

over the whole of Guatemala and Honduras as far as Comayagua⁸. We have no authentic record of its occurrence elsewhere in Central America; but in South America it reappears in the neighbourhood of Santa Marta, in Antioquia, and the vicinity of Bogota, and spreads eastwards through Venezuela to Guiana and some of the Lesser Antilles. The record of its occurrence in Costa Rica, Dr. v. Frantzius tells us¹⁴, was founded on an error, the bird sent home by Dr. Hoffmann⁶ having come as a cage-bird from Guatemala.

In Guatemala *Mimus gilvus* has the same great range in altitude attributed to *M. polyglottus* in Mexico. We found it at the sea-level near Belize and on the Cays of the adjoining coral-reefs, and also at Dueñas, 5000 feet above the sea. It is, however, most abundant in the Upper Motagua valley and throughout the plain of Salamá, where its song may always be heard throughout the breeding-season. Mr. Owen⁹ took several of its nests near San Gerónimo, most of which were placed in the cactus-plants grown for the cochineal-insects. Others were in hedge-rows or bushes on the plain, but all in rather exposed situations. The usual complement of eggs was three, which were of a pale greenish-grey, blotched with spots of red-brown and two shades of faint lilac. They measure 1.05 in. \times .7. One of them is figured in 'The Ibis' for 1861 (t. 2. f. 2).

At Dueñas we saw very little of *Mimus gilvus* during our early visits to Guatemala¹⁰; but we obtained a young bird, which still retained spots on the under surface, which must have been reared in the neighbourhood. In 1873 its numbers appeared to have greatly increased, and birds were frequently seen in plains covered with scattered trees of *Ipomœa murocoides*. When disturbed a bird seldom flies far, but seeks shelter in the nearest bush. Its song is very varied and rich, and the bird is much sought after by the natives as a favourite cage-bird.

Note.—Another species of *Mimus* (*M. nigriloris*) has been doubtfully attributed to Mexico by its describer, Mr. Lawrence*, upon the authority of Dr. Van Patten and Mr. Gruber, of San Francisco. As the bird appears to belong to the section of the genus containing *M. longicaudatus* and *M. thenca*, species of Western Peru and Chili, a more southern origin than Mexico is probably its true one. Anyhow, better evidence is required as to its habitat before including the bird in the fauna of Mexico.

RHODINOCICHLA.

Rhodinocichla, Hartlaub, Journ. f. Orn. 1853, p. 33. (Type *Furnarius roseus*, Less.)

This singular genus was long placed in the Dendrocolaptidæ, near the Oven-birds (*Furnarius*), to which genus it was actually assigned by its original describer. Prof. Baird seems to have been the first to recognize that Dr. Hartlaub was not far wrong as to its generic affinities when he described the female as a species of *Turdus*. It is,

* Ann. Lyc. N. Y. x. p. 137.