

P.S.—Since writing the above I have received and read Dr. J. G. Cooper's paper 'On a new Cormorant from the Farallone Islands, California.'* This is the *Graculus bairdi* Gruber. MSS., which Mr. Ridgway refers to *P. violaceus resplendens*. From the description given in the above-cited paper I might be led to think that the birds I have described must be Baird's Cormorant instead of the Violet-green, did not Dr. Cooper speak of the variety found on the coast of California as differing from the birds of the Oregon and Washington coasts in having, among other things, "conspicuous white patches on the flanks." But the birds of the Washington coast and vicinity have, as stated above, the white flank-patches, and also the color and markings given by Dr. Cooper for the more southern bird. The only difference (so far as I can judge) is the alleged smaller size of the so-called southern variety. But Dr. Cooper's measurements do not show this difference; and as Dr. G. Suckley, in his report on water birds in 'Explorations and Surveys for the Pacific Railroad' (Vol. XII, pt. 2, p. 268), gives the color of the female as brown, is it not possible that Mr. Gruber and others referred to by Dr. Cooper were of the same opinion, and that notes and measurements of specimens sent the Smithsonian Institution have not been from specimens sexually determined by dissection? If so the difference in size would be accounted for. But be this as it may, further investigation appears necessary to establish the validity of this supposed variety.

[The birds met with by Mr. Goss were apparently *P. violaceus resplendens*. My reference of *Graculus bairdi* Gruber to *P. resplendens* Aud. is based on an actual comparison of the type specimen of the latter with typical examples of the former, from the Farallone Islands. They are identical, except that the type of *resplendens* has no flank-patches; but, as Mr. Goss observes, this is purely a seasonal character, said white patches being present only in the breeding season. The true *P. violaceus* is a much more northern bird than *resplendens*, and differs chiefly, if not only, in its larger size. Its distribution extends from Kamtschatka through the Aleutian chain, and thence south along the coast of Alaska for an undetermined distance, but it probably does not occur on the coast of Washington Territory or Oregon, except in winter.—ROBERT RIDGWAY.]

BRIEF DIAGNOSES OF TWO NEW RACES OF NORTH AMERICAN BIRDS.

BY E. W. NELSON.

1. *Picoides tridactylus alascensis*. ALASKAN THREE-TOED WOOD-PECKER. — SUBSP. CHAR. :—Differing from *P. tridactylus americanus* in having the back much more broadly barred with white, the white bars

* Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila., XVII, 1865, pp. 5, 6.

always more or less confluent; post-ocular white stripe much more distinct and dark bars of sides much narrower. *Hab.* Alaska and northern British America.

2. *Astur atricapillus henshawi*. HENSHAW'S GOSHAWK.—SUBSP. CHAR. :—Much darker than true *atricapillus*. Adult with the back slaty black, instead of plumbeous, and lower parts very coarsely and heavily marked with dusky. Young with lower parts broadly striped with brownish black, and tibiae heavily spotted with the same. *Hab.* Pacific coast region, from southern Arizona to Sitka, Alaska.

ANALECTA ORNITHOLOGICA.

BY LEONARD STEJNEGER.

I. THE OCCURRENCE OF *Turdus aliciae* IN THE PALÆ- ARCTIC REGION.

IN his 'The Birds of Bering Sea and the Arctic Ocean' (Cruise of the Corwin, Notes, p. 57), Mr. E. W. Nelson states that *Turdus (Hylocichla) aliciae* Baird is found "across into Kamtschatka"; and a little later he says, "the record of the bird from Kamtschatka renders certain its presence on the adjoining shores of Northeastern Siberia."

I am not aware of any record of this species having ever been found in Kamtschatka, neither do I believe that it has been or ever will be found there. Mr. Nelson's statement probably rests on a mistake. The fact is, that the bird in question really has been found, and found breeding, and rather numerous, in that part of Northeastern Siberia where Nelson only supposes it to be found on account of its alleged occurrence in Kamtschatka.

The Russian Astronomical Expedition to Cape Tschukotsk found *Turdus aliciae* breeding in the neighborhood of the station, and several specimens were brought to Irkutsk, and by the Geographical Society placed in the University Museum of that city, where they have been seen by Dr. Dybowski. They were destroyed by the great fire at the museum, but at least one specimen had previously been forwarded by that gentleman to the museum of Warsaw. The identity of this specimen was determined by Prof. Dr. Cabanis of Berlin.*

* Cf. Taczanowski, Journ. f. Ornith., 1872, p. 440, and 1873, p. 112; *ibid.* Bull. Soc. Zool. France, 1876, p. 148; *ibid.*, Krit. Obz. Ornit. Fauna Vost. Sibiri (1877) p. 32.