

and Totontepec (*Boucard*), Oaxaca (*Fenochio*); GUATEMALA, Volcan de Fuego, Cerro de Zunil, Quezaltenango, San Gerónimo, Tactic (*O. S. & F. D. G.*).

Though the late Baron Lafresnaye first described this species from Mexican specimens¹, the bird had for several years stood in the galleries of the Berlin Museum, Deppe having found it near Real Ariba in Southern Mexico. The Berlin specimens now bear the name "*Hypothymis cæsia*"*. Since then the species has been observed by many travellers in Mexico, where it is known under the name of "Jilguero." Grayson¹⁰ tells us that in the Tres Marias Islands the bird is more frequently to be met with than on the mainland, confining itself to the hilly portions of the islands, where, at all times, its strange medley of song may be heard in the morning and evening. It will thus be seen that the bird is found in North-western Mexico at no great elevation above the sea; but Prof. Sumichrast⁹ places it amongst the birds of the alpine region of the State of Vera Cruz, where it chiefly breeds up to a height of 8200 feet, being found, however, as low as 3300 feet above the sea-level. In Guatemala it is very abundant in some parts of the country, being diffused throughout the high tableland (elevation from 5000 to 7000 feet) which forms the main cordillera. Eastward of this *M. obscurus* follows the high ridge of mountains which runs into Vera Paz, where it passes a little beyond the village of Tactic. Here its range terminates abruptly, its place being taken by *M. unicolor*, the two species being never found together. In the ravines of the volcanoes we found it very abundant, its clear, metallic, ringing song, which is uttered at intervals throughout the day, at once attracting attention and making its presence known. As it sits concealed in the thickest undergrowth of the ravines, it is not a bird easily detected, and a sight of it can only be obtained by cautious movements on the part of the observer.

The solitary habits of *M. obscurus*, and its place of constant resort, have suggested the name "Guarda-barranca," or "Guard of the ravine," by which it is well known to the people of Guatemala. It is a very favourite cage-bird, living happily in captivity and singing freely its peculiar and melodious song.

The eggs of this species, which were obtained by M. Boucard in Oaxaca, are described by Mr. Sclater⁵ as very Robin-like in appearance, being minutely freckled and streaked with brownish ash-colour on a white ground, the markings being denser round the larger end, where they form a ring; they measure .875 by .61 inch.

2. *Myiadectes unicolor*.

Myiadestes unicolor, Scl. P. Z. S. 1856, p. 299¹, 1857, p. 213²; Salv. & Scl. Ibis, 1860, p. 397³; Ex. Orn. p. 51, t. 26⁴; Baird, Rev. Am. B. p. 428⁵; Sumichrast, Mem. Bost. Soc. N. H. i. p. 548⁶.

* Mr. Sclater (P. Z. S. 1856, p. 299) at one time thought that this name applied to *M. unicolor*; but a recent examination of the specimen showed us that it had been attached to *M. obscurus*.