

habits of *M. whitneyi*, partly from his own observations, partly from those of others, and Dr. Fisher also gives a similar summary in his excellent work on the Hawks and Owls of the United States.

From Mexico we have as yet heard little of this Owl, and no specimens have reached us from that country. It is said by Herrera to be found in the Valley of Mexico, and there is a specimen in the United States National Museum sent from Guanajuato by Prof. A. Dugès<sup>5</sup>. Prof. Ferrari-Perez also sent to the same museum an adult male obtained at San Salvador el Verde, in the State of Puebla<sup>5</sup>.

## 2. *Micropallas graysoni*.

*Micrathene whitneyi*, Grays. Pr. Bost. Soc. N. H. xiv. p. 300 (nec Coues)<sup>1</sup>; Lawr. Mem. Bost. Soc. N. H. ii. p. 297<sup>2</sup>.

*Micrathene graysoni*, Ridgw. Pr. U. S. Nat. Mus. ix. p. 166<sup>3</sup>; Auk, 1886, p. 333<sup>4</sup>.

*M. whitneyi* similis, sed multo brunnescentior haud griseo lavata, fasciis pallidis caudæ et area inter eas æqualibus.

*Hab.* MEXICO, Socorro I. (*Grayson*<sup>1 2 3 4</sup>).

The Socorro-Island birds obtained by Grayson were long considered to belong to the continental *M. whitneyi*, till Mr. Ridgway separated them in 1886<sup>3</sup>. We have never seen specimens of this form, and have taken our diagnosis from Mr. Ridgway's description<sup>3</sup>. Grayson obtained three specimens of this little Owl during his stay on Socorro Island. He says they were always found among the branches of low evergreen trees. He adds that they seem to feed entirely upon the small land-crabs which are abundant near the sea<sup>2</sup>. The iris in life is bright yellow<sup>1</sup>.

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*Note.*—In the 'Transactions of the Zoological Society' (vol. iv. p. 232) Kaup described an Owl from Mexico, which we do not recognize, as follows:—

“*Asio macrurus*, Kp.

“*Diagn.* The tail brown, 148 mm. long, with five small whitish bands and end.

“*Descr.* The upper parts dark brown, with two to three irregular rusty-yellow cross bands on each feather. The lower parts white, on each feather a broad dark-brown shaft-stripe. The under tail-coverts pure white. Wings on the inner sides blackish, with from three to five whitish pronged bands and spots. Tarsi rusty-yellowish white, with rusty-yellow cross-lines. The bristle-feathers of the *lorum* white with black shafts. The stripe over the eye dirty-white, extending to the ear-horns, which are not very well distinguished. Veil white, each feather with rusty-yellow black-margined shaft-spots.

“*Dimens.* Head 70, bill from the root 20, from the gape 34, wing 250, tarsus 60, middle toe without the nail 39, left ear-hole (taken on a stuffed specimen) 14, right ear-hole 22 mm. long.

“*Hab.* Mexico (*Würzburg Museum*).”