BIOLOGIA
CENTRALI-AMERICANA.

AVES.

Vol. I.
(TEXT.)

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AND
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PROSPECTUS.

BIOLOGIA CENTRALI-AMERICANA.

Edited by F. D. GODMAN and OSBERT SALVIN.

Under this title it is proposed to publish a series of Quarto Volumes upon the Fauna and Flora of Mexico and Central America—i.e. the whole of Mexico from the valleys of the Rio Grande and Gila on the north, the five Central-American States of Guatemala, Honduras, San Salvador, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica, British Honduras, and the Colombian State of Panama as far south as the Isthmus of Darien.

During the past twenty-two years the Editors have been collecting materials for such a work as they now propose. They have themselves visited parts of the country, and spent several years there; and during the whole of the above period they have received collections from correspondents, and from naturalists specially employed in visiting many of the previously unexplored districts. The materials thus obtained have been partly revised by the Editors in their own Collection, and partly so distributed as to be most readily available for the present work. In addition to these materials, the Editors propose that all specimens obtained by other travellers should be examined, wherever they may be accessible, so as to make the work as complete a record as possible of what is known of the Animal and Vegetable life of the country under investigation.

The work will be issued in Zoological and Botanical Parts. Those relating to Zoology will contain portions of several subjects. When the work is closed each subject will be complete in itself; and the whole will form a series of volumes of various thicknesses, according to the extent of each subject. The Botanical parts will contain no other subject.

Each Zoological Part will contain twelve sheets (or 96 pages) of letterpress, and an average of six plates, most of which will be lithographs coloured by hand.

Each Botanical Part will also contain twelve sheets of letterpress and an average of six plates, a few of which will be coloured.

As it is proposed to include all the materials that may come to hand during the progress of the work, it is not possible to give an exact estimate of its extent; but it is believed that it will not much exceed 60 Parts, equivalent to about 12 Volumes of 500 pages each, of Zoology, and 20 Parts of Botany.

The work will be published by Subscription; and Subscribers will be at liberty to take the whole work or the Zoology or Botany separately. The different subjects of Zoology will not be sold separately; and Subscribers, on commencing their Subscription, must give an undertaking to continue it till the work is finished.

The Price of each Zoological Part will be 21s., and of each Botanical Part, 12s. 6d.

The Editors feel that it will be hardly possible to issue Parts at stated intervals; but they will endeavour to complete a Part of each subject every two months, or six Zoological and six Botanical Parts in the course of a year.
INTRODUCTION.

The enumeration of the Aves of Mexico and Central America was commenced in September 1879 by the late Osbert Salvin and myself, and is now completed in four Volumes, three of text and one of plates. Salvin's long-continued ill-health, and sudden death in 1898, greatly retarded the conclusion of the Third Volume, which was subsequently finished by me with the assistance of Dr. R. Bowdler Sharpe and Mr. Ogilvie-Grant. On this account, too, it has been decided to abandon all idea of a Supplement, and to close the volumes as they stand. The critical examination of the large amount of additional material that has come to hand during the progress of publication, and the analysis of the extensive literature on the subject issued in recent years, could only have been dealt with satisfactorily with the assistance of Salvin himself, and I am reluctantly compelled to leave this portion of the subject untouched. It may be noted, however, that the additions are mainly amongst the Passeres, which were completed in 1892.

The physical features of the whole region are described in the Preface to the "Lepidoptera Rhopalocera," concluded in 1901, and in the Appendix to the Botany, published in 1887, and need not be again repeated here. This Introduction will therefore be chiefly devoted to some remarks on geographical distribution, to the journeys made by us in Central America, and the sources from which our material has been obtained, concluding with a Table showing the distribution of the Families and Species as arranged in this work. To make this latter as complete as possible, the additional countries whence specimens were subsequently received are, however, specially indicated.

In dealing with the Birds we have extended the limits of our region, so as to include the Revillagigedo Islands on the Pacific side (on account of the numerous sea-birds inhabiting them); the Island of Old Providence on the Atlantic side (this small island
BIOLOGIA CENTRALI-AMERICANA.

ZOOLOGIA.

Class AVES*.

Subclass AVES CARINATAE.

Order PASSERES.

Suborder OSCINES.

Section I. OSCINES DENTIROSTRES.

Fam. TURDIDÆ.

Subfam. TURDINÆ.

CATHARUS.

Catharus, Bonaparte, Conspr. Av. i. p. 278 (1850). (Type C. aurantirostris.)


This genus differs from the true Thrushes (Turdus) chiefly in its shorter, more rounded wings and in its long slender tarsi—characters suited to the terrestrial habits of all the species, and to their place of abode amongst dense brushwood or primaval forest. Twelve species are now known of the genus, of which no less than nine are found within our limits, the rest being Andean species occurring in various places as far south as the province of Yungas in Bolivia, whence we have lately received the species described as C. mentalis†, and where also C. dryas occurs. Though none of the species appear to occur at or near the sea-level, some (such as C. fuscater, C. mexicanus,

* The classification here adopted is nearly that of the ‘Nomenclator Avium Neotropicalium’ of Schlegel and Salvin.
† Sel. & Salv. P. Z. S. 1876, p. 352.

and C. dryas) are found in the forest-clad slopes of the mountains at moderate height; others (as C. melpomene, C. occidentalis, and C. griseiceps) frequent the woods of the tablelands of 4000 to 5000 feet elevation; whilst the upland forests of the volcanoes, to a height of 10,000 feet, are the abode of C. alticola, C. frantzii, and perhaps of C. gracilirostris. The species are generally observed on the ground, searching amongst dead leaves for their food. C. melpomene has a pleasing song, not unlike that of a Robin (Erithacus), a bird which its gait and actions also call to mind.

The genus was originally founded on a Venezuelan species described as C. aurantiirostris by Dr. Hartlaub, and subsequently as C. immaculatus by Bonaparte. Mr. Gould’s genus Malacocichla (based upon Catharus dryas), though somewhat aberrant as regards coloration, is structurally identical with Catharus. Mr. Gould considered his species to be closely allied to Chamaea and Grallaria (Formicariidae); but this view cannot be maintained, Catharus being a typical member of the Turdidae. The figure of C. dryas* shows the front tarsal plate to be divided into three scutella. This is not so in any specimen we have examined, the tarsi of all of which have a single undivided plate running down the front.

1. Catharus melpomene.

Catharus aurantiirostris, Sel. P. Z. S. 1856, p. 294 (see Hardt).

Supra cinnamono-brunneus, alis extus late saturatioribus, pilo dorso fere concolori; subus griseo-albidus,pectore griseo-inferiore gula haud striato; rostro et pedibus aurantiaco-flaviter. Long. tota 6-3, alae 3, caudae 2-5, tarsi 1-25, rostri a rictu 0-8. (Descrip. exempl. ex Jalapa, Mexico. Mus. nostr.)

Hab. Mexico, Cordova (Salles), Jalapa (de Oca), Totontepec (Roward), Orizaba (Sumichrast), Guatemala, Dueñas, Coban (O. S. and E. D. G.); Costa Rica, Quebrada Honda (v. Frantzii), San José and Grecia (Carmiol), V. de Cartago (Areó).

Catharus melpomene was originally described from a Mexican specimen (Jalapa), where the species would appear to be not uncommon. In Guatemala we found it in brushwood, both in the tablelands and also in Alta Vera Paz. In the highlands of Costa Rica it seems to be equally abundant. Though the range of the species is probably broken by low-lying land at several points, no important variation has ensued, and we are unable to trace any tangible differences between specimens from most distant localities. There is some variation in the intensity of the colouring of the back, and also in the depth of the cinereous of the underparts; but these variations are not

traceable to any special locality, and appear to be simply individual peculiarities. *Catharus melpomene* does not seem to be at all migratory in its habits: we observed its presence the whole year in Guatemala; and specimens were obtained in every month between July and November. M. Bouard found it at Totontzepec in January. Its nest is an open structure composed chiefly of moss; the eggs are white, thickly marked with rufous-red. Prof. Sumichrast says that it nests in the gardens of Orizaba; and we found it breeding close to Dueñas in Guatemala. Its habits in Costa Rica seem to resemble those it has in Guatemala. Dr. v. Frantzius says that its monotonous but sweet song may be heard everywhere in the tableland of San José between April and June wherever green hedges line the roads in the neighbourhood of towns. The bird glides quickly through the shrubs, and flies close to the ground across the roads. It is not shy, and allows one to watch it closely.

The eyes, bill, and eyelids of this species are rich orange in the male bird. The maxilla of the female is light horn-colour.

Prof. Baird has suggested that the Costa-Rica bird might be the true *C. aurantiirostris* of Hartlaub; but this is not the case; for on comparing it with a Venezuelan example in our collection, the absence in the latter of the rufous margins to the wing-feathers, as well as the olivaceous tone of the plumage above, is very apparent. The previous comparison of Mexican specimens with the Venezuelan type by Dr. Hartlaub, as recorded by Mr. Sclater, seems to have been overlooked by subsequent writers.

2. *Catharus alticola*, sp. n.

*Catharus frantzii*, Salv. Ibis, 1866, p. 190 (nec Cab.).

Supra olegineo-brunneus; uropygio, alis et cauda concoloribus, pileo paulo rufescentiore; subitus griscens, ventro imo et crisso albis; rostri maxilla cornua, mandibula flavo; pedibus pallide cyrolinis. Long. tota 675, alae 35, caudae 30, rostri a duo 68, tarsi 14. Fem. mari similis.

Similis *C. melpomene*, sed alis extus et corpore supra minus cinamomeis et rostri et pedum coloribus distinguendus. A *C. frantzii* uropygio et cauda oleginibus nec cinamomeis notatus.

Hab. Guatemala, forests of the Volcan de Fuego, from 6000 to 10,000 feet (O. S. & F. D. G.).

We obtained a single specimen only of this species during our stay at Dueñas in November 1861; and this example was subsequently referred to the Costa-Rican *C. frantzii*. During Salvin's last visit to Guatemala, he obtained several more specimens, and found the bird not uncommon in the ravines of the Volcan de Fuego and throughout the forests on that mountain almost to the commencement of the growth of pines, at an elevation of 10,200 feet. It was observed usually on the ground, searching amongst leaves for food in the deepest shade of the forest. When standing in a woodcutter's track, one of these birds would occasionally perch on a log at the side of the path with all the gesture of a Robin (*Erithacus*).
The additional specimens brought home by Salvin show the slight differences we have pointed out above when compared with the highland species of Costa Rica, C. frantzii. As these seem constant, it is necessary to provide each form with a different name. Compared with C. melpomene, the difference between the two is much more striking. Instead of the orange bill, eyelids, and legs of the male C. melpomene, C. alticola has the maxilla dark horn-brown and the mandible yellowish. The eyelid is inconspicuous dull brown, and the legs pale hazel. These differences are very obvious when freshly-killed specimens are compared.

3. Catharus frantzii.


Supra oleagineo-brunneus; pileo, uropygio et cauda saturatis rufescentibus; subtus griseescens, ventre imo albo; rostri maxilla cornua, mandibula flavra; pelibus pallide eorylinis. Long. tota 6'75, alae 3'7, caudae 3, rostri a rictu 0'36, tarsi 0'9. (Descr. maris ex San José, Costa Rica. Mus. nostr.)

*Hab.* Costa Rica ¹, Rancho Redondo (F. Carmiol ³), San José (v. Frantzium ³), Volcan de Cartago (v. Frantzium ⁴, Arce), Potrero Cerrado and La Palma (v. Frantzium ⁴), Navarro (Boucard ⁵).

This species seems to be nearly restricted in its range to the forests of the Volcano of Cartago, where most collectors in Costa Rica have found it. Dr. v. Frantzium ⁴ says that it occurs at an elevation of from 6000 to 7000 feet, and that he found it on the slopes of Irazu in May, at Potrero Cerrado in April, and later in the year at La Palma to the northward of San José, Carmiol having met with it at Rancho Redondo on the western slope of Irazu. Nothing is recorded of the habits of the species, which doubtless resemble those of *C. alticola*.

4. Catharus occidentalis.


Supra cinamonice-brunneus, pileo et cauda vix saturatoribus; subtus cinereus, gula et abdomen medio albicantibus, pectore fusco subobsolecte flammulato; rostro corneo, mandibula basi flavicante; pelibus pallide eorylinis. Long. tota 6'5, alae 3'5, caudae 2'9, rostri a rictu 0'8, tarsi 1'15. (Descr. maris ex Totontepec, Mexico. Mus. nostr. exempl. typ.)

*Hab.* Mexico, Totontepec (Boucard ¹²), Oaxaca (Fenochio), Orizaba (Sumichrast ³⁴), Sierra Madre near Zapotitlan (Sumichrast ⁵), Tierra fria (*le Strange*).

M. Boucard first discovered this species at Totontepec, in the Mexican State of Oaxaca, in January 1859 ¹²; and specimens from the same district have been sent to us by Don A. Fenochio. It has also been found nearer the isthmus of Tehuantepec by Prof.
Sumichrast, who obtained specimens in the Sierra Madre near Zapotitlan. During his previous residence near Orizaba the same gentleman also met with it, and sent several specimens to the Smithsonian Institution; he says that it has nearly the same range as C. melpomene. These and others obtained by Mr. Le Strange in the neighbourhood of Mexico itself show that the species is not one peculiar to Western Mexico, as Mr. Sclater at first supposed. Its range, however, seems to be very limited, as it has not as yet been noticed out of the highlands of Southern Mexico.

The faint spots on the throat and chest render C. occidentalis easily distinguishable from C. melpomene, and, indeed, from all its congeners.

5. Catharus fuscater.


Supra ushastae-niger, pileo fere nigro; subtus griseo-fuscus, abdomen medio albo; rostro et pedibus aurantiaceis. Long. tota 6-5, alae 3-5, canae 3, rostri a rictu 0-9, tarsi 1-3. (Deser. maris ex Cordillerant Tolé in Statu Panamensi. Mus. nostr.)

Hab. Costa Rica, Cervantes (v. Frantzius); Panama, Cordillera de Tolé (Arcé), Calo-veora and Cordillera del Chucú (Arcé).—Colombia; Ecuador.

This, the oldest known member of the genus, was not referred to its proper position until Mr. Sclater removed it from the Formicariidae (where it had been placed by its describer Lafresnaye), and classed it among the Tittidae in the genus Catharus.

Its range, though wide, is not so extensive as that of its congener C. dryas; still it is found from Ecuador to Costa Rica, specimens from which places, as well as from the State of Panama, show no differences that we can trace.

Though not so rare as most other Cathari, it cannot be said to be a common species. More specimens have been sent us from the mountainous parts of Panama than from elsewhere.

A Costa Rican example was compared by Mr. Lawrence with Lafresnaye’s type at Boston, and certain differences described, notably the colour of the maxilla and the yellowish tinge of the abdomen in the Costa-Rica bird. The variation in the colour of the bill, we believe, is due entirely to age, and the tint of the abdomen to the freshness of the specimen, the ochre tint of this part in C. dryas being very evanescent. The blackness of the back is a sexual difference in species of this section of the genus.

The nearly uniform blackness of the whole of the upper plumage distinguishes C. fuscater from all other Central-American Cathari.
6. Catharus griseiceps. (Tab. I. fig. 2.)


Supra olivaceo-brunneus, capite tota cum collo griseis, pileo paulo obscuriore, alis extus et cauda cinnamomea; subitas griseus, gutturo palliidoire, ventre medio et crasso albis; rostro et pedibus aurantiacos. Long. tota 6, alae 3-5, cauda 2-6, rostri a rictu 0-85, tarsi 1-25. (Deser. maris ex Santa Fé in Statu Panamensi, Mus. nostr. exempl. typ.)

*Hab.* PANAMA, Volcan de Chiriqui, Santa Fé, Chitra, Calovevora, Calobre (*Arcé*).

This species appears to be restricted in its range to the mountainous parts of the State of Panama, being found from the Volcano of Chiriqui to Santa Fé and Calobre. Further eastward it has not yet been met with, as none of the large collections made on the line of the Panama Railway have contained examples. The grey head and nearly uniform ashy under surface are distinguishing characteristics of this species.

7. Catharus gracilirostris. (Tab. I. fig. 1.)


Supra olagineo-brunneus, capite tota obscurae cinerae; subitas cinerae, pectore dorso concolori; rostro nigro, pedibus carylinis. Long. tota 5-5, alae 3-0, cauda 2-7, rostri a rictu 0-8, tarsi 2-2. (Deser. exempl. typ. ex Volcan de Cartago, Costa Rica. Mus. nostr.)

*Hab.* COSTA RICA, Volcan de Cartago (*Arcé, Rogers*), San Mateo (*J. Cooper*).

Originally described from two specimens obtained for us by Arcé in the Volcan de Cartago. Even in Costa Rica, the only country where it has been found as yet, the species must be considered rare, few other specimens having come under our notice. M. Boucard, during his recent journey to that country, obtained but two examples, both from the Volcan de Cartago, from which locality Rogers also procured us a specimen. This last is a young bird, the remains of the spotted plumage showing on the under surface.

The black slender bill, grey head, and olive chest serve to distinguish this species at a glance from all its congeners.

8. Catharus mexicanus. (Tab. II. fig. 1.)


Supra olagineo-brunneus, pileo et capitis lateribus nigris; subitas cinerae, pectores lateribus dorso concoloribus, ventre medio albantibus; rostro et pedibus flavis. Long. tota 6-0, alae 3-6, cauda 2-5, rostri a rictu 0-9, tarsi 1-25. (Deser. exempl. ex Telemen, Guatemala. Mus. nostr.)

*Hab.* MEXICO (*White*), Jalapa (*Salté*), Orizaba (*Sumichrast*); GUATEMALA, Coban.
CATHARUS.

(Delattre), Teleman (O. S. & F. D. G.); Costa Rica, Tucuriqui (Arcé); Panama, Calovevora, Cordillera del Chucu (Arcé).

This well-marked species is one of the older-known members of the genus, having been discovered near Jalapa by M. Sallé, whose specimens were described by Bonaparte. Though of wide range, but few examples have come under our notice; nor did we ever actually meet with it ourselves in Guatemala, though one was secured for us by a native collector sent by us to explore the valley of the Polochic river. At no point of its range is it common, judging from the single specimens that have reached us in collections from various points. C. mexicanus can at once be recognized by its black head contrasting with the olive-brown back. In some specimens the checks and chest are nearly pure grey and the head deep black; in others these parts have an olivaceous tinge: the former we take to be male specimens, the latter female, though Arcé's dissected skins are marked the reverse.

9. Catharus dryas. (Tab. II. fig. 2.)


Malacocichla maculata, Sel. P. Z. S. 1858, p. 64.


Supra olivaceo-fusca, pilo e capitis lateribus nigerrimis; subit fixes, pectore toto fusco maculato; rostro et pedibus flavis. Long. tota 70, alas 39, caudae 30, rostri a rictu 0.85, tarsi 1.35. (Descr. maris ex V. de Agu, Guatemala. Mus. nostr.)

Hab. Guatemala (Skinner), Teleman (O. S. & F. D. G.), Volcan de Agua above San Diego (O. S.).—Colombia; Ecuador; Bolivia.

We have hitherto considered the species described by Mr. Sclater as C. maculatus to be distinct from C. dryas; but the acquisition of additional specimens both from South and Central America has enabled us to make further comparison, with the result that we can no longer discriminate two species. It is true that freshly-killed specimens are as brightly coloured as Gould's plate; but experience has shown that the yellow of the under surface rapidly fades with exposure; and this being the case, one of the chief differences relied upon fails to differentiate the two species. The difference of the colour of the back is sexual, females being more olivaceous than males.

It is somewhat singular that in Central America this species has hitherto only been observed in Guatemala. Its presence in other parts doubtless remains to be discovered. For a long time we were accustomed to look upon C. dryas as one of the rarest of Guatemalan birds; and until Salvin's last journey only three specimens had come under our notice. Two of these were from Vera Paz, one of them having been shot in the valley of the Rio Polochic near Teleman. The precise origin of the other, the type, now in the British Museum, is not known.
TURDIDÆ.

When staying at Dueñas in the autumn of 1873, Salvin's Indian hunters occasionally brought specimens from the forests of the slopes of the Volcan de Agua, above the village of San Diego, and from 2000 to 3000 feet above the sea. In this way more than a dozen specimens were acquired, amongst which was only one female. The bill, eyelids, tarsi, and toes of the fresh bird are orange, and the under plumage of a rich tint not seen in older skins.

In South America the range of C. dryas is extensive. It occurs, though rarely, in Bogotá collections. Fraser obtained it at Chillanes and Pallatanga, in Ecuador; and the birds described by Mr. Sclater as C. maculatus came from the valley of the Rio Napo. Mr. Buckley has also sent us a skin from Baisa in the same Republic. To Mr. Buckley, also, we are indebted for a skin from Bolivia.

TURDUS.


Seventeen species of Turdus are found within the limits of Central America; of these, eight are northern species, several of which visit the country only during the winter months. The resident species are variously distributed, some having a range almost coextensive with the limits of the subregion. Others are much more restricted in their domicile; and amongst these the species inhabiting the higher ranges of mountains and the pine-clad summits of the volcanoes are specially to be noted. Nearly every large section of the country has one or more Thrushes peculiar to it: thus in Mexico we find on the shores of the Pacific, from Mazatlan to Tehuantepec, T. flavirostris, and in the pine-forests of the interior T. pinicola. In the highlands of Guatemala T. rufitorques is found; Mexico and Guatemala have T. infuscatus in common, a true Blackbird, very closely allied to the European species, of which a second representative is found in the Andes, in Venezuela, and in the island of Tobago; Costa Rica has two peculiar species in T. plebeius and T. nigrescens; and Costa Rica and the State of Panama share T. obsoletus. The resident species of wide range are T. tristis and T. grayi. The former of these extends from Southern Mexico almost to the line of the Panama Railway; the latter, with a wider northern extension, also passes still further to the southward.

Concerning the seven species constituting Prof. Baird's subgenus Hylocichla, we are in some doubt how far to admit the claims of all of them to rank as separate species, especially as it has been strongly urged by American writers that links are not wanted connecting some of them together. Without going into a discussion of these claims, we may remark that our chief object in treating Turdus ustulatus and T. alicia as distinct from T. swainsoni, and T. auduboni as distinct from T. pallasii, is to give prominence to the peculiarities of their geographical distribution in the winter season—points which have considerable significance when the value of slight modifications of colour or size is attempted to be estimated.
TURDUS.

A. HYLOCICHLA.

a. Major, capite laete cinnamomeo, pectore et hypochondriis permaculatis.

1. Turdus mustelinus.


Turdus (Hylocichla) mustelinus, Coues, B. Col. Vall. p. 2811.


Supra preceipe in pilco cinnamomeo, dorso postico et cauda olivaceo tinetis; subitus albus, pectore et hypochondriis distincto nigro maculatis; auricularibus et capitis lateribus nigro et rubescente albo notatis; loris albis; rostro corymino, mandibula basi et pedibus flavis. Long. tota 7-5, alae 4-3, cauda 2-9, rostri a rictu 1-0, tarsi 1-25. (Deser. exempl. ex Choctum, Vera Paz. Mus. nostr.)

Hab. North America, east of the Missouri plains11.—Mexico, Cordova (Sallí4), Jalapa (de Oca5), Orizaba (Siumichrast8), Tehuannepee city (Siumichrast9), Tierra Caliente of the Atlantic (le Strange), Tabasco15; Guatemala7, Choctum, Coban, Tactic, Godines (O. S. & F. B. G.); Honduras, Omoa (Leyland6).—Cuba12.

This well-known species was described by Latham1 and Pennant2 towards the end of last century; and upon their descriptions Gmelin3 bestowed the name Turdus mustelinus. It is a common species throughout the United States, between the Mississippi river and the Atlantic, and breeds as far north as Massachusetts11. In winter it rarely visits Cuba12, but is common in the eastern parts of Mexico and Central America, as far south as Omoa on the north coast of Honduras9. In Guatemala the most western point we have met with it is Godines, a small village 7000 feet above the sea, situated in the mountains at the eastern end of the upland lake of Atitlan; here it was observed in February 1874. In the neighbourhood of Coban, in Vera Paz, it is, during the winter months, a very common bird; and it may be found in the second-growth woods, especially wherever a mountain-stream runs. It utters no song during its stay in Guatemala; but during the summer Turdus mustelinus is remarkable for its song, to the sweetness of which all writers on North-American birds bear testimony11.

As Prof. Baird remarks8, this Thrush is subject to very slight variation in its markings, but some specimens have the spots on the breast rather larger and more thickly spread than others. This difference is shown in our series from Guatemala, and sufficiently proves that there is no ground for supposing T. densus, Bonap., founded on a specimen from Tabasco, to be a valid species15.
2. *Turdus fuscescens*. 


Supra rufescenti-brunneus unicolor; subitus albus, colli lateribus et pectore rufescenibus maculis subtriangularibus brunneis parce adspersis; rostro corylino, mandibula basi et pedibus flavis. Long. tota 6-8, alae 3-8, cauda 5-75, rostri a ricti 9, tarsi 1-1. (Descr. exempl. ex Washington, D.C., Smiths. Inst. no. 23230. Mus. nostr.)

*Hab.* N. AMERICA, Canada, Eastern States, and westwards to Utah, Colorado, and Texas. — PANAMA, Lion Hill (M’Leaman) 2, Aspinwall (Mus. Boucard). — S. AMERICA to the Amazon 4; CUBA 6.

An excellent account of this species, as regards its range within the limits of North America, its habits and synonymy, is given in Dr. Coues’s ‘Birds of the Colorado Valley’ 8, and in Baird, Brewer, and Ridgway’s work 5. In the former Dr. Coues remarks on the absence of *Turdus fuscescens* from Arizona and New Mexico, and adds that it must take a somewhat circuitous route in gaining its winter home in Central America. But the records of the occurrence of this species outside the limits of the United States are so scanty that it can hardly be said that we really know where the major portion of the winter migrants go during that season. It is quite rare in Cuba 6; and as far as Central America and Mexico are concerned, we have Dr. Merrill’s authority for its occurrence in the valley of the Rio Grande 7; but from this point, if we except Prof. Sumichrast’s doubtful reference to the occurrence of this species near Orizaba 8, we have no trace of it whatever until we come to Panama, where M’Leaman obtained a single specimen 2, and whence we have recently seen another in the possession of Mons. Boucard, to whom it was sent from Aspinwall. These two specimens are our authority for including *Turdus fuscescens* in this work. Passing into South America we have only five instances of the occurrence of the species there. Herr von Pelzeln records 4 that Natterer obtained four specimens in December 4; San Vicente in Brazil; and Mr. H. Wickham also shot one at Santarem on the Amazon. This last-named specimen we once had an opportunity of examining.

3. *Turdus swainsoni*.

