

*O. homochroa*, Coues, which may also occur within our limits, is a small Petrel and is more sooty and less chocolate-brown underneath than the foregoing species, and it has a decided ashy shade on the head and fore part of the body, and the upper tail-coverts have a cinereous tinge. The lower under wing-coverts are also not so white. Long. tota circa 6·8, alæ 5·65, caudæ 3·2, culm. 0·6, tarsi 0·85. (Descr. feminae adultæ ex Farallon Is. Mus. Rothschild.)

### Fam. PUFFINIDÆ.

For this family Salvin enumerates the characters as follows:—"Nostrils united externally, or nearly so, above the culmen; margin of the sternum uneven; distinct pterygoid processes; manubrium of furcula very short; coracoids short, wide at the base and divergent; first primary the longest, or not shorter than the second."

The Puffinidæ, which are entirely oceanic in their distribution, are divided into two subfamilies, the Shearwaters (Puffininae) and the Fulmars (Fulmarinae). None of the latter have, as yet, been found in Central America.

#### Subfam. PUFFININÆ.

The members of this subfamily are distinguished by the absence of lamellæ on the sides of the palate, whereas all the Fulmarinae have more or less well-developed lamellæ. Eight genera of Puffininae are recognized by Salvin in the 'Catalogue of Birds.'

### PUFFINUS.

*Puffinus*, Brisson, Orn. vi. p. 131 (1760); Salvin, Cat. Birds Brit. Mus. xxv. p. 368 (1896).

The true Shearwaters of the genus *Puffinus* have the tarsus distinctly compressed, with the anterior edge sharp. The nasal tube is low, both nostrils being visible from above, directed forwards and slightly upwards. The tail-feathers are twelve in number.

The distribution of the genus is world-wide, and about twenty species are recognized.

In addition to the three here enumerated, two others, *P. opisthomelas* and *P. creatopus*, may visit the islands off the Mexican or Central-American coast, but there is no direct evidence of either of them having been seen within these limits.

#### 1. *Puffinus cuneatus*.

*Puffinus cuneatus*, Salv. Ibis, 1888, p. 353<sup>1</sup>; Cat. Birds Brit. Mus. xxv. p. 371<sup>2</sup>; Seebohm, Ibis, 1891, p. 191<sup>3</sup>; Anthony, Auk, xv. pp. 39<sup>4</sup>, 316<sup>5</sup>; xvii. pp. 247-252, t. 8<sup>6</sup>; Nelson, N. Amer. Fauna, no. 14, p. 27<sup>7</sup>; Oates, Cat. Eggs Brit. Mus. i. p. 152<sup>8</sup>.

*Puffinus knudseni*, Stejneger, Pr. U. S. Nat. Mus. xi. p. 93<sup>9</sup>.

Brunneus, alis caudaque nigricantibus, hac longa cuneata; pileo vix saturatiore brunneo, loris et facie laterali paullo cinerascientioribus; genis albis cinereo marmoratis; corpore toto subtus albo, colli lateribus brunneis dorso concoloribus, corporis lateribus et axillaribus cinerascienti-brunneis; subcaudalibus