

Orizaba (*Sumichrast*⁴), Puebla (*Boucard*), Playa Vicente (*M. Trujillo*), Tehuantepec, Chimalapa (*W. B. Richardson*), Juchitan¹³, Cacoprieto (*Sumichrast*⁴); GUATEMALA, Chiapam⁸, San José de Guatemala, Dueñas, San Gerónimo¹⁰, Lanquin¹⁰ (*O. S. & F. D. G.*).—SOUTH AMERICA generally to Argentina and Chili.

The typical form of this Owl is found in Chili, and the birds from that country are, as a rule, larger than those from other parts of its range. Chiefly on this account the North-American birds have been separated as belonging to a distinct race under the name of *S. hypogæa*. They are rather small, but do not differ materially from southern birds, individuals from the extreme limits of the range being practically undistinguishable so far as colour is concerned, and the difference in size is but slight. The most distinct forms we have seen are *S. cunicularia guadaloupensis* of Ridgway and the Florida bird, and these two seem capable of definition.

S. cunicularia, as we prefer to call this Owl, is found in all suitable localities throughout Mexico, from the sea-shore at Mazatlan and the Tres Marias Islands to open country in the mountains; but though it has not been observed in the Valley of Mexico, Jouy saw their mounds spread over a considerable portion of a barren plain in San Luis Potosi¹⁶. Grayson noticed it along the open sea-beach at night on the Tres Marias Islands, where it was in search of small crabs which formed its chief subsistence. It was in a similar place that one was observed by us near Champerico, on the Pacific coast of Guatemala, sitting at the opening of a burrow in the sand⁸. In the interior of Guatemala it is by no means common, and only on a few occasions came under our observation. Specimens were secured at Dueñas and San Gerónimo, and one was found lying in a decayed state on the thatch of an Indian rancho in the village of Lanquin¹⁰. All these places are in open country. We have no record of the occurrence of *S. cunicularia* in any other part of Central America, though it can hardly fail to occur in suitable places, seeing that it reappears in Colombia, and is found in many places over a wide area in the more open country of South America. It flies frequently by day as well as by night, and its food chiefly consists, at least in inland countries, of small mammals. The story of its living peacefully in the same burrow with prairie-dogs and rattlesnakes is now wholly discredited.

There is a good description of the habits of the Floridan form by Mr. S. N. Rhoads in the volume of the 'Auk' for 1892, p. 1.

GLAUCIDIUM.

Glaucidium, Boie, Isis, 1826, p. 970; Sharpe, Cat. Birds Brit. Mus. ii. p. 188.

Glaucidium is a genus of very wide distribution, which includes a large portion of the Old World as far east as the Indo-Malayan subregion; but it is not represented in New Guinea or any part of the Austro-Malayan subregion or in Australia, or any of the islands of the Pacific Ocean. In America it is spread over nearly the whole of the