

33. "Parrot."

"Not abundant.

"This bird, about the size of our Northern Carolina Parrot, but more robust, is very shy, keeping mainly to the higher mountains; sometimes descending to the inner valleys, to feed upon the wild guavas.

"It is sometimes captured by being wing-broken, and takes kindly to confinement, but unlike its larger brother, the Cicero, does not learn to talk. It congregates in small flocks. It is oftener shot in the months between September and February. A very beneficent law of Dominica prohibits the shooting of Parrots, Ciceros, Ramiers, &c., in any other months, thus ensuring protection during the breeding season."

This species was not obtained by Mr. Ober.

Fam. STRIGIDÆ.

34. *Strix flammea* var. *nigrescens*, Lawr.

"Owl. 'Shawah.'

"Very rare; its cry even is seldom heard. It haunts principally the mountains and higher valleys; builds its nest in a hollow tree, or in the hollow of a large limb, and lays eggs elliptical in shape, white and granular. In this case they were three in number, and from the appearance of the ovules, were the full complement. They were newly laid, September 19."

I find this to be a very dark variety of *Strix flammea*. At my request, Mr. Ridgway sent me a specimen of the dark-plumaged form (var. *guatemalæ*, from Costa Rica), spoken of in N. A. Birds, v. 2, p. 14. On comparison, the difference is very marked: the example from Costa Rica is above brown, intermixed with rufous, and closely freckled with fine whitish vermiculations; it is also marked, not closely, with whitish ovate spots surrounded with black; the color below is dark reddish-ochraceous, with black sagittate spots. The sex not given. It measures, length, 14½ in.; wing, 13; tail, 6; tarsus, 2¾.

The male from Dominica has the upper plumage of a fine blackish-brown, rather sparsely marked with small white spots; the tail is crossed with alternate bands of brown and light dull ochraceous freckled with brown; the wings are the color of the back, somewhat intermixed with rufous; the under plumage is light reddish-ochraceous, marked with small round black spots (the color is lighter than the under plumage of the Costa Rica specimen); the ends of the ruff-feathers are dark reddish-brown; feathers around the eye, black; the face is of a light reddish-fawn color. "Bill white; iris deep chocolate, half an inch in diameter."

Length (fresh), 13 in.; wing, 10; tail, 4½; tarsus, 2.

The female is of the same dark color above, with the white spots so minute as to be scarcely perceptible; the tail is darker; the under plumage of a darker reddish-ochraceous than in the male (not so dark

as that of the Costa Rica specimen), a few roundish black spots on the breast; on the abdomen the markings are in clusters, and irregular in form.

Length (skin), 13 in. ; wing, $9\frac{1}{2}$; tail, $4\frac{3}{4}$; tarsus, $2\frac{1}{8}$.

Besides its much darker upper plumage, the Dominican form is of much smaller dimensions.

The color of the eggs is dead white; they measure in length 1.60 by 1.22 in breadth.

Fam. FALCONIDÆ.

35. *Pandion hallæetus* (Linn.).

"Fish-hawk."

"Seen circling over the sea in September."

36. *Buteo pennsylvanicus* (Wils.).

"'Mal fini.' St. Marie, Indian country.

"This bird courses above the valley, uttering its cry of 'Mal fini, fini'. It is not abundant; eats lizards as well as small birds. The largest of the Hawks here resident. Iris amber.

"Length, ♂, 15 in. ; alar extent, 32 ; wing, $10\frac{1}{2}$.

"Length, ♀, 15 in. ; alar extent, 32 ; wing, 10."

37. *Tinnunculus sparverius* var. *antillarum* (Gm.).

"'Glee glee.' Nowhere abundant.

"Length, ♂, $10\frac{1}{2}$ in. ; alar extent, 20 ; wing, $6\frac{3}{4}$."

The two specimens sent were submitted to Mr. Ridgway for determination; he wrote me as follows:—"The Dominica *Tinnunculus* is identical with that from St. Thomas, St. Bartholomew, and Porto Rico. It is what I have called '*sparverius* var. *dominicensis*', but I find upon further investigation that it should bear the name of *antillarum*, Gm.—*dominicensis* being, as I now conclude, the bird which I have called *leucophrys*." Mr. Ridgway also wrote:—"You may mention that I have a male *T. sparveroides*, in the plumbeous plumage, from South Florida."

Fam. FREGATIDÆ.

38. *Fregata aquila* (Linn.).

"Man o' War Hawk ; Frigate Pelican."

"Often seen flying at great height; said to breed on an inaccessible cliff on the southeastern side of the island."

Fam. PHÆTHONIDÆ.

39. *Phæthon flavirostris*, Brandt.

"Tropic Bird. Abundant.

"Breeds in the cliffs near the Lime Plantation of Batalie, the property of Dr. Imray. They also breed in the cliffs of Mount David, near