

Length posterior margin of dorsal.....	7.5
Tip of lower jaw to genital slit.....	43.0
Length of genital slit.....	3.0
Genital slit to anus.....	4.25
Anus to notch of the flukes.....	22.75
Breadth of flukes (transverse).....	18.5
Length of flukes (antero-posterior).....	5.25
Breadth of narrowest part of tail before the flukes.....	1.75
Height of body at same point.....	3.5
Length of eye.....	.75
Width of spout-hole.....	1.87
Extension of white area posterior to the anus.....	6.5
Length of white area along the belly.....	18.0
Width of head at corner of the mouth.....	5.5
Depth of body 24 inches anterior to the flukes (at which point the keels are widest).....	10.0
Depth 8 inches anterior to flukes.....	7.5
Navel to anterior end of genital slit.....	7.5

*Measurements of the type skull of Phocæna Dalli, and of a skull of P. communis.*

Measurements.	<i>P. Dalli</i> , Adakh Id., Alaska. Type.		<i>P. communis</i> , Eastport, Me. 9164.	
	Centim.	100ths.	Centim.	100ths.
Total length.....	33.3	100.0	26.0	100.0
Length of beak.....	14.0	42.0	11.7	44.5
Breadth of beak at base of notches.....	9.5	28.5	7.8	29.5
Breadth of beak at its middle.....	5.7	17.1	4.8	18.5
Breadth of intermaxillaries at same point.....	3.5	10.5	2.2	8.4
Greatest breadth between outer margins of intermaxillaries proximally.....	5.1	15.3	3.6	14.0
Length of tooth-line.....	12.7	38.1	9.8	37.5
Last tooth to base of maxillary notch.....	2.2	6.7	2.3	8.6
Tip of beak to anterior margin superior nasal opening.....	17.8	53.4	14.8	56.2
Tip of beak to end of crest of pterygoid.....	21.3	64.3	.....	.....
Breadth between orbital processes of frontal.....	16.5	49.5	12.2	46.8
Breadth between hinder margins of temporal fossæ.....	16.2	48.6	12.0	45.7
Length of temporal fossa.....	5.6	16.8	6.3	24.1
Depth of temporal fossa.....	2.6	7.8	4.2	16.1
Total length of mandible.....	25.5	76.6	.....	.....
Length of symphysis of mandible.....	3.8	11.4	.....	.....
Length of tooth-row of mandible.....	12.2	36.6	.....	.....
Depth between angle and coronoid process.....	5.7	17.1	.....	.....
Number of teeth.....	(23-23) (27-27)	.....	(27-28) (? - ?)	.....

## ON PEUCÆA MEXICANA (LAWR.) A SPARROW NEW TO THE UNITED STATES.

By ROBERT RIDGWAY.

In Dr. J. C. Merrill's "Notes on the Ornithology of Southern Texas," &c. (Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., vol. i, p. 127), a species of sparrow is mentioned under the name of *Peucea arizonæ*, which was "found in some abundance on a salt prairie about 9 miles from Fort Brown," and of which both specimen of the bird itself and its nest and eggs were obtained by Dr. Merrill. The species was referred by me to *P. arizonæ* with some doubt, satisfactory identification being almost out of the question on account of the rather poor condition of the specimens examined, while the examples of *P. arizonæ* with which they were com-



pared were in equally bad feather. The National Museum having subsequently acquired a much better series of *P. arizonæ*, a second comparison of the Texas bird has been made, the result being quite unexpected, since it proves to be identical with a Mexican form, apparently quite distinct from *P. arizonæ*, and to which the name *Coturniculus mexicanus* was given by Mr. George N. Lawrence, in 1867. The latter name was in the History of North American Birds (ii, p. 38, foot-note) referred as a synonym to *Peucæa botterii* Sc., of Eastern Mexico (Orizaba), a disposition which I am now convinced was erroneous. A second Mexican example of *P. mexicana* has been sent to the National Museum by Prof. A. Dugès, from Guanajuato, and proves to be so closely similar to Dr. Merrill's specimen, and also to the type of "*Coturniculus mexicanus*, as to leave no doubt as to their identity.

The synonymy of the species is as follows :

— *Peucæa mexicana* (LAWR.).

*Coturniculus mexicanus* LAWR., Ann. Lye. N. Y., viii, 1867, 474 (mountains of Colima).

*Peucæa æstivæ* var. *botterii* B. B. & R., Hist. N. Am. B., ii, 1874, 38, foot-note (part). (Nec *Zonotrichia botterii* Sc., 1857.)

*Peucæa arizonæ* RIDGW. and MERRILL, Pr. U. S. Nat. Mus., vol. i, 1878, 127 (near Fort Brown, Tex.). Nec *Peucæa æstivæ* var. *arizonæ* Ridgw., 1874.)

*Peucæa mexicana* RIDGW., M. S.

ON DEPOSITS OF VOLCANIC DUST AND SAND IN SOUTHWESTERN NEBRASKA.

By GEORGE P. MERRILL.

In January, 1885, there were received at the National Museum two samples of a fine sharp dust marked "silicic acid," and which were supposed by the sender, Mr. Henry Zahn, of Plattsmouth, Nebraska, to be hot spring or geyser deposits, and were therefore called by him "Geyserite." Mr. Zahn states that the dust is found in small deposits in Western Kansas, Nebraska, eastern Colorado, and Wyoming. Concerning the two samples sent he writes: "The deposit of the gray sample is located in Furnas County, southwestern Nebraska, nearly 2 miles south of the Republican River, on sections 8 and 9, township 3 north, range 21 west of the sixth principal meridian. The white sample is from Harlan County, adjoining Furnas on the east, sections 10 and 11, township 2 north, range 20 west, a mile south of the Republican River. The deposits of this material occur mostly in this State, on the Republican River, extending into Kansas. By taking a map you will see numerous creeks flowing from the north and south and forming this river. Into the larger creeks flow numerous rivulets. On these streamlets we find the deposits, always on the east side, excepting the deposits in Harlan County, which I find on both sides of the ravine. The deposits occur from Guide Rock west to State line. \* \* \* The de-



Ridgway, Robert. 1885. "On *Peucaea mexicana* (Lawr.) a sparrow new to the United States." *Proceedings of the United States National Museum* 8(496), 98–99.  
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