

BIRDS OBSERVED IN JAMAICA DURING THE
SUMMER OF 1926.

BY STUART T. DANFORTH.

DURING the summer of 1926, the author spent about six weeks (from July 8 to August 18) on the island of Jamaica, most of this time being devoted to ornithological field work. The period from July 8 to 23 was spent in the Kingston region. From July 23 to August 6 I stayed with Mr. Perkins and his family at their cattle and banana estate "Lumsden," which is situated some six miles from Claremont, in a sparsely settled part of St. Ann's Parish, at an altitude of about 1700 feet. Tree ferns grew there, and it was there that I found most of the endemic species of birds. From August 7 to 16 I worked in the Black River region. This is an area of extensive mangrove swamps and logwood forests; and at Hodges, less than 10 miles away, there are a few fresh water ponds which were rich in bird life. Shorter visits were made to Baron Hill Estate, near Jackson Town, and to Duncan's Bay, both in Trelawney Parish, and to Mandeville in Manchester Parish, where I met Mr. E. Stuart Panton, the eminent local naturalist. Thus it will be seen that most of my work was in the western half of the island, which has been rather generally neglected by most of the naturalists who have visited the island in recent years.

I am greatly indebted to many people in Jamaica for information and assistance of various kinds, especially to Mr. Frank Cundall, Secretary of the Institute of Jamaica; Miss Lilly G. Perkins of "Lumsden"; Mr. E. Stuart Panton of Mandeville, and Mr. Geo. R. Smith of Malvern.

An annotated list of the species observed follows.

1. **Colymbus dominicus dominicus** Linn. LEAST GREBE.—A pair was observed on a small cattle pond near Jackson Town on August 3, and about forty at some ponds near Hodges on August 9. One nest on which a bird was incubating was located there, built up from the muddy bottom in very shallow water.

2. **Podilymbus podiceps antillarum** Bangs. ANTILLEAN PIED-BILLED GREBE.—Apparently much less common than the Least Grebe.

An individual was seen on two occasions in a quiet part of the Río Cobre at Bog Walk, and one on Long Pond, near Hodges.

3. *Pelecanus occidentalis* Linn. BROWN PELICAN.—Observed in considerable numbers on some small mangrove keys off Port Royal. Smaller numbers were noted along the coast at Kingston, Duncan's Bay, and Black River.

4. *Fregata magnificens* Mathews. MAN-O-WAR BIRD.—Observed on several occasions at Port Royal, Kingston and Black River.

5. *Florida caerulea caerulescens* Latham. LITTLE BLUE HERON.—The commonest Heron observed, but it is apparently much less abundant than in Porto Rico. It was observed only at Port Royal, Kingston and Black River, always in or near mangrove swamps.

6. *Hydranassa tricolor ruficollis* Gosse. LOUISIANA HERON.—One was observed on the Palisadoes near Port Royal, and the species was quite common at some brackish ponds surrounded by mangroves near Black River.

7. *Butorides virescens maculatus* Boddaert. WEST INDIAN GREEN HERON.—Not nearly as common as in other West Indian islands with which I am familiar. Individuals were noted at Port Royal, Bushy Park, May Pen, Appleton and Black River.

8. *Nyctanassa violacea jamaicensis* Gmelin. WEST INDIAN YELLOW CROWNED NIGHT HERON.—A few noted in mangrove swamps near Kingston and at Duncan's Bay.

9. *Nycticorax nycticorax naevius* Boddaert. BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON.—Six adults observed in some extensive cattail marshes bordering the lower part of the Black River on August 12 apparently constitute the first Jamaican record for this species since the times of Gosse and March.

10. *Ixobrychus exilis exilis* Gmelin. LEAST BITTERN.—A male was collected in some cattails along the Black River on August 12. Its stomach contained two large minnows.

[*Erismatura jamaicensis* Gmelin.] RUDDY DUCK.—One of the principal objects of my visit to Jamaica was to search for the Ruddy Duck in an effort to determine its status there, and its relationship to North American and Porto Rican forms. I was not successful in discovering any, but Mr. Geo. R. Smith of Malvern describes to me a duck locally known as the Rubber Duck or Diving Teal which is apparently the Ruddy Duck. He says they are plentiful at the Pedro Ponds (which illness prevented me from visiting), that they are not migrant, and that he has found nests with eggs, and has seen as many as 14 young following the two parents.

11. *Nomonyx dominicus* Linn. MASKED DUCK.—On August 9 a flock of five was noted at a small woodland pond near Hodges. Upon being approached they swam quickly with startled peeps, and disappeared in a bed of rushes from which they refused to be driven out.

12. *Cathartes aura aura* Linn. SOUTHERN TURKEY VULTURE.—Common at all points visited.

13. *Buteo borealis jamaicensis* Gmelin. WEST INDIAN RED-TAILED HAWK.—Fairly common. Observed at Hope Gardens, Constant Spring, Lumsden, and Bushy Park.

14. *Rallus longirostris caribaeus* Ridgway. JAMAICAN CLAPPER RAIL.—Common in the mangrove swamps on the Palisadoes, near Kingston.

15. *Gallinula chloropus* subsp. FLORIDA GALLINULE.—Common at some small fresh water ponds near Hodges on August 9. A few were also observed in mangrove swamps near Black River.

16. *Fulica americana grenadensis* Riley. WEST INDIAN COOT.—“White-capped Coot.” The only Coots I observed in Jamaica were one pair swimming among the weeds on Long Pond, near Hodges, on August 9. Both of these birds were collected. Instead of being *F. caribaea*, which I had been led to believe Coots from Jamaica would be, they proved to belong to some form of *F. americana*. After examining available specimens and literature I have come to the conclusion that these specimens come nearer to the form which Riley described from Isle de Rhonde, Grenada, than to any other described form. They agree almost identically in measurements with his type (which was a female) and also in having a more swollen frontal shield than specimens of *F. a. americana*. The measurements are as follows (expressed in millimeters):

	Wing	Tail	Culmen with frontal shield	Depth of bill at base
6 ♀ <i>F. a. americana</i> (from Riley)	177	50.3	42.7	13.5
1 ♀ <i>F. a. grenadensis</i> (Riley's type)	184.5	47.5	50.5	17.5
1 ♀ <i>F. a. grenadensis</i> (Jamaica)	184	47	46	16
1 ♂ <i>F. a. grenadensis</i> (Jamaica)	185	46	48	18

The iris of the Jamaican birds was bright fiery red; bill white with a subterminal dark red spot on the mandible and two on the maxilla, the color in front of these red spots being bluish green; fleshy frontal shield white anteriorly, dark red posteriorly, the larger portion being red. The female had reddish garters just below the feathered part of the legs, which the male lacked.

The stomach contents of these birds consisted of green algae together with a few *Persicaria* seeds, mixed with a generous quantity of sand for grinding.

Apparently migrant Coots also occur in Jamaica, as Mr. Geo. R. Smith of Malvern, a local naturalist who is especially familiar with the water-fowl, writes me that at the Pedro Ponds the Coot is distinctly a migrant, and that he does not look for them until November.

17. *Jacana spinosa violacea* Cory. WEST INDIAN JAÇANA.—The

Jaçana was common at fresh water ponds near Hodges. A few were seen in the cattails and water hyacinths along the Black River, and one in a flooded grassy field at Appleton. A female was collected at Hodges on August 9. Its stomach contained only insects, with the exception of some very coarse white sand amounting to 20 per cent of the total contents.

18. *Oxyechus vociferus rubidus* Riley. ANTILLEAN KILLDEER.—Noted only at Hodges on August 9.

19. *Pagolla wilsonia rufinucha* Ridgway. RUFOUS-NAPE PLOVER.—Common on sandy beaches and shallow salt marshes at Duncan's Bay and Black River. A female was collected August 3 at Duncan's Bay. Its stomach contained small pieces of shell and beetles.

20. *Arenaria interpres morinella* Linn. RUDDY TURNSTONE.—11 noted at Duncan's Bay on August 3.

21. *Pisobia minutilla* Vieillot. LEAST SANDPIPER.—Eight observed at fresh water ponds near Hodges on August 9, and a few at salt ponds near Black River on August 13. A male was collected at Hodges.

22. *Calidris alba rubida* Gmelin. SANDERLING.—A flock of three was found feeding along a sandy beach at Black River on August 13. A male was collected from this flock, and is now in my collection. The occurrence of this species so far south at this season seems worthy of note. Gundlach stated that he obtained a few in Cuba in September, but Dr. Barbour in his 'Birds of Cuba' (p. 66) seemed to rather doubt this statement, saying that the Sanderlings have not reached the coast of Massachusetts by September. It is probable that some of the birds have a direct migration route from Canada to the West Indies, avoiding the coast of the United States.

23. *Neoglottis melanoleucus* Gmelin. GREATER YELLOW-LEGS.—One observed in a shallow salt marsh at Duncan's Bay on August 3, and a few at Black River on August 13.

24. *Neoglottis flavipes* Gmelin. LESSER YELLOW-LEGS.—Four seen August 9 at a fresh water pond near Hodges.

25. *Tringa solitaria solitaria* Wilson. SOLITARY SANDPIPER.—Ten observed at fresh water ponds near Hodges on August 9.

26. *Actitis macularia* Linn. SPOTTED SANDPIPER.—Observed at Duncan's Bay on August 3, and at Black River on August 11 and 12. Miss Lilly G. Perkins tells me that in May, 1926, at Bush Key, Falmouth, she, in company with others, found a nest of this species containing three eggs on the sandy beach. She distinctly noted the spotted breast of the incubating bird, which feigned lame.

27. *Himantopus mexicanus* Müller. BLACK-NECKED STILT.—Five were seen at some salt ponds near Black River on August 13. They did not appear to be breeding.

28. *Sterna maxima* Boddaert. ROYAL TERN.—Two noted in Kingston Harbor on August 18.

29. *Sterna sandvicensis acufiavida* Cabot. CABOT'S TERN.—A few noted in Kingston Harbor on July 14 and August 18.

30. *Sterna dougali dougali* Montagu. ROSEATE TERN.—Twenty seen in Kingston Harbor on July 14.

31. *Sterna fuscata fuscata* Linn. SOOTY TERN.—Three were noted off the coast of the southeastern corner of Jamaica on July 8, and a few in Kingston Harbor on July 14.

32. *Sterna anaetheta recognita* Mathews. BRIDLED TERN.—About 20 noted in Kingston Harbor on July 14.

33. *Columba leucocephala* Linn. BALD-PATE PIGEON.—Noted occasionally in July and August in the hills near Lumsden, Mandeville, and Williamsfield. Numbers came at night to roost in the mangroves along the Black River.

34. *Zenaida zenaida zenaida* Bonaparte. PEA DOVE.—A common species near the coast, less common in the hilly interior. Noted at Kingston, Constant Spring, Lumsden, Jackson Town, Williamsfield, Ipswich, and Black River.

35. *Melopelia asiatica asiatica* Linn. WHITE-WINGED DOVE.—A common species in the vicinity of Kingston, frequenting especially the vicinity of the mangrove swamps. Its loud explosive cooing was a characteristic sound of these regions. A few were also noted at Duncan's Bay. On July 14 I located four nests, some with eggs and others with young, in the dense growth of shrubby trees on the sandy spit of land known as the Palisadoes, across the bay from Kingston. These nests were situated at heights of from 12 to 20 feet in *lignum vitae* and other trees. They were very frail structures, even for a Dove. One of these nests contained one egg and one new hatched young. The egg measured 31x25 millimeters. The entire body of the young bird was uniform slaty blue, including the bill. It had a sparse covering of light brown down.

36. *Chaemopelia passerina jamaicensis* Maynard. JAMAICAN GROUND DOVE.—A common species, especially in the lowlands, but seen at all points visited. A female was collected at Black River on August 12. Its iris was of a dirty yellowish color. The bill was also a dirty yellowish, becoming dusky at the tip.

37. *Leptotila jamaicensis jamaicensis* Linn. WHITE-BELLIED DOVE.—I found this handsome and peculiar species far from rare in dense wooded thickets near the sea at Duncan's Bay, and especially in the logwood growths in the Black River region. The only ones seen in the hills were a pair near Constant Spring. A female was collected at Black River on August 11. Its stomach contained hard black seeds. Some coarse quartz gravel was also found.

38. *Oreopeleia montana* Linn. RUDDY QUAIL DOVE.—Apparently very scarce. The only one observed was a female at Lumsden on July 30.

39. *Geotrygon versicolor* Lafresnaye. CRESTED QUAIL DOVE.—

According to the accounts of residents of the island, this fine species is on the verge of extinction. On August 3, I flushed a bird on a wild wooded hill near Jackson Town which was almost undoubtedly this species.

40. *Amazona collaria* Linn. YELLOW-BILLED PARROT.—Small flocks of Yellow-billed Parrots were observed frequently on the wilder wooded hills near Lumsden during my stay there. Residents of the region say that this species is still fairly common, but that *A. agilis* is very nearly extinct. All of the larger Parrots that I saw closely enough to positively identify were *collaria*. The largest number observed in any one day was sixteen. During June and July negroes frequently take young birds from holes in trees to be sold as cage birds.

41. *Eupsittula nana* Vigors. JAMAICAN PAROQUET.—Paroquets were abundant at Lumsden and Jackson Town during my stay, but were not seen elsewhere. They occurred in large flocks and showed a marked predilection for guava trees. While flying they uttered shrill screeching sounds. They are said to be serious enemies of corn planters by reason of breaking open many ears and eating only a few kernels out of each. Flocks came close to the house at Lumsden, and could be observed at leisure from the dining room window. Miss Perkins says, however, that they are of somewhat irregular abundance, which may account for the fact that until now they have apparently not been observed by any naturalist since March, who published in 1863. The stomach contents of two females collected consisted mainly of the pulp and seeds of guava fruits. The iris of one was orange, of the other brownish yellow.

42. *Coccyzus minor nesiotus* Cabanis. MANGROVE CUCKOO.—Observed only on the Palisadoes, across the bay from Kingston.

43. *Hyetornis pluviialis* Gmelin. RAIN-BIRD.—An individual shot near Lumsden on July 24 was the only one seen.

44. *Saurothera vetula* Linn. OLD MAN BIRD.—Seen on six occasions near Lumsden. The female of a pair was collected on July 27. Its stomach contained a large green lizard (*Anolis garmani*), and a few beetles.

45. *Crotophaga ani* Linn. ANI. SAVANNA BLACKBIRD.—Common. Seen at all localities visited. Miss Perkins reported seeing an almost completely albino individual in a flock near Brown's Town on two occasions during the summer.

46. *Tyto perlata furcata* Temminck. WHITE-WINGED BARN OWL.—"White Owl." A common resident in suitable localities, usually seen at dusk hunting rats in canefields. Seen at Duncan's and Clark's Town.

47. *Nyctibius griseus jamaicensis* Gmelin. POTOO.—On July 15, I observed a Potoo sleeping by day on a dead mango stub at Hope Gardens. It was perched in an upright position with its bill pointed upwards and its eyes closed. I sent a negro boy up to try to catch the bird alive, but it flew just as he was about to grab it, and alighted on the trunk of another tree in a vertical position like a Woodpecker. On being scared from that

it alighted *crosswise* on a branch of another tree. Thereupon the boy threw a mango at it and it dropped dead. It proved to be a male in the process of molt. Its brain cavity was extremely small (only 12x14x5 millimeters). Its stomach contained nothing but insects, mostly beetles.

48. *Chordeiles minor gundlachii* Lawrence. WEST INDIAN NIGHT-HAWK.—"Piramidig." Common near Kingston, and at Lumsden, Jackson Town and Black River.

49. *Nephoecetes niger niger* Gmelin. BLACK SWIFT.—Seen only at Hope Gardens and Constant Spring in July, flying overhead just before dusk.

50. *Streptoprocne zonaris pallidifrons* Hartert. RINGED SWIFT.—A small flock seen at Constant Spring on July 13, flying in company with a few Black Swifts just before dusk. Two Swifts seen at Lumsden on July 29 may have been this species.

51. *Tachornis phoenicobia phoenicobia* Gosse. PALM SWIFT.—Abundant in the Kingston region, where colonies were noted nesting in palms across the street from the United Fruit Co. office, in the yard of the East Street Building of the Church of England, and in the park near the "Parade." Large colonies were also noted nesting in palms near the railway station at Appleton and along the beach east of Black River. At Lumsden only occasional individuals were seen.

52. *Mellisuga minima* Linn. VERVAIN or BEE HUMMINGBIRD.—At Kingston these birds, supposed to be the smallest in the world, were occasionally seen around blossoming flamboyant trees. At Lumsden I saw the species on only two occasions. At Jackson Town it was fairly common, frequenting low growing Blue Vervain flowers in open fields. At Black River it was common in the tops of blossoming tamarind trees, where the birds could be located by their metallic chattering, very loud for the size of the bird. Three specimens were collected. Their stomachs were apparently empty, indicating that they feed largely on nectar. The average length (in the flesh) of the birds collected was 68 millimeters.

53. *Anthracothorax mango* Linn. JAMAICAN MANGO HUMMINGBIRD.—Common and widely distributed. In the banana plantations they were very fond of probing the blossom buds for insects. The stomach contents of two birds consisted entirely of minute insects.

54. *Aithurus polytmus* Linn. LONG-TAILED HUMMINGBIRD.—Common in all parts of the island visited. A series of specimens in various plumages was obtained. Adult males with the long tail feathers were seen much less frequently than females and immature males. All the male *Aithurus* collected or seen, whether on the north or the south side of the island, were of the red-billed variety, and Miss Perkins, who has lived most of her life in various localities in the northern part of the island, tells me that she cannot definitely remember ever seeing a black-billed individual. These facts led me to doubt the validity of *A. scitulus* even before a talk I had with Mr. Panton in which he stated that he did

not believe *scitulus* to be distinct. If it is distinct, it certainly does not occur at all commonly along the north coast in St. Ann's and Trelawney, where I found *polytmus* to be very common.

55. ***Todus todus*** Linn. JAMAICAN TODY. "ROBIN."—Fairly common at Lumsden, and a few observed at Jackson Town, Mandeville and Hodges. The stomachs of two obtained at Lumsden contained mostly insects, of which Chrysomelid beetles formed a large proportion, and a cuckoo hopper was also identified. One stomach also contained a number of small seeds. Mr. McIntyre of Claremont told me of a pair nesting in a wooden flower pot near his house. The birds entered through a round hole in the side of the pot, and made a tunnel through the earth to the opposite side where the eggs were laid.

56. ***Megaceryle alcyon alcyon*** Linn. BELTED KINGFISHER.—One observed in the mangroves along the Black River August 12.

57. ***Centurus radiolatus*** Wagler. JAMAICAN WOODPECKER.—Common at Lumsden, Jackson Town, Mandeville and Black River, but not observed in the Kingston region. In the field they were seen on the fruit of *Ficus* sp. Two stomachs contained seeds, fibers of some fruit, and a few small beetles.

58. ***Tyrannus curvirostris curvirostris*** Hermann. GRAY KINGBIRD.—Common at all points visited. Young observed on the wing July 10. Other birds were nest building as late as July 28.

59. ***Tomarchus jamaicensis*** Chapman. JAMAICAN PETCHARY. "LOGGERHEAD."—Abundant at all places visited except in the immediate vicinity of Kingston. More common than the Gray Kingbird, and apparently much more abundant than the Petcharies of either Cuba or Porto Rico. On July 10 a nest was found with young nearly ready to fly. The nest was on a horizontal branch at a height of forty-five feet from the ground. Two stomachs contained 60 per cent of animal matter and 40 per cent of vegetable. The latter consisted of the fruit of *Solanum* and other berries, while the animal matter was mainly grasshoppers, crickets and fleabeetles.

60. ***Myiarchus stolidus*** Gosse. TOM-FOOL.—Observed only in close proximity to the sea, on the Palisadoes and at Black River, where it was found in the low moist logwood lands. The stomach of one collected there contained two large caterpillars and two Cerambycid beetles.

61. ***Myiarchus barbirostris*** Swainson. TOM-FOOL.—Common at Lumsden and Jackson Town, and a few observed at Black River. During the latter part of July a pair had two young in a nest hole in a fencepost in Mr. McIntyre's dooryard in Claremont. Three stomachs contained 83 per cent of animal matter and 17 per cent of vegetable, the latter being entirely berries. The animal matter consisted entirely of beetles, among which weevils figured prominently.

62. ***Myiarchus validus*** Cabanis. BIG TOM FOOL.—Four were observed, and three collected, in a thickly wooded valley in the hills near

Lumsden in which Solitaires were particularly abundant. The birds were observed here on numerous occasions, but always singly except on one occasion (July 29) when an adult was observed accompanied by a young bird. The note was a vigorously uttered *pre-e-e*, similar to that of *M. barbirostris*, but much louder and harsher. The species is so similar to other Flycatchers of the genus *Myiarchus* in appearance, habits and notes that I can scarcely believe it to belong elsewhere than in this genus, though it has sometimes been placed in the genus *Hylonax* of the family Cotingidae. Three stomachs examined all contained entire land snails, forming 77 per cent of the total food. Two of the stomachs contained fragments of large beetles, which formed 23 per cent of the total food.

63. **Blacicus pallidus** Gosse. LITTLE TOM-FOOL.—Common at Lumsden, and observed at Jackson Town and Hope Gardens. They feed for the most part in low shrubs and herbaceous plants in clearings. Their note is a weak, rather short trilled *pree*. One stomach contained thirteen small weevils, two Buprestid beetles, a small spider, and some unidentified insect fragments.

64. **Elaenia fallax** Sclater. JAMAICAN ELAENIA.—Observed only in wild brushy country at Lumsden, where it was far from common.

65. **Myiopagis cotta** Gosse. COTTA FLY-SNAPPER.—One observed at close range at Constant Spring on July 13.

66. **Progne dominicensis** Gmelin. CARIBBEAN MARTIN.—Observed at Kingston, Lumsden and Black River. At the latter place in August a flock used to fly at dusk west along the shore, evidently to a roost. In the morning it would return flying in the opposite direction.

67. **Petrochelidon fulva poeciloma** Gosse. JAMAICAN CLIFF SWALLOW. "CAVE SWALLOW."—Observed at practically all localities visited, but most commonly at Lumsden. There a colony of 20 pairs nested in erosion hollows in the cliffs which formed the roof and wall of a shallow cave. The nests contained young the last week in July.

68. **Corvus jamaicensis** Gmelin. JABBERING CROW.—A few observed on wild wooded hills near Lumsden.

69. **Mimus polyglottos orpheus** Linn. JAMAICAN MOCKINGBIRD.—Common at all points visited. A stomach contained only berries and seeds.

70. **Haplocichla aurantia** Gmelin. HOPPING DICK.—Common at Lumsden and Jackson Town, and seen at Moneague and Mandeville. The notes are a rather nasal complaining *kvak, kvak*. As they fly they utter a screeching *week, week, week*, resembling that of *Mimocichla ardoisiacea*; a species of very similar habits and appearance. A stomach contained 11 Lepidopterous larvae, a large black ant, a Bombyliid fly, and 1 large seed.

71. **Turdus jamaicensis** Gmelin. GLASS-EYE.—Fairly common at Lumsden, but much more often heard than seen. The note is a higher pitched *cheep* than that of the Hopping Dick. A stomach contained exclusively large barley-shaped seeds.

72. *Myiadestes solitarius* Baird. JAMAICAN SOLITAIRE.—Common on the forested hills near Lumsden, where its flute-like trills were a characteristic sound. The song is so ventriloqual that the singer can be discovered only with difficulty, and I actually saw but five during two weeks spent where they were abundant. One was collected, and its stomach, which was quite muscular, was found to be full of some large hard berries.

73. *Vireosylva calidris calidris* Linn. JAMAICAN VIREO. "WHIP-TOM-KELLY."—Common. Young on the wing noted at Kingston July 9. Very few of these Vireos were heard singing after the 1st of August.

74. *Vireo modestus* Selater. "SEWY SEWY."—The local name is a fairly good rendering of the most common song of this Vireo, but it also has a variety of other notes, one of the most frequently uttered being a buzzy squeak. Common at Lumsden, and observed at Jackson Town, Duncan's Bay, Mandeville and Black River. Two stomachs contained 72.5 per cent of insects (beetles and a walking stick), and 17.5 per cent of berry seeds.

75. *Coereba flaveola* Linn. JAMAICAN HONEY CREEPER. "CHECK CHECK" in Trelawney.—Common at all points visited. A stomach contained only finely macerated insects.

76. *Euneornis campestris* Linn. BLUE QUIT.—Observed in the vicinities of Kingston, Lumsden, Jackson Town and Mandeville. They were observed feeding on the fruit of an arum-like plant known locally as Rat-tail. The small black seeds contained in these fruits formed the entire stomach contents of one bird examined, while another contained exclusively insects. The common notes are a rapidly repeated series of harsh scolding sounds, and some high-pitched *screeeps*. Some photographs were taken of an immature male, which was afterwards collected.

77. *Dendroica petechia petechia* Linn. JAMAICAN GOLDEN WARBLER.—Common near the sea, especially near mangroves. Several were collected in the vicinity of Black River. This part of the island is the type locality of Gosse's *D. eoa*, and a special search was made for this form. The nearest approach to it that could be found was a very brilliantly colored *D. petechia* with its crown of a deep reddish color. A stomach contained entirely small insects, largely Coleoptera.

78. *Dendroica pharetra* Gosse. ARROW-HEADED WARBLER.—Several observed in wooded valleys near Lumsden. A female and an immature bird were collected. On August 2 a family consisting of two adults and a number of young barely able to fly were observed. Whenever seen this species was feeding in the brush in typical Warbler style, never more than ten feet above the ground. It has a habit of continually flitting the tail. The note is a rather liquid *guit, guit*.

79. *Icterus leucopteryx* Wagler. JAMAICAN ORIOLE.—Quite generally distributed, but not seen very commonly anywhere. Noted at Kingston, Lumsden, Williamsfield, and Black River. Two were collected. The stomach contents of one was entirely small fruits and their seeds.

80. *Holoquiscalus jamaicensis jamaicensis* Daudin. JAMAICAN GRACKLE. TINKLING.—Locally distributed, and not uncommon in some places. One small flock at Hope Gardens constituted the only observation in the Kingston region. A large flock including adults feeding young frequented Lumsden. They would enter the house and take bread off the dining room table. If it was hard they would take it outside and dip it in water before swallowing it. In case no adult was nearby the young would pick up their own food; otherwise they would spread their wings and screech to be fed. A stomach contained 14 red berries (80 per cent), and a centipede (20 per cent).

81. *Spindalis nigricephala* Jameson. BANANA BIRD. "GOLDFINCH."—Common at Lumsden and Jackson Town. Also seen at Mandeville. They had a habit of perching high in the tree tops in the morning to sun themselves. Two stomachs contained seeds of fruits.

82. *Pyrrhuphonia jamaica* Linn. ORANGE QUIT.—A few seen in the vicinity of Kingston, and at Lumsden and Jackson Town. Their notes are harsh and chattery, suggesting some of the scold notes of the Tufted Titmouse.

83. *Pyrrhulagra violacea ruficollis* Gmelin. JAMAICAN GROSBEEK. BLACK SPARROW.—Common at Lumsden, Jackson Town and Mandeville, and a few observed in the mangroves at Black River. The song is a *wichi, wichi, wichi*, quite similar to one of the songs of *P. portoricensis*, but it also has a cicada-like buzz. In July and August it was feeding extensively on the seeds and fruit of a wild species of *Solanum*. This was determined by field observations, and confirmed by the examination of the contents of four stomachs.

84. *Loxipasser anoxanthus* Gosse. YELLOW-BACKED FINCH.—Observed frequently at Lumsden and Jackson Town, but not seen elsewhere. Two stomachs contained only small seeds. In the field they were observed to eat Guinea grass seeds. A female collected at Lumsden on July 28 contained an egg nearly ready to deposit. My field notes of the song are "a rather harsh and buzzy *scree, scree*, not very prolonged, but repeated several times in series."

85. *Sycalis flaveola* Linn. YELLOW FINCH. A pair observed at Constant Spring confirms the recent spread of this species to the eastern part of the island. Also seen at various places in the western part.

86. *Tiaris bicolor marchii* Baird. BLACK-FACED GRASSQUIT.—Common at all points visited, but less so than the orange-faced species. A stomach contained only seeds, mainly of *Solanum*.

87. *Tiaris olivacea olivacea* Linn. ORANGE-FACED GRASSQUIT.—Common at all points visited. A nest was kept under observation for some time at Lumsden. It was a typical nest for this species, domed, with the entrance at the side, and made of coarse grass, small sticks and a lot of green moss. When discovered it contained two white eggs spotted with reddish brown, which hatched on August 4. Two stomachs contained seeds, mainly of *Solanum*.

88. *Ammodramus savannarum savannarum* Gmelin. JAMAICAN GRASSHOPPER SPARROW.—Common near Kingston, at Jackson Town (where it was collected) and at Brown's Town.

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