

Tehuantepec; but it is very probable that they do not occur together, but that *C. virgata* belongs to the eastern or Atlantic side, and *C. squamulata* to the western or Pacific side of the Isthmus.

SPEOTYTO.

Speotyto, Gloger, Handb. Naturg. p. 226 (1842); Sharpe, Cat. Birds Brit. Mus. ii. p. 142.

Pholeoptynx (subgenus), Kaup, Isis, 1848, p. 769.

This genus is strictly confined to America, being distributed over the western and southern parts of the northern continent, Mexico, and Central America, except, perhaps, the southern portion, a large part of South America, including Argentina and Chili, and several of the West Indian islands. Its habit of living in deserted burrows of rodents and armadillos is peculiar amongst American Owls. Living chiefly on the ground the tarsi are longer in proportion than in any other genera; they are feathered in front, bare behind. The size is small, the head without ear-tufts; the cere is tumid, the nostril in the middle of the swollen part. The plumage is of very uniform pattern, but there is some variation in tint and a considerable amount in size in different individuals. The first primary is long.

1. *Speotyto cunicularia*.

Strix cunicularia, Molina, Stor. Chili, p. 343¹; Bp. Am. Orn. i. p. 68, t. 7. f. 2².

Athene cunicularia, Bp., Grayson, Pr. Bost. Soc. N. H. xiv. p. 270³.

Speotyto cunicularia, Sumichrast, La Nat. v. p. 237⁴; Sharpe, Cat. Birds Brit. Mus. ii. p. 142⁵.

Athene hypogæa, Woodh. in Sitgr. Exp. Zuñi & Col. Rivers, p. 62⁶; Scl. P. Z. S. 1857, p. 201⁷; Salv. Ibis, 1865, p. 193⁸.

Pholeoptynx hypogæa, Scl. P. Z. S. 1859, p. 368⁹; Scl. & Salv. Ibis, 1860, p. 401¹⁰; Dugès, La Nat. i. p. 138¹¹.

Speotyto cunicularia, var. *hypogæa*, Lawr. Mem. Bost. Soc. N. H. ii. p. 297¹²; Bull. U. S. Nat. Mus. no. 4, p. 37¹³; Ridgw. in Baird, Brew., & Ridgw. N. Am. Birds, iii. p. 90¹⁴.

Speotyto cunicularia hypogæa, Bendire, Life Hist. N. Am. Birds, i. p. 395, t. 12. f. 14¹⁵; Jouy, Pr. U. S. Nat. Mus. xvi. p. 787¹⁶; Fisher, Bull. U. S. Dep. Agr. no. 3, p. 189, t. 25¹⁷; Allen, Bull. Am. Mus. N. H. v. p. 34¹⁸.

Supra brunnea, undique albido maculata, auricularibus fuscis; gula alba, fascia nigra notata; pectoris lateribus fuscis albo maculatis, hypochondriis fuscis transfasciatis, corpore reliquo subtus pallide cervino-albido; alis fuscis, primariis in pogonio externo cervino-albido maculatis; cauda fasciis quinque albidis nigricante marginatis notata; tarsis antice plumosis, ad digitos setosis. Long. tota circa 9·0, alæ 6·5, caudæ 2·9. (Descr. exempl. ex Dueñas, Guatemala. Mus. nostr.)

Hab. NORTH AMERICA, Western States, Texas¹⁴.—MEXICO, San Pedro Sonora (*Robinet*¹⁸), Nuevo Laredo in Nuevo Leon (*F. B. Armstrong*), Carnetas in Chihuahua (*W. Lloyd*), Zacatecas (*W. B. Richardson*), Hacienda Angostura in San Luis Potosi (*Jouy*¹⁶), Tres Marias Is.^{3 12}, Mazatlan¹² (*Grayson*), Presidio de Mazatlan (*Forrer*), Ixtlan, Venta del Astillero (*Dr. A. C. Buller, in mus. Rothschild*), Guanajuato, Guadalajara (*Dugès*¹¹), Santana near Zapotlan (*W. Lloyd*), Plains of Colima (*W. B. Richardson*), Jalapa (*Sallé*⁷, *de Oca*⁹, *Ferrari-Perez*), Cofre de Perote,