

reliquo cinnamomeo-rufo, rhachidibus nigris conspicuis; præpectoris plumis concoloribus, pectore tamen et abdomine plus minusve albido transfasciatis; tibiis regulariter cinnamomeo fasciatis, sed subcaudalibus vix rufo-fasciatis, subalaribus et axillaribus pectori concoloribus et eodem modo fasciatis; tectricibus primariorum inferioribus et remigibus infra albis, conspicue nigro transfasciatis. Long. tota 16.5, culm. 1.25, alæ 11.9, caudæ 7.3, tarsi 3.05. (Descr. fem. ex Mexico occ. in Mus. Brit.)

♂ feminæ similis, vix minor.

Juv. Brunneus, rufo vel ochraceo variegatus, remigibus rufescenti-albo late fasciatis; cauda brunnea, rufescenti-grisea 8-9-fasciata: subtus albidus, distincte brunneo cordatim striolata. (Descr. spec. ex Zacatecas. Mus. nostr.)

Hab. EASTERN N. AMERICA to Manitoba and Nova Scotia, west to Texas and the Plains, south to the Gulf States, Western United States, from W. Texas to California and Oregon, south into Lower California, Sonora, and Chihuahua.—MEXICO (*Mus. Brit.*⁴), city of Mexico (*Le Strange*⁹), Orizaba (*Botteri*³), Zacatecas (*W. B. Richardson*).

The Red-shouldered Buzzard is aptly so-called, for the old birds have a conspicuous chestnut shoulder-patch, and even the young may be distinguished by a similar rufous area on the wing-coverts. The tail is distinctly banded, and has *five* (in very old birds *four*) light bars. In young individuals the dark bars are generally seven in number, the subterminal one being distinctly broader; the light bars vary from eight to nine. The white chequering of the quills is also a well-marked character.

The western form (*B. elegans*) is recognized as a distinct race by American ornithologists, on account of its uniformly rufous chest, which is less barred with buff than in examples from the Northern States. Age has undoubtedly something to do with this peculiarity, and we believe that the older birds lose much of the cross-barring on the underparts and become entirely rufous below. We have birds from Texas answering to the description of *B. elegans*; but we have also in the Henshaw series both barred and uniform breasted specimens from Chester Co., Pennsylvania, and examples of both races from the same localities in Texas. We have failed, therefore, to find valid characters for the separation of *Buteo elegans* from *B. lineatus*. The Florida form, *B. alleni*, is said by Professor Ridgway to have a greyish head, but in our series from that State many specimens are as rufous on the upper surface as typical examples of *B. lineatus*, while, on the other hand, we have grey-headed birds from New York State. The Florida bird is decidedly smaller, and the shoulder-patch is rather cinnamon-rufous than chestnut, and thus we are inclined to admit *B. alleni* as a recognizable species.

B. lineatus is found in Sonora and Chihuahua, according to the 'A. O. U. Check-list'⁷, but its recorded occurrences within our limits are very few. In the British Museum there are two specimens labelled "Mexico," also one adult bird from "Western Mexico," purchased many years ago from Mr. Edward Bartlett, who received it from Mr. Dorman⁴. It has been recorded from Orizaba, where Botteri obtained an example³, and Le Strange also met with the species in the Valley of Mexico⁹; Mr. Richardson, too, has sent us an immature specimen of it from Zacatecas.