the under wing covers being marked more or less with dusky streaks, instead of being unmarked as in the mainland form, the difference is thought by the A. O. U. Committee to be too slight to warrant the recognition of the island form as even a subspecies.— J. A. A.

**Bangs on Birds from Western Colombia.**<sup>1</sup>— The basis of these 'Notes' is a small collection made in northwestern Colombia, just south of Darien, by Mervyn G. Palmer, a region hitherto ornithologically little known. "Although it contained but 110 species and subspecies, it is rich in rare and new forms," and should subsequent installments from Mr. Palmer prove of equal interest a list will be published of the birds of the region. In the present paper 5 forms that appear to be new are described and notes are given on a few other species.

In another paper of the same date <sup>2</sup> Mr. Bangs separates the Colombian form of *Rhynchocyclus sulphureus* as *R. s. exortivus* subsp. nov.— J. A. A.

**Bangs on Costa Rican Birds.**<sup>3</sup>— The present paper includes notices of 35 species and subspecies, two of the latter being described as new. Most of the forms are rare, and the relationships of some others are considered. Thus the author's *Scotothorus verespacis dumicola* proves to have been founded on "differences due to individual variations." The known range of several of the forms mentioned is here extended. The paper is based

<sup>1</sup> Notes on Birds from Western Colombia. By Outram Bangs. Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, XXI, pp. 157-162. July 27, 1908.

<sup>2</sup> A New Tyrant-Bird from the Santa Marta Region of Colombia. By Outram Bangs. *Ibid.*, p. 163.

<sup>3</sup> Notes on Some Rare or not well-known Costa Rican Birds. By Outram Bangs. Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, Vol. XXII, pp. 29-38, March 10, 1909.