

BIRDS OF LAS VIGAS, VERACRUZ<sup>1</sup>

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LAS VIGAS is a quiet, not very colorful, middle-sized village in western Veracruz. It is situated at the northeastern base of the Cofre de Perote, at an elevation of 8000 feet. It may be reached by railroad or by highway from Jalapa (from the east) or Puebla (from the west). About it lie open, sloping fields. The original pine forest has been cut off or thinned out for miles around. Las Vigas is well known in ornithological circles. It is the type locality for several forms, including a remarkable 'Screech' Owl, *Otus pinosus*, which is known only from the type specimen. De Oca, Ferrari-Perez, Nelson, Goldman, Chapman, Isham and Trujillo have worked there. The most convenient report on the birds is Chapman's annotated list of forty-eight species (Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist., 10: 15-43, Feb. 24, 1898), based on a ten-day spring sojourn (April 17 to 27) in 1897.

In early April of 1939 John B. Semple, Frederick W. Loetscher, and the authors visited Las Vigas for a few days, recording a total of 89 bird forms. It is thought that a comparison of the 1939 and 1897 lists will be of value not alone because the two lists represent somewhat different seasons of the year but because with the passing of almost half a century there have been significant ecological changes.

## POINTS VISITED IN 1939

The country most thoroughly investigated in 1939 was that from two to six miles south and southeast of the village; the borders of the highway and open fields near town; and the rock-strewn, mixed woodlands between Las Vigas and La Joya, a village four or five miles east of Las Vigas (on the road to Jalapa) at about 7000 feet elevation.

The party of four visited Las Vigas from April 1 to 4, inclusive. Loetscher remained thereafter until April 10. April 1 the thinned-out woods near town were cursorily inspected. April 2, the thicker timber to the south (8500 to 9000 feet) was investigated. April 3, the whole district between Las Vigas and La Joya was traversed. April 4, the mountain south of Las Vigas was climbed, where fine tree-growth was reached at elevations of from 8500 to 10,000 feet. The section visited by Loetscher between April 5 and 10 was that lying to the east of Las Vigas in the general direction of La Joya.

<sup>1</sup> First of a series of papers on the 1939 John B. Semple Expedition to eastern Mexico.

The woods about Las Vigas were almost wholly pine. Thin shrubbery grew in the clearings and along the steep slopes, but where the forest was dense there was no undergrowth. Below Las Vigas the woods were partly deciduous. Here, especially in sections where the trees were thin, there were tangles of vines and bushes. A notable feature of the terrain between Las Vigas and La Joya was the rough, scoriaceous rock. Where this rock covered the ground walking was difficult and dangerous. A pretty stream flowed down the mountain-side into and through Las Vigas. Along this stream the trees had not been felled. Its sheltered banks were therefore good birding grounds, but they failed to yield a specimen of *Otus pinosus*.

Even in the remotest sections visited on April 4 there was evidence of lumbering. On a broad shelf south of the village the trees had long since been cut. Here a knee-high tangle of stiff shrubbery grew, giving the open flat somewhat the appearance of a huckleberry bog in the interior of Newfoundland.

#### COMPARISON OF LISTS

A study and comparison of the 1897 and 1939 lists reveal the following facts:

1. Forty-six bird species were recorded both by Chapman in 1897 and by the authors and their companions in 1939. The two forms listed in 1897 but not in 1939 were transients, *Hylocichla ustulata swainsoni* and *Seiurus noveboracensis*.

2. Of the 48 species recorded in 1897, 28 were known or thought to be breeding. Two of these were considered 'abundant'—*Junco phaeonotus* and *Peucedramus olivaceus*; eight 'common'—*Turdus migratorius*, *Parus sclateri*, *Vireo huttoni*, *Spinus pinus*, *Myiochanes pertinax*, *Plagiospiza superciliosa*, *Empidonax fulvifrons*, and *Loxia curvirostra*; and six 'not uncommon' or 'tolerably common'—*Psaltriparus melanotis*, *Sitta carolinensis*, *Sitta pygmaea*, *Vireo solitarius*, *Pipilo fuscus*, and *Antrastomus vociferus*. All the above-named species were found to be common in 1939 save *Pipilo fuscus*, which was recorded only infrequently, and *Antrastomus vociferus*, which, judged by the number of birds actually seen or heard, was decidedly uncommon.

3. Of the 28 nesting species listed in 1897, twelve were considered 'not common' or were noted so infrequently as to indicate their being rare. These were: *Sialia mexicana*, *Certhia familiaris*, *Ergaticus ruber*, *Hedymeles melanocephalus*, *Pipilo torquatus*, *Hesperiphona*

*vespertina*, *Aphelocoma sordida*, *Empidonax affinis*,<sup>2</sup> *Dryobates villosus*, *Dryobates stricklandi*, *Colaptes cafer*, and *Corvus corax*. Two of these, *Colaptes cafer* and *Sialia mexicana*, apparently have become more numerous during the past forty years. *Aphelocoma sordida* was thought to be local, rather than uncommon, in 1939. *Hesperiphona vespertina* was seen repeatedly in 1939, but it is known to be erratic in other parts of its range and may therefore be rare or absent during some years. At least one of the twelve above-named forms, *Dryobates stricklandi*, obviously has become rarer, presumably because of the removal of the pine woods. The other seven are holding their own.

4. One species, *Piranga flava*, recorded as a transient or winter visitant in 1897, is thought to be represented today by a more or less extensive breeding population. Certainly it is fairly common in the pine woods near Las Vigas. It may be represented by two or more races during the course of the year.

5. Two species recorded in 1897 presumably represented a breeding population, but no definite nesting data were obtained: *Troglodytes brunneicollis* and *Myioborus miniatus*. These must remain in the same category. The former apparently is commoner today than it was forty years ago.

6. Of the 43 forms recorded in 1939 but not in 1897, the following sixteen probably are transients that are present only for brief periods during the year or as winter visitants: *Accipiter cooperii*, *Accipiter striatus*, *Buteo swainsoni*, *Buteo platypterus*, *Falco columbarius*, *Charadrius vociferus*, *Antrastomus v. vociferus*, *Archilochus alexandri*, *Sayornis saya*, *Empidonax hammondii*, *Mniotilta varia*, *Dendroica townsendi*, *Dendroica occidentalis*, *Dendroica graciae*, *Dendroica coronata*, and *Icterus bullocki*; and the following ten are nesting species that are thought to prefer mixed woodlands to the pine woods about Las Vigas proper: *Eugenes fulgens*, *Hylocharis leucotis*, *Trogonurus mexicanus*, *Trogonurus ambiguus*, *Pyrocephalus rubinus*, *Henricorhina leucophrys*, *Ptilogonys cinereus*, *Basileuterus belli*, *Tanagra elegantissima*, and *Atlapetes pileatus*. It is not surprising that many of the above-named 27 forms were not included in the 1897 list, for that list was predominantly one of the *nesting birds of the pine forest*, and Chapman did not, presumably, visit the mixed woodland about La Joya.

Seventeen forms remain to be accounted for. Three of these, *Otus*

<sup>2</sup> *Empidonax fulvipectus* of Ridgway, Hellmayr, et al. For use of *affinis* see van Rossem, Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool., 77: 392-393, 1934.

*flammeolus*, *Nephoecetes niger*, and *Streptoprocne zonaris*, often escape detection even in regions where they are common. Five are birds that have no particular aversion to heavy pine woods and were probably present in 1897, though they may have been rare: *Buteo jamaicensis*, *Empidonax difficilis*, *Cyanocitta stelleri*, *Vermivora superciliosa*, and *Catharus occidentalis*. Three obviously are uncommon today, though individuals recorded in 1939 are thought to represent a breeding population—*Geothlypis nelsoni*, *Spinus psaltria*, and *Sialia sialis*; and six are well known, widely distributed forms that probably have extended their winter or breeding range as a result of highway building or clearing away of the forest: *Falco sparverius*, *Zenaidura macroura*, *Lanius ludovicianus*, *Tachycineta thalassina*, *Carpodacus mexicanus*, and *Polioptila caerulea*.

## SPECIES RECORDED IN 1939

BLACK VULTURE, *Coragyps atratus*.—Not common. Noted by Chapman in 1897 as one of the three species occurring both at Las Vigas and at Jalapa.

TURKEY VULTURE, *Cathartes aura*.—Noted occasionally along the highway. Chapman observed "a few . . . daily" in 1897.

COOPER'S HAWK, *Accipiter cooperii*.—Noted once, a single bird, a mile east of Las Vigas, April 8 (Loetscher).

SHARP-SHINNED HAWK, *Accipiter striatus*.—Observed once, near La Joya, April 2 (Burleigh).

RED-TAILED HAWK, *Buteo jamaicensis*.—Mated pair seen at 9500 feet, south of Las Vigas, April 4 (Loetscher).

SWAINSON'S HAWK, *Buteo swainsoni*.—Flock of several hundred seen on morning of April 5 between Jalapa and Las Vigas (Semple and Burleigh). Noted later in the day by Loetscher, who observed many individuals at close range, most of them in the light phase of plumage, others black. Circling low over the mountains, the whole flock moved gradually northward.

BROAD-WINGED HAWK, *Buteo platypterus*.—Two noted in flock of Swainson's Hawks that passed over April 5 (Loetscher).

PIGEON HAWK, *Falco columbarius*.—An adult seen chasing a small bird, a mile east of Las Vigas, April 8 (Loetscher).

SPARROW HAWK, *Falco sparverius*.—One seen near highway five miles west of Las Vigas, April 1 and 5. Presumably this species has become commoner as a result of deforestation.

KILLDEER, *Charadrius vociferus*.—One seen and heard flying over Las Vigas, April 1 (Loetscher).

WESTERN MOURNING DOVE, *Zenaidura macroura marginella*.—Mourning Doves were noted infrequently along the highway in the open country west of Las Vigas. An adult female (ovary much enlarged) taken near La Joya, April 4 (Semple), is of this race, the wing measuring 140 mm., the tail 120. Chapman did not record the Mourning Dove in 1897. Like the Sparrow Hawk it probably is becoming commoner as a result of opening-up of the country.

FLAMMULATED SCREECH OWL, *Otus flammeolus flammeolus*.—Recorded but once: an incubating female taken at the nest, at about 10,000 feet, April 4 (Sutton). The nest cavity, which held three heavily incubated eggs, apparently was an old flicker's. It was about fifteen feet from the ground in a dead stub. The owl's eyes were dark brown.

EASTERN WHIP-POOR-WILL, *Antrostomus vociferus vociferus*.—A female whip-poor-will taken near La Joya, April 3 (Semple) proves to be the well-known bird of the eastern United States. It was the only one of this subspecies seen.

MEXICAN WHIP-POOR-WILL, *Antrostomus vociferus setosus*.—The few whip-poor-wills heard near Las Vigas on the evening of April 4 and early the following morning presumably were of this subspecies. A breeding male, taken after dark with a flashlight along a wooded gully, was calling energetically and feeding among the tops of the highest trees, possibly seventy-five feet from the ground (Sutton). The type of Wagler's *Caprimulgus macromystax* has proved to be a specimen of the common Whip-poor-will of the eastern United States, so the name *setosus* has been proposed (see van Rossem, Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool., 77: 408, 1934).

BLACK SWIFT, *Nephoecetes niger*.—Noted repeatedly about an open flat at 10,000 feet, south of Las Vigas, April 4 (Sutton and Loetscher).

MEXICAN COLLARED SWIFT, *Streptoprocne zonaris mexicana*.—Noted only on April 4, when Semple took a male and a female a mile east of Las Vigas, and Loetscher and Sutton saw a few birds circling above a flat at 10,000 feet, a few miles south of the village.

BLACK-CHINNED HUMMINGBIRD, *Archilochus alexandri*.—Female taken at Las Vigas, April 2 (Sutton). Ovary not enlarged; no male seen.

RIVOLI'S HUMMINGBIRD, *Eugenes fulgens fulgens*.—Subadult male taken between Las Vigas and La Joya, April 3 (Burleigh). Two adult males noted at same place the same day. Not seen in pine woods above Las Vigas.

WHITE-EARED HUMMINGBIRD, *Hylocharis leucotis leucotis*.—Noted several times near Las Vigas, April 3; two males were collected on that date at 7600 feet, between Las Vigas and La Joya (Sutton).

MEXICAN TROGON, *Trogonurus mexicanus mexicanus*.—Male seen near La Joya, April 3 (Sutton). Male taken near La Joya, April 9 (Loetscher). No trogon of any sort was seen by Chapman in 1897.

COPPERY-TAILED TROGON, *Trogonurus ambiguus*.—Male seen at close range (tail closely observed) in low woods not far from La Joya, April 9 (Loetscher). A male trogon seen April 4, in pine woods above Las Vigas (10,000 feet) probably was of this species.

MEXICAN RED-SHAFTED FLICKER, *Colaptes cafer mexicanus*.—Red-shafted Flickers were fairly common in the pine woods about Las Vigas. Some of these may have been transients or winter visitants. Incubating male of present race (wing, 151 mm.) taken April 2 (Sutton).

STRICKLAND'S WOODPECKER, *Dryobates stricklandi*.—Rare. Female taken near Las Vigas, April 4 (Loetscher). One of the species that has apparently become rarer with the cutting of the big trees.

JARDINE'S HAIRY WOODPECKER, *Dryobates villosus jardinii*.—Fairly common. Female specimens (with distinct brood patch) taken April 1-3 (Sutton and Loetscher). Appears to be holding its own in spite of extensive lumbering.

SAY'S PHOEBE, *Sayornis saya saya*.—Noted but once: a male (gonads somewhat enlarged) taken four miles east of Las Vigas, April 3 (Loetscher).

FULVOUS-BREASTED FLYCATCHER, *Empidonax affinis affinis*.—Fairly common in pine woods about Las Vigas; male and female specimens were taken April 2-4. Chapman took four specimens in 1897.

SALVIN'S WESTERN FLYCATCHER, *Empidonax difficilis salvini*.—Presumably this bird nests in the region, though the only specimen taken (male, April 2, Sutton) was not in breeding condition. This is the *Empidonax difficilis bairdi* of Ridgway (for change of name see van Rossem, Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool., 77: 393-394, 1934).

HAMMOND'S FLYCATCHER, *Empidonax hammondii*.—One recorded: a female, taken near Las Vigas, April 10 (Loetscher).

RUDDY BUFF-BREASTED FLYCATCHER, *Empidonax fulvifrons rubicundus*.—Fairly common at from 8000 to 9000 feet. Specimens taken April 2-4 (Burleigh and Loetscher). Chapman recorded this species repeatedly in 1897, discovering a 'nearly completed' nest April 26.

SWAINSON'S FLYCATCHER, *Myiochanes pertinax pertinax*.—Common in the pine woods. Breeding specimens taken April 1-3. Considered "common" by Chapman in 1897.

OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER, *Nuttallornis borealis*.—Noted but once: a male, taken April 4, four miles south of Las Vigas, at about 9800 feet (Sutton). Four individuals were noted by Chapman in 1897.

VERMILION FLYCATCHER, *Pyrocephalus rubinus*.—Noted once, a single male, just east of Las Vigas, April 8 (Loetscher).

VIOLET-GREEN SWALLOW, *Tachycineta thalassina*.—Violet-green Swallows, presumably of the subspecies *mexicanus*, for they appeared to be established for the season, were noted repeatedly about Las Vigas, April 1-9.

BLUE-CRESTED JAY, *Cyanocitta stelleri coronata*.—This handsome bird (which was not observed by Chapman in 1897) was seen several times near Las Vigas and La Joya; specimens were taken April 2-4 (Semple and Burleigh). These are alike in being strikingly blue on the crest. This is surprising in view of the fact that the type locality for the black-crested subspecies, *C. s. azteca* Ridgway, is 'Mirador,' which is said to be less than fifty miles away, midway between Huatusco and Jalapa, at 4100 feet. Blue-crested Jays were seen on the mountain south of Las Vigas also on April 4, at from 9000 to 10,000 feet (Sutton and Loetscher).

SIEBER'S JAY, *Aphelocoma sordida sieberii*.—Small flock seen, April 4, at 10,000 feet (Sutton). Female (with basal half of lower mandible flesh-colored as in *A. s. arizonae*) taken from fair-sized flock at Las Vigas, April 5 (Loetscher). Noted by Chapman in 1897.

AMERICAN RAVEN, *Corvus corax sinuatus*.—Not common. Two seen circling above Las Vigas, April 3. Chapman observed "two or three . . . daily" in 1897.

MEXICAN CHICKADEE, *Parus sclateri sclateri*.—Noted several times. Breeding female taken at 9000 feet, April 2 (Burleigh). Recorded by Chapman in 1897 as "not common."

BLACK-EARED BUSHY TIT, *Psaltriparus melanotis melanotis*.—Noted several times. Breeding male taken at 8000 feet, April 4 (Burleigh). Noted by Chapman in 1897 as "not common."

MEXICAN WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH, *Sitta carolinensis mexicana*.—Noted in the pine woods about Las Vigas, but not at La Joya. Breeding male taken at former place, April 1 (Burleigh). Noted by Chapman in 1897 as "tolerably common." Like *Dryobates villosus jardinii*, apparently holding its own.

CHIHUAHUA PIGMY NUTHATCH, *Sitta pygmaea chihuahuanae*.—Fairly common in the pine woods. Breeding male (wing 71 mm., tail 38) collected and occupied nest found, April 4 (Sutton). Considered "tolerably common" in 1897 by Chapman.

MEXICAN BROWN CREEPER, *Certhia familiaris alticola*.—Fairly common in pine woods at from 8000 to 10,000 feet. Breeding male collected near Las Vigas, April 2 (Burleigh). Nest with two fresh eggs found April 4 (Sutton and Loetscher). Nest seven feet from ground, under slab of bark. The species was noted several times by Chapman in 1897, who took four specimens that year.

BROWN-THROATED WREN, *Troglodytes brunneicollis brunneicollis*.—Specimens with unenlarged gonads collected April 1-3. Considered "rather uncommon" by Chapman in 1897. May be increasing as a result of clearing away of heavy pine woods.

HOUSE WREN, *Troglodytes domesticus*.—Seen once, April 3, at 9000 feet (Sutton and Loetscher). Chapman took two '*Troglodytes aëdon*' specimens in 1897.

MEXICAN WOOD WREN, *Henicorhina leucophrys mexicana*.—This attractive species which Chapman did not record in 1897, was noted by us once only in the immediate vicinity of Las Vigas; but at slightly lower elevations to the east it was common. Specimens taken there April 3.

VERACRUZ ROBIN, *Turdus migratorius phillipsi*.—Common and nesting. Male taken near La Joya, April 3 (Burleigh). Considered "common" by Chapman in 1897. Probably increasing steadily with the clearing away of the forest.

FULVOUS NIGHTINGALE-THRUSH, *Catharus occidentalis fulvescens*.—Fairly common in pine and mixed woodlands at from 7000 to 9000 feet. Specimens taken April 1-4 (compared directly with type). Testes of male taken April 4 measured 6 x 5 mm., and birds were seen chasing each other as if in courtship, but no other signs of breeding observed. Chapman did not record any member of the genus *Catharus* at Las Vigas in 1897, though he listed both *C. mexicanus* and *C. melpomene* from Jalapa. Shrubbery in the clearings at Las Vigas may conceivably be responsible for the presence of *occidentalis* there at the present time.

AUDUBON'S HERMIT THRUSH, *Hyllocichla guttata auduboni*.—Hermit Thrushes were noted several times at from 7000 to 10,000 feet. A female collected April 4 (Loetscher) is of the present subspecies (wing 103 mm., tail 76). Chapman took two specimens of *auduboni* in 1897.

GUATEMALAN BLUEBIRD, *Sialia sialis guatemalae*.—Male (wing 105.5 mm., tail 70) with enlarged testes taken two miles east of Las Vigas, April 8 (Loetscher). Chapman did not note *S. sialis* in 1897.

NELSON'S BLUEBIRD, *Sialia mexicana australis*.—Fairly common. Several nesting pairs noted and two males collected at from 8000 to 8600 feet, April 2-4. Chapman considered this bird "not common" in 1897. It probably has increased with thinning of the forest.

BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER, *Poliophtila caerulea*.—Seen once near Las Vigas at close range, April 2 (Loetscher and Sutton).

RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET, *Corthylio calendula*.—Noted several times at from 7000 to 10,000 feet, April 1-4. Abundant April 8, when a migratory wave must have passed through (Loetscher). Considered "not common" by Chapman in 1897.

*Anthus* sp.—A single pipit was seen and heard as it flew over Las Vigas, April 4 (Loetscher).

MEXICAN PTILOGONYS, *Ptilogonys cinereus*.—Four seen above Las Vigas, at 9000 feet, April 2 (Loetscher). Not recorded by Chapman in 1897.

*Lanius ludovicianus*.—A shrike was seen along the highway just west of Las Vigas on the morning of April 5. This species (which was not seen by Chapman in 1897) probably has made its way into the Las Vigas section during recent years.

MEXICAN HUTTON'S VIREO, *Vireo huttoni mexicanus*.—Fairly common. Breeding specimens collected at 7500 feet, April 3. Considered "common" by Chapman in 1897.

PLUMBEOUS VIREO, *Vireo solitarius plumbeus*.—Fairly common at from 8000 to 10,000 feet. Breeding males taken April 4–7 (Burleigh and Loetscher). One of these (wing 85 mm., tail 62) is large enough to suggest that the breeding form is *V. s. pinicolus* van Rossem, but the other (wing 80, tail 56) is so much shorter-winged and -tailed that we are obliged to call Las Vigas birds *plumbeus*, the same race as that breeding in the Chisos Mountains, in Brewster County, Texas.

BLACK AND WHITE WARBLER, *Mniotilta varia*.—One seen between Las Vigas and La Joya, at 7500 feet, April 3 (Loetscher). Not noted by Chapman in 1897.

NASHVILLE WARBLER, *Vermivora ruficapilla*.—Noted four times by Loetscher: twice April 1; once April 2; and once April 9. Taken by Chapman in 1897.

MEXICAN HARTLAUB'S WARBLER, *Vermivora superciliosa mexicana*.—Noted several times. Breeding male collected along stream just south of Las Vigas, April 2 (Sutton). Chapman did not record this species in 1897.

OLIVE WARBLER, *Peucedramus olivaceus olivaceus*.—Common; mated pairs and singing males were noted daily in larger pines. Male (with enlarged testes) taken April 2 (Loetscher). Considered "abundant" by Chapman in 1897.

MYRTLE WARBLER, *Dendroica coronata*.—Noted with certainty but twice: an adult female collected April 1 (Loetscher), and a female in immature plumage collected April 4 (Sutton). Not seen by Chapman in 1897.

AUDUBON'S WARBLER, *Dendroica auduboni*.—Noted several times, but no specimen taken. Chapman noted it but once in 1897, collecting a female in full plumage April 23.

TOWNSEND'S WARBLER, *Dendroica townsendi*.—Noted several times April 4, at from 9000 to 10,000 feet, south of Las Vigas; a male was taken that day (Loetscher). Male seen by Chapman in 1897.

BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER, *Dendroica virens*.—Noted once: an adult male, at 7500 feet, April 3 (Sutton). Male *D. v. virens*, collected by Chapman April 24, 1897. (Identification by Frederick W. Loetscher.)

HERMIT WARBLER, *Dendroica occidentalis*.—Noted repeatedly at from 7000 to 10,000 feet. Male and female specimens taken April 2–4 (Sutton). Not recorded by Chapman in 1897.

GRACE'S WARBLER, *Dendroica graciae graciae*.—Noted but once: a male in full breeding plumage, taken at 8200 feet, April 2 (Sutton). Not noted by Chapman in 1897.

MAGGILLIVRAY'S WARBLER, *Oporornis tolmiei*.—Noted three times, 8000 to 9000 feet, April 4. Chapman collected two males in 1897.

HOODED YELLOWTHROAT, *Geothlypis nelsoni nelsoni*.—Yellowthroats were recorded several times in brush-grown, slightly marshy spots. Adult male (wing 53 mm., tail 57) of present form collected at 8000 feet, April 4, along stream that flowed through Las Vigas (Burleigh). Transient *G. trichas* not seen. No Yellowthroat was recorded by Chapman in 1897.

BELL'S WARBLER, *Basileuterus belli*.—One noted three miles east of Las Vigas, April 9 (Loetscher).



RED WARBLER, *Ergaticus ruber*.—Fairly common at from 7500 to 9000 feet. Breeding males taken near Las Vigas, April 2. Near La Joya a bird was seen carrying thin grasses to its unfinished nest, April 3 (Sutton). Noted by Chapman in 1897, who took a nesting pair April 24.

WILSON'S WARBLER, *Wilsonia pusilla*.—Noted daily. Most numerous April 8 (Loetscher). Noted by Chapman in 1897, who collected a male specimen of the western race, *W. p. pileolata*, April 24. (Identification checked by John T. Zimmer.)

RED-BELLIED REDSTART, *Myioborus miniatus miniatus*.—Not common. Male collected near Las Vigas at 9000 feet, April 2 (Burleigh). Noted but once by Chapman in 1897: a male collected April 25.

BULLOCK'S ORIOLE, *Icterus bullocki*.—Noted but once: an adult male taken April 2, at 8200 feet (Sutton).

BREWER'S BLACKBIRD, *Euphagus cyanocephalus*.—Noted but once, a small flock a mile west of Las Vigas on the morning of April 5. "Several flocks" observed by Chapman in 1897.

EASTERN HEPATIC TANAGER, *Piranga flava dextra*.—*P. flava* was noted repeatedly in the pine woods near Las Vigas. The only specimens taken, a male (wing 97 mm., tail 80) in not quite full breeding dress (April 3, Sutton) and two females (wing 98, 99; tail 80, 81) in breeding condition (April 1 and 7, Loetscher), are like topotypical *dextra* in color, but the females are a trifle long-tailed for that race according to Zimmer ('A study of the Tooth-billed Red Tanager, *Piranga flava*,' Field Mus. Nat. Hist., Zool. Ser., 17: 211, Dec. 18, 1929), who states that the tail-length of female *dextra* is "77-79.5 (av. 78.1)."

Chapman listed '*Piranga hepatica*' in 1897, commenting only on a female specimen with "slightly enlarged" ovary taken April 23 (1898, 40).

BLUE-HOODED EUPHONIA, *Tanagra elegantissima*.—Seen only in the vicinity of La Joya, where a male and a female were taken at 7200 feet, April 3 (Burleigh). Not seen in the immediate vicinity of Las Vigas.

BLACK-HEADED GROSBEAK, *Hedymeles melanocephalus melanocephalus*.—Noted three times. Female (wing 98 mm., tail 80) with slightly enlarged ovary collected four miles east of Las Vigas, April 3 (Loetscher). Recorded by Chapman in 1897: a singing male with "much enlarged testes" taken April 24.

MEXICAN EVENING GROSBEAK, *Hesperiphona vespertina montana*.—Fairly common at from 8000 to 10,000 feet. Breeding birds taken April 1-2 (Sutton). Among the specimens collected by Chapman in 1897 was a "young male but a few days from the nest."

HOUSE FINCH, *Carpodacus mexicanus*.—Seen several times, but no specimen collected. Not recorded by Chapman in 1897.

MEXICAN PINE SISKIN, *Spinus pinus macropterus*.—Common and noisy in pine woods at from 8000 to 10,000 feet. Specimens in breeding condition taken April 1-4 (Burleigh). These measure—male: wing, 75; tail, 49; female: wing, 70; tail, 46; female: wing, 75; tail, 48. A perfect siskin skeleton (with some feathers attached) found at 10,000 feet, April 4 (Sutton). Chapman considered this species 'common' in 1897.

ARKANSAS GOLDFINCH, *Spinus psaltria psaltria*.—Noted but once: a male with enlarged testes taken at Las Vigas, April 7 (Loetscher). Not seen by Chapman in 1897.

MEXICAN CROSSBILL, *Loxia curvirostra stricklandi*.—Small flocks noted from time to time in high pines. Breeding males collected April 1 (Burleigh and Loetscher). Considered 'common' by Chapman in 1897.

COLLARED TOWHEE, *Pipilo torquatus torquatus*.—Rare, the only one recorded being a male (with greatly enlarged testes) collected on a steep slope among bushes at the edge of a clearing at 8500 feet, a mile or so south of Las Vigas (Sutton). Chapman took a breeding male in 1897.

PLATEAU BROWN TOWHEE, *Pipilo fuscus potosinus*.—Rare: our only specimen was a breeding male taken in the immediate vicinity of Las Vigas, April 4 (Burleigh). It was compared directly with Ridgway's type in the U. S. National Museum. Chapman considered this bird 'not uncommon' in 1897. Its rarity at the present time is puzzling.

STRIPED SPARROW, *Plagiospiza superciliosa*.—Decidedly local, but not rare. Noted in brush-lined gully south of Las Vigas and along highway between Las Vigas and La Joya. Females (with ovary greatly enlarged) taken April 2-4 (Semple and authors). Many noted and male collected April 8 (Loetscher). Chapman considered this species 'common' in 1897.

MEXICAN JUNCO, *Junco phaeonotus phaeonotus*.—Abundant, especially in open woodlands, at from 7000 to 10,000 feet. Breeding specimens taken. Chapman considered this bird 'abundant' in 1897.

WESTERN CHIPPING SPARROW, *Spizella passerina arizonae*.—Small flocks of Chipping Sparrows were noted several times near La Joya (along the highway) as well as at Las Vigas, but no full songs were heard so presumably no nesting territories were being advertised or defended. Female (ovary somewhat enlarged) of the present subspecies collected two miles east of Las Vigas, at 7600 feet, April 8 (Loetscher). Identification was checked by Dr. Alexander Wetmore, of the Smithsonian Institution. Specimens taken by Chapman in 1897 from "flocks in the cleared fields" also have been identified as *arizonae*.

EASTERN LINCOLN'S SPARROW, *Melospiza lincolnii lincolnii*.—Lincoln's Sparrows were noted from time to time in brushy places, a female of the present race being taken at 8000 feet, April 2 (Loetscher).

RUFOUS-CAPPED SPARROW, *Atlapetes pileatus*.—Noted twice on bushy hillsides: a single bird, April 3, four miles east of Las Vigas; and a single bird, April 8, just below Las Vigas (Loetscher).

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