

found it in the State of Vera Cruz, says <sup>20</sup> that it is perhaps the most abundant of all the Mexican Turdidæ, that it is resident in the hot and temperate regions, but does not pass above an elevation of 4300 feet. He afterwards found it on the isthmus of Tehuantepec; but there it was not so common <sup>18</sup>. In Guatemala *Turdus grayi* is common in the neighbourhood of towns and villages up to an elevation of between 5000 and 6000 feet. It was found breeding in abundance in April and May near Dueñas, and also near San Gerónimo in Vera Paz. It is usually to be seen in the outskirts of plantations and in the orchards near houses, but not so much in the forest away from habitations. Its song is rich and of considerable compass, being quite equal to that of any of its congeners. Its powers of song make it a favourite cage-bird in Spanish and native houses. Dr. v. Frantzius, who seems to have been less favourably impressed with the song of *Turdus grayi* in Costa Rica than we were with it in Guatemala, says <sup>21</sup> that it is one of the commonest birds in Costa Rica, and that he met with it from the shores of the Gulf of Nicoya to places as much as 6000 feet above the sea, but that it is more rarely seen during the dry season than during the wet, at the commencement of which it breeds, and when its monotonous song may be heard everywhere from morning till night till it becomes wearisome. Its food in the dry season consists of the small fruits of the various species of *Ficus*, which at this time of year are found in great quantities.

*Turdus grayi* is subject to but slight variation in different parts of its wide range. The most noticeable divergence from the normal colour prevalent in Guatemala is to be seen in some specimens from Costa Rica and Panama, which are of a greyer tint; upon one of these Bonaparte seems to have founded his *T. casius* <sup>23</sup>, a bird Mr. Lawrence was at one time disposed to admit as a species distinct from *T. grayi* <sup>24</sup>. But as these greyer birds are found with others of the normal colour, we think their claims to separation hardly established. In the neighbourhood of Santa Marta, in Colombia, a small race of *T. grayi* is found which is rather less cinnamon in tint than the usual form; it is also paler beneath. This race has been described by Bonaparte as *Turdus luridus*; but we do not think it ought to be admitted as specifically different from *T. grayi*.

In Guatemala Gray's Thrush builds in low bushes a nest of roots and fibres and small twigs, lining it with dry grass and fine roots. The eggs, usually three in number, are more or less covered with spots and blotches of red-brown on a ground of pale bluish green. One of them is figured in 'The Ibis' for 1859, t. v. f. 7. They measure 1.2 × .8.

### 11. *Turdus obsoletus*.

*Turdus obsoletus*, Lawr. Ann. Lyc. N. Y. vii. p. 470 <sup>1</sup>, ix. pp. 91 <sup>2</sup>, 145 <sup>3</sup>; Baird, Rev. Am. B. p. 28 <sup>4</sup>; Salv. P. Z. S. 1867, p. 133 <sup>5</sup>, 1870, p. 180 <sup>6</sup>; Ibis, 1869, p. 312 <sup>7</sup>; v. Frantzius, J. f. Orn. 1869, p. 290 <sup>8</sup>.

Supra cinnamomeo-brunneus unicolor; subtus paulo dilutior, gutture striolis fuscis vix apparentibus, ventre