

and obscure greyish bars on the secondaries. Five black tail-bands can be traced, the subterminal one being much broader than the rest, whereas in one Mexican specimen there is scarcely any increase in the width of this bar. Another bird in our collection from Calovevora is jet-black. In both the Veraguan examples there is only a faint trace of white or grey bars on the upper tail-coverts.

From the evidence at hand, *B. brachyurus* is a resident in Florida, though Dr. Ralph states that it is more commonly noticed in spring and summer<sup>5</sup>. We have a few specimens from that locality, received from Mr. Scott, one white-breasted individual (*B. brachyurus*) procured by him at Chasham in November, and two black-breasted birds (*B. fuliginosus*) obtained at Miami in October and on the Caloosahatchie River in January. Gurney<sup>21</sup> states that in the Norwich Museum there is an example of it from Jalapa, in addition to the type; Mr. Ferrari-Perez has sent us one from Alvarado; and Sumichrast has recorded the species from Tonalá and Tehuantepec city. Thence we trace its range to Panama and to the northern and central parts of South America, where it doubtless occurs only as a winter visitor.

### ASTURINA \*.

*Asturina*, Vieillot, Analyse, p. 24 (1816); Sclater & Salvin, P. Z. S. 1869, p. 129; Sharpe, Cat. Birds Brit. Mus. i. p. 202.

This genus is very closely allied to *Buteo*, and is by many authorities considered an intermediate link between the Buzzards and the Goshawks. With the latter, however, we are unable to trace much affinity, and we prefer to consider the Neotropical genus *Asturina* as thoroughly Buteonine in its relations. In the 'Catalogue of Birds' the form of the nostril was considered a character for its definition, but a far better one is the shape of the wing, which is long and pointed in the Buzzards, and rounded in *Asturina*, in which genus the primaries are but little longer than the secondaries.

Both the species of *Asturina* are found within our limits. They are grey birds, having the four outer primaries excised on the inner web; the young differ considerably from the adults in plumage, so that the immature specimens are liable to be confounded with the young of the species of *Buteo*.

#### 1. *Asturina nitida*.

*Plumbeous Falcon*, Lath. Gen. Syn., Suppl. p. 37<sup>1</sup>.

*Falco nitidus*, Lath. Ind. Orn. i. p. 41<sup>2</sup>; Temm. Pl. Col. i. tt. 87, 294<sup>3</sup>.

*Asturina nitida*, Scl. & Salv. P. Z. S. 1864, p. 369<sup>4</sup>; Ex. Orn. p. 180<sup>5</sup>; Lawr. Ann. Lyc. N. Y. vii. p. 316<sup>6</sup>; Sharpe, Cat. Birds Brit. Mus. i. p. 203<sup>7</sup>; Hand-l. Birds, i. p. 257<sup>8</sup>.

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\* The heading to the subfamily AQUILINÆ was accidentally omitted on p. 54: it includes *Archibuteo*, *Buteo*, *Asturina*, *Rupornis*, *Urubitinga*, *Leucopternis*, *Busarellus*, *Heterospizias*, *Harpyhaliaetus*, *Morphnus*, *Thrasaetus*, *Aquila*, *Spizaetus*, and *Spiziastur*.