

and the spots on the wing-coverts not quite so prominent. Mr. Sclater regards this species as probably the same as *P. ophthalmicus* (Cat. Birds Brit. Mus. xiv. p. 98), over which name *P. zeledoni* has several years' priority.

SERPHOPHAGA.

Serpophaga, Gould, Zool. Voy. Beagle, iii. p. 49 (1841) (type *Sylvia subcristata*, Vieill.).

Serpophaga, Cabanis & Heine, Mus. Hein. ii. p. 53; Scl. Cat. Birds Brit. Mus. xiv. p. 101.

Serpophaga consists of seven species widely distributed over South America as far south as the Argentine Republic. Only one species, the wide-spread Andean *S. cinerea*, enters our fauna as far as Costa Rica.

Black, grey, and white are the prevailing colours of the various species of *Serpophaga*. They are all small birds, some of them with peculiar habits as described below. The bill of *S. cinerea* is rather wide for its length, the sides converging rather rapidly to the tip, the width at the rictus being about half the length of the tomia, the nostrils are open at the end of the nasal fossa, the rictal bristles not very well developed, considerably less than those of the foregoing genera, but more so than in *Mionectes*, which follows; the tarsi and feet are rather stouter than in the preceding genera, the former being covered with scutellæ; the wing is rounded, the 3rd quill slightly > the 2nd and 4th, 1st = 8th; tail moderate and slightly rounded, considerably < wing, < 3 tarsus. Wing a little > 3 tarsus.

1. *Serpophaga cinerea*.

Euscarthmus cinereus, Strickl. Ann. & Mag. N. H. xiii. p. 414¹.

Serpophaga cinerea, Scl. P. Z. S. 1858, p. 458²; Salv. P. Z. S. 1867, p. 147³; Ibis, 1869, p. 319⁴; Boucard, P. Z. S. 1878, p. 62⁵.

Serpophaga cinerea, Cab. & Heine Mus. Hein. ii. p. 53⁶; Scl. & Salv. P. Z. S. 1879, pp. 512⁷, 613⁸; Salv. Cat. Strickl. Coll. p. 304⁹; Tacz. Orn. Pér. ii. p. 236¹⁰; Scl. Cat. Birds Brit. Mus. xiv. p. 103¹¹.

Serpophaga grisea, Lawr. Ann. Lyc. N. Y. x. p. 139¹².

Supra cinerea, uropygio fusco; capite summo (aliquando albo medialiter notato) et lateribus nigricantibus; alis et cauda ejusdem coloris, illarum tectricibus, hujus apice albido terminatis: subtus albida; hypochondriis et crisso griseo tinctis: rostro et pedibus nigris. Long. tota 4.0, alæ 2.0, caudæ 1.7, rostri a rictu 0.45, tarsi 0.6. (Descr. exempl. ex Costa Rica. Mus. nostr.)

Hab. COSTA RICA (*Endres*⁴, *Carmirol*¹²), Naranjo (*Boucard*⁵); PANAMA, Santa Fé (*Arcé*³).—COLOMBIA⁷; ECUADOR¹⁰; PERU¹⁰; BOLIVIA⁸.

The only difference we can see between Central-American and Southern specimens is their small size, a character we seldom like to admit to be of specific value. In the present case there is more difference between two examples from Sical in Ecuador than between any of the Central-American and the other South-American specimens before us, so that size cannot here be considered of much importance.

The other characters referred to by Mr. Lawrence when defining his *S. grisea* as