fornia, Monterey County north to Oregon; Oregon west of Cascade Range, including east slope of Cascades *Cyanocitta stelleri carbonacea* Grinnell.

dd. Whole bird paler; back mouse gray; frontal spots conspicuous and extended often tinging whole of relatively long crest; wings and tail lighter; grays with decided brownish cast. Sierra Nevada, from mountains at head of Sacramento Valley, Lassen Peak and northern Lassen Co.; interior-most coast ranges, and mountains of southern California and northern Lower California. *Cyanocitta stelleri frontalis* Ridgway.

aa. White spot over eye; frontal streaks whitish.

b. White spot often small and inconspicuous; back slate, often with bluish tinge; breast and abdomen dark China blue; darkest on chest. Interior, British Columbia and northern Rocky Mt. region; Montana, Idaho, eastern Washington, eastern Oregon, south to Wasatch Mts. *Cyanocitta stelleri annectens* (Baird.)

bb. White spot very conspicuous; white frontal streaks conspicuous, shading off to bluish; back drab gray or mouse gray; head abruptly black; abdomen pale cerulean blue. Southern Rocky Mt. region from southern Wyoming to northern Mexico, west to Uintah Mts., Utah and high mountains of Arizona. *Cyanocitta stelleri diademata* (Bonaparte).

The following localities have yielded typical *stelleri*. ALASKA: Yakutat 4, Seldovia 4, Port Graham, 4, Security Bay 1, Prince William Sound 1, Virgin Bay 1, Howkan 2, "Russian America" 2, Sitka 18; BRITISH COLUMBIA: New Westminister 1, Fort Simpson 2, Promise Island 1, Hastings 1, Lund 1, Clinton (migrant?) 1, Vancouver Id. 11; total 55.

LIST OF LOCALITIES.

Cyanocitta stelleri carbonacea has been found at the following localities: OREGON: Wilson R., Tillamook Co. 1, Tillamook 1, Columbia R. 2, Beaverton 2, Salem 2, Oak Grove 1 (and 1 intermediate with *annectens*), Fort Klamath 8 (and 1 specimen close to *annectens*, migrant?). CALIFORNIA: Pacific Grove, Monterey Co. 2, Monterey 2, Santa Cruz 3, Palo Alto 4, Santa Cruz Mts. 2, San Francisco 1, Marin County 1, Nicasio 1, Humboldt Bay 3, Weaverville 1, Bully Choop Mts., Trinity Co. 1 (intermediate with *frontalis*), Carberry, Shasta Co. 1 (intermediate), Mt. Shasta 1 (not typical), Camp Bidwell 1 (? young); total 41. The following localities have yielded intermediates between *stelleri* and *carbonacea*, close to *stelleri*. BRITISH COLUMBIA: Agassiz 1 (individual), Victoria 1 (individual); WASHINGTON: Marcus 1, Ft. Steilacoom 1, Seattle 1, Puyallup 1, Neah Bay 6; total 12.

I have examined specimens of *Cyanocitta stelleri frontalis* from the following localities. NEVADA: Carson (type loc.). CALIFORNIA: Baird, Shasta Co., Ft. Crook (not typical), Honey Lake, Big Trees, Mt. Whitney, Sequoia National Park, South Fork of Merced, Kernville, Walker Basin, Kern Lakes, Tejon Mts., Laguna San Diego Co., Pine Valley San Diego Co., Ventura Co. (intermediate with *carbonacea* but closer to *frontalis*), Los Alamos Santa Barbara Co. (intermediate, rather nearer *frontalis*), Mt. St. Helena. LOWER CALIFORNIA: Vallecitas, Valle Palmas, Guadalupe Canyon.

The Monterey Fox Sparrow.

BY JOSEPH GRINNELL.

DURING two summers I have spent in the vicinity of Monterey special search has failed to reveal the presence of any form of Passerella. Transition and Boreal species a plenty throughout the breeding season render this region abruptly distinct from the surrounding Sonoran fauna. But the fox sparrow is conspicuous by its absence from the ranks of those northern coast species here present and with which it is wont to be found elsewhere. In this "Santa Cruz Faunal Area" we find siskins, Cyanocittas, hermit thrushes, winter wrens, juncos and others of the same category, all of which nest in this limited region. So I had expected to find Passerella, but for some reason Passerella has not found here a congenial breeding home.

But in winter, when birds drop from zone to zone, fox sparrows are spread

broadcast throughout California west of the Sierras. Last December I found them fairly numerous in the neighborhood of Pacific Grove and Monterey, where they were detected only among dense brush on shaded north hillsides or along clearings in the woods. The leaf-scratching habit gave the usual clue to their whereabouts. The five Passerellas collected, at once struck me as differing from those of the *townsendi* group in my collection from Southern California and from Central California east of the coast belt. Examination of all available material brings to light several more skins exactly like the Monterey specimens. These are all from the Santa Cruz District (Sierra Morena; Pescadero Creek.) None from elsewhere are comparable. So that here is apparently a race confined to a circumscribed *winter* habitat, far removed from its summer habitat.

Vigors, in the zoology of the voyage of H. M. S. Blossom, 1839, page 19, describes from Monterey a *Fringilla meruloides*, the brief description of which applies quite well to this form. He does not give any date of capture, but in accordance with my foregoing remarks, there can be little doubt but that it was the present race he had in hand. Therefore it may be called *Passerella iliaca meruloides* (Vigors), with the following description:

SUBSP. CHAR.—Most nearly like *Passerella iliaca insularis* Ridgway, but bill decidedly smaller and coloration throughout darker and browner.

TOPOTYPE—♀, No. 5056. Coll. J. G.; Pacific Grove, Monterey Co., California; Dec. 30, 1901

COLORATION—Top and sides of head, back, wings and tail, prout brown tending toward seal brown; forehead and superciliary stripe, grayer; edgings of wings and tail, brightening toward walnut brown; maxillary region, sides and spotting on lower surface, prout brown tinged with burnt umber; flanks, bistre; lower tail coverts streaked with bistre and edged with isabella color; belly and remainder of lower surface, white; base of lower mandible, gallstone yellow.

MEASUREMENTS—Wing, 81 mm; tail, 75; culmen, 11; depth of bill, 8.25; tarsus, 25; hind toe with claw, 20.

I do not know what the extent of the summer habitat of this race is. I have no Alaskan specimens at hand like it. But judging from Ridgway's brief description, his *Passerella iliaca annectens* from Yakutat Bay, Alaska, is synonymous. If this is the case, then the form breeding in the Yakutat Bay district is this one which winters in the Santa Cruz district.

FROM FIELD AND STUDY.

A Criticism of Two Recent Records.—In the *Auk* for January 1902 are two Californian bird records that I believe to be erroneous. On page 80 Mr. Loomis states that the California Academy of Sciences has an example of *Micropallas whitneyi* collected by J. A. Kusche April 20 1898 ten miles from San Bernardino. Mr. Kusche obtained an owl of this species that came from Arizona, from R. B. Herron of San Bernardino, and we believe that it is the same owl recorded in the *Auk*.

On page 83 Mr. Loomis records a male *Eugenes fulgens* as having been taken by Kusche in San Gorgonio Pass, Riverside County July 15, 1899. I believe this hummingbird was one obtained from Webster by Kusche. If Mr. Loomis had known Kusche as well as we southern Californians do, he would not have made these records.—FRANK STEPHENS, *San Diego, Cal.*

Occurrence of the Redpoll in California.—As new notes are always interesting, these are my observations on *Acanthis linaria*, recorded in the winter of 1899 near Eagle Lake, Lassen County, Cal. The redpoll arrived in my neighborhood on Nov. 30. At first I found only two large flocks, but later numerous smaller ones greatly increased their numbers. I ran into the first of these flocks, well in forest, a mile or so from a valley. The birds were circling about over the tree-tops, twittering noisily, much after the manner of *Spinus pinus*, and now and then they would settle into the upper branches of some pine, to be off again almost before the stragglers had reached it. Later the flock settled in the birches and bushes along a small stream, alighting all around me. The crops of seven birds shot here were gorged with buds from the birch shoots.

Late the same afternoon I found another flock out in the sage brush, three-quarters of a mile from the edge of the forest. These birds had been feeding on the tender buds of the sage. Their plumage was quite dirty. All through December flocks of redpolls could be found near