accounts being that given by Mr. Hudson (P. Z. S. 1874, p. 153 et seq.), in which he gives the details of his observations on three species of *Molothrus* found in the vicinity of Buenos Ayres.

Like *Dolichonyx*, *Molothrus* has a short, stout, conical bill, the mesorhinium is rounded, the culmen being slightly curved, the nostrils are open at the extremity of the nasal fossa, the toma of the maxilla is somewhat abruptly bent beneath the nostril, the feet are stout (especially the hind toe and its claw): the wings are moderately long, the second and third quills being equal and longest; the first falls a little short of these; the fourth, in *M. pecoris*, is considerably shorter than the first, in *M. aeneus* they are equal; the tail is slightly rounded, each feather being rounded at the end and not pointed as in *Dolichonyx*.

1. *Molothrus pecoris*.

_Fringilla pecoris_, Gm. S. N. i. p. 910.

_Agelais pecoris_, Sw. Phil. Mag. new ser. i. p. 436.


Purpureo-niger, viridi-zeneo micanis; capite teto undique cum service et pectore autico fumoso-brunneis, hoc colore ad corpus purpureo marginato; rostro et pedibus nigria. Long. tota 6-5, alae 3-9, caudae 2-9, rostri a rectu 0-7, tarsi 0-85.

♀ fusa, fore unicolor, dorsi plumis medialis ter, alae et cauda vix saturarioloribus; subitus paulo dilutior, gula ceruleo-lescente. Long. tota 5-5, alae 3-4, caudae 2-3, rostri a rectu 0-6, tarsi 0-85. (Deser. maris et feminae ex Mazatlan, Mexico. Mus. nostr.)

_Hab._ North America, from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean, and from Southern Canada southwards.—_Mexico_ (Seeley), Los Nogales (_Kennerly_), Mazatlan (_Grayson_, _Forster_), Manzanilla Bay (_Xantus_), tableland near Mexico (_Bullock_), Orizaba (_Botteri_), Jalapa (_de Oca_), Huexotitla (_Perez_), Tehuantepec city (_Sumichrast_).

There are said to be two races of this well-known bird, differing in size. The larger and more northern bird has an extensive range throughout the States, and is migratory, spending the winter months in the south, when it reaches as far south as Southern Mexico. The smaller bird is stated to be resident in Texas, Arizona, and California, as well as in Southern and Western Mexico. Thus in the winter months both birds are found in the same districts.

This difference in size is represented in male specimens before us by a difference in