

elongated, the outer web of the external rectrices is white, and its general coloration are all points wherein it differs from *Mitrephanes phæocercus*, the type of *Mitrephanes*.

CONTOPUS.

Contopus, Cabanis, J. f. Orn. 1855, p. 479 (type *Muscicapa virens*, Linn.) ; Scl. Cat. Birds Brit. Mus. xiv. p. 234.

Nuttallornis, Ridgway, Man. N. Am. B. p. 337 (type *Tyrannus borealis*, Sw.).

This is also one of the obscure genera of Tyrannidæ, some of the species of the *C. virens* group being exceedingly difficult to define. Others, again, are well-marked and easily distinguished. Mr. Sclater recognizes nine species of *Contopus*, but there are several others the status of which he was unable to establish.

In our region we find eight species, whereof three are migratory, spending their breeding-season in North America.

The type of *Contopus* (*C. virens*) is very like several species of *Empidonax*, but larger and always to be distinguished by its proportionally shorter tarsi. The form of the bill, the supranasal feathers, &c. are much the same in both genera, as are also the proportions of the wings and tail.

C. borealis departs from the type in being a larger, stouter bird, with a much stouter bill and shorter tail. *C. musicus* is also different in other ways, the tail being long and somewhat forked. Both these sections are also marked by having a large white patch on the flanks on either side, but this is also present in a less degree in *C. virens*.

a. *Species majores.*

a'. *Abdomen in medio album.*

1. *Contopus borealis.*

Tyrannus borealis, Sw. Faun. Bor.-Am. ii. p. 141, t. 35¹; Salv. Ibis, 1866, p. 203².

Contopus borealis, Baird, B. N. Am. p. 188³; Lawr. Ann. Lyc. N. Y. ix. p. 115⁴; Bull. U. S. Nat. Mus. no. 4, p. 27⁵; Salv. P. Z. S. 1870, p. 199⁶; Baird, Brew., & Ridgw. N. Am. B. ii. p. 353⁷; Coues, Birds N. W. p. 243⁸; Key N. Am. B. ed. 2, p. 438⁹; Perez, Bull. U. S. Nat. Mus. ix. p. 156¹⁰; Tacz. Orn. Pér. ii. p. 316¹¹; Ridgw. Man. N. Am. B. p. 337¹²; Scl. Cat. Birds Brit. Mus. xiv. p. 234¹³.

Muscicapa cooperi, Nutt. Man. i. p. 282¹⁴.

Tyrannus cooperi, Scl. P. Z. S. 1856, p. 297¹⁵.

Contopus cooperi, Cab. J. f. Orn. 1861, p. 248¹⁶.

Muscicapa mesoleuca, Licht. Preis-Verz. mex. Vög. p. 2 (cf. J. f. Orn. 1863, p. 58)¹⁷?

Contopus mesoleucus, Scl. P. Z. S. 1859, p. 43¹⁸; Scl. & Salv. Ibis, 1859, p. 122¹⁹; Sumichrast, Mem. Bost. Soc. N. H. i. p. 557²⁰.

Supra brunneo-ardesiaceus; capite obscuriore; alis et cauda nigricantibus; alarum tectricibus pallide fusco terminatis, secundariis internis extrorsum albido limbatis: subtus medialiter albus; abdomine vix flavo tincto; hypochondriis plaga magna alba notatis: rostri maxilla nigricante, mandibula flava; pedibus nigris.