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REVISIONS OF TWO CENTRAL AMERICAN BIRDS.

BY LUDLOW GRISCOM.

The present paper contains two more cases where the proper identification of a certain species in the Dwight Collection has involved an extended revision of other extralimital forms, based on material primarily in the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, which institution also possesses the types of most of the new races diagnosed.

The Races of *Claravis mondetoura* (Bonaparte).

One of the rarest and most beautiful of New World Doves is *Claravis mondetoura* (Bonaparte). The very few Central American records all come from the cloud forest in the subtropical zone, but the species is as yet unrecorded between Guatemala and Costa Rica, and in eastern Panama, though it will undoubtedly be found in time. It follows, however, that like many other species of the same life-zone, it is broken up into isolated colonies, and when specimens from these various colonies are compared, trenchant differences are disclosed, even with very limited material.

Years ago Salvadori and Salvin & Godman commented on certain differences between Mexican and Guatemalan specimens and others from South America. They were not interested in racial variation, and preferred to wait for Costa Rica and Panama material, before describing a second 'species.' Ridgway confirmed these differences, and recorded still others, but took no action, as his material was also faulty. Additional specimens merely serve to indorse these various racial characters. Thanks to the authorities of the Museums in New York and Cambridge, I have before me the largest and the most representative series geographically ever assembled. It is far from satisfactory,

however, and I suspect the existence of two other subspecies in addition to the ones described below.

1. Claravis mondetoura mondetoura Bonaparte.

Type locality.—Caracas, Venezuela.

Range.—Mountains of Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru, a scant dozen localities in all.

Adult male.—Back, rump, and upper tail-coverts fuscous or chaetura drab; basal third of outer tail feathers black; axillars and under wing-coverts blackish brown, more or less strongly tipped with cinnamon.

Adult female.—Forehead and chin deeper cinnamon; upperparts browner, less olive or gray, becoming strongly tinged with rusty on rump and tail coverts; relatively darker and more olive brown below; axillars deep cinnamon rufous.

Remarks.—The diagnosis of males is based on specimens from Bogota and East Ecuador in default of a topotype. The diagnosis of the female is based, however, on 3 topotypes from Merida. I note that two females from Colombia differ markedly from Venezuela specimens in being paler below, more grayish brown, and white in the center of the abdomen. When males can be compared, the Colombian bird may well prove separable. The female at least is a connecting link toward the west Panama form.

Claravis mondetoura pulchra, subsp. nov.

Type.—Mus. Comp. Zool. no. 109,178; adult male, collected at Boquete, 3000 ft., western Panama, March 27, 1901, by W. W. Brown.

Adult male.—Radically different from Colombia and Ecuador males in being deep neutral gray even on rump and upper tail-coverts; axillars uniform very dark gray. (Three specimens).

Adult female.—Forehead pale cinnamon, chin mostly white; rump and upper tail-coverts dark sepia, less rufous; much paler below, even grayer, with more white, than Colombian females; axillars blackish brown. (Two specimens.)

Claravis mondetoura umbrina, subsp. nov.

Type.—Mus. Comp. Zool. no. 116,433; adult female, collected at La Estrella de Cartago, Costa Rica, Dec. 28, 1900, by C. F. Underwood.

Adult male.—Resembling the South American rather than the Chiriqui form in being slightly fuscous above; axillars blackish as in all Central American forms. (One specimen).

Adult female.—Quite different from any other form in that the underparts

are umber or clay brown, and the tips of the outer tail feathers are darker and browner, less grayish white. (The type.)

Claravis mondetoura salvini, subsp. nov.

Type.—Dwight Coll. no. 63,782; adult male, collected at Volcan San Lucas, Guatemala, June 26, 1927, by A. W. Anthony.

Adult male.—Exactly as in South American males above; abdomen and ventral area more extensively white than in any other race; outer tail feathers more extensively black basally than in other races; axillars as in other Central American races. (The type.)

Adult female.—Autoptically unknown to me, but judging by Salvin's detailed description in the Biologia Centrali Americana, vol. 3, p. 256, it must be close to the West Panama form, in having the chest and abdomen extensively grayish and whitish.

Remarks.—Mexican records must be allocated here provisionally, as no female exists.

NOTES ON THE MEXICAN ANT-TANAGER (*Habia rubica rubicoides*).

According to Ridgway's treatment (Birds of North and Middle America, pt. 2, p. 144–147) *Habia rubica rubicoides* (Lafresnaye) occupies most of southern Mexico and northern Central America, replaced by two closely allied forms in western Mexico and the usual pale one in Yucatan. In 1905 Bangs described an excellent form *confinis* from eastern Honduras, partially connecting *rubicoides* with *vinacea* of western Panama. In 1927 Dickey and Van Rossem described *salvadorensis* from Salvador, another distinct race connecting *confinis* with *affinis* Nelson of Oaxaca. In 1929 (Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool. **69,** p. 427) Peters commented on anomalous specimens from Lancetilla, Honduras, which were nearer to *rubicoides* instead of *confinis*, as might have been expected.

It will be apparent therefore that material has been accumulating for many years, but no general revision has as yet been attempted. In studying the fine series of this species in the Dwight Collection some interesting facts have been brought to light, and one most unfortunate change in names may become necessary. The name *rubicoides* proves to be even more of a composite than previously suspected. It has been my good fortune to have available types or topotypes of every form involved.

Habia rubica rubicoides (Lafresnaye).

Diagnosis.—A relatively small form; adult male with throat light vermillion, passing rapidly into grayish vinaceous rosy red, the gray tone and the rosy shade of the red the two important points, the gray wash strongest on the flanks and vent; adult female correctly described by Ridgway, generally ochraceous olive below, distinctly paler on the throat; wing of males 90–97 (93).

Range.—With the type and a fair series before me, it is obvious that this form is confined to the hot lowlands of eastern Vera Cruz and will presumably be found in Tabasco, Campeche and northern Peten. It is the exact analogue of *H. salvini littoralis* (Nelson), and is very different from the form in the interior of Vera Cruz.

2. Habia rubica holobrunnea, subsp. nov.

Type.—Mus. Comp. Zool. no. 233, 707; adult male, collected in Motzorongo, Vera Cruz, Feb. 20, 1925, by W. W. Brown.

Diagnosis.—Totally different from any other form in northern Central America; adult male with throat scarlet, passing to bright liver red on abdomen, entirely lacking either gray or rose tones; adult female darker and browner above than any other form, almost *uniform brownish* olivaceous ochre below; size similar.

Range.—I have examined twelve specimens from Precedio, Motzorongo and Orizaba, interior of Vera Cruz.

3. Habia rubica nelsoni (Ridgway).

Diagnosis.—Similar to *H. rubica rubicoides*, but slightly smaller and duller in color; adult male a browner red above, the red of throat more flesh colored; female duller and paler.

Range.—Outer two-thirds of Yucatan Peninsula, thus including parts of Campeche and Quintana Roo.

4. Habia rubica confinis (Bangs).

Tanagra ignicapilla Lichtenstein, Preis, Verz. Mex. Vög., 1831, p. 2 (Mexico, *nomen nudum*).

Phœnicothraupis ignicapilla Finsch, P.Z.S., 1870, p. 581, in text (Guatemala).

Phœnicothraupis rubica confinis Bangs, Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash. 18, 1905, p. 158 (Yaruca, Honduras).

Diagnosis.—Adult male similar to *Habia rubica rubicoides*,

but larger, darker and more brightly colored; purer red, less brown or liver colored above; throat brighter scarlet; abdomen rosier, less gray; wing 96–102 (99); adult female slightly yellower, less brown below, the throat much brighter ochre yellow in marked contrast with chest.

Range.—Yaruca, eastern Honduras (the type series) and 40 specimens from eastern Guatemala.

Remarks.—The males of a beautiful series collected by Anthony in Alta Vera Paz in the Dwight Collection prove to be inseparable from the type series of *confinis* Bangs from eastern Honduras, and quite different from true *rubicoides* Lafresnaye. The females are not quite typical, however, approaching *rubicoides*. It is consequently possible that *ignicapilla* Finsch should replace *confinis* Bangs, although the former did not intend to propose a new name. Finsch did not regard Lichtenstein's name as a *nomen nudum*, and used it as having many years priority over Lafresnaye's *rubicoides*. He accidentally validated the name, however, by giving some comparative description and detailed measurements of a specimen from Guatemala.

As a matter of fact eastern Guatemala is in the general region where three races of this Ant-tanager meet. A series from Secanquim is inseparable from *confinis*. Two specimens from Sepacuite, however, are intermediates. One is *rubicoides* in color, but *confinis* in size. The other is *rubicoides*, showing an approach to *nelsoni*. Many old 'Vera Paz' trade skins examined are also nearer *rubicoides* than *confinis*. Three specimens from British Honduras (Manatee River and Cayo District) are nearest *rubicoides*, but two from the boundary line between British Honduras and Quintana Roo are nearest *nelsoni*. It is a fair presumption, therefore, that specimens from northern and eastern Peten will prove to be variously intermediate between *rubicoides* and *nelsoni*. The fact that specimens nearest *rubicoides* are known from Guatemala is the reason why I do not use *ignicapilla* Finsch to replace *confinis* Bangs. Finsch's specimen measured 94.8 mm., and there is every possibility that it was an intermediate, nearest *rubicoides* in the modern sense.

5. Habia rubica salvadorensis Dickey & Van Rossem.

Diagnosis.—Connecting *confinis* Bangs with *affinis* Nelson of

Oaxaca; adult male very close to *confinis*, but red of underparts slightly more pronounced, more vermilion, less washed with gray; female a pale and dull edition of *confinis*, strongly yellow on the throat like that form, but duller brown, less olive and ochraceous both above and below, giving a pronounced clay colored tone; while the male is quite different from *affinis*, the female must be very close indeed, and a comparison has yet to be made.

Three males and four females from Lancetilla, Honduras have already been discussed by Peters (*loc. cit.*), but I cannot agree in referring them to *rubicoides* as here understood and delimited. The males are inseparable from *salvadorensis*, a form not available to Peters last year, and the females are intermediate between *confinis* and *salvadorensis*. They do not have sufficient characters to describe as a new form, but the relationships of these birds are of obvious interest in connection with *confinis*, as Lancetilla apparently is geographically intermediate between Yaruca and Guatemala. It is obvious that more specimens are needed from Honduras, and a better knowledge of the topography there.

A series of nine specimens in New York from northeastern Nicaragua was referred some years ago by Miller and me to *confinis*. In the light of the facts brought out above, they should be critically reëxamined.