

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF WREN FROM THE ISLAND OF TOBAGO, WEST INDIES.

BY GEORGE N. LAWRENCE.

Troglodytes tobagensis.

The upper plumage is rufous brown, of a brighter rufous on the rump; the back is crossed with narrow, dusky, nearly obsolete bands; the wings are of a brighter color than the back, and are closely crossed with very distinct narrow blackish bars; the tail is of a brighter rufous brown than the back and wings, with transverse blackish bars, which are bordered on one side with clear, pale rufous; lores and a streak running back from the eye, of a very pale rufous white; entire sides and under tail-coverts of a rather light, bright rufous; throat, breast, and abdomen very pale rufous white; upper mandible brown, the lower whitish horn color; tarsi and toes light brown.

Length (skin), 4.75 inches; wing, 2.25; tail, 1.65; bill, 0.63; tarsus, 0.70.

HABITAT. Island of Tobago, where it is known as "God Bird."

Type in American Museum of Natural History, formerly in my collection.

It was kindly presented to me by Mr. F. A. Ober, by whom it was collected.

Remarks. The color of the upper plumage of this species is much like that of *T. striatulus*, but the bars on the wings and tail are much more strongly marked; the under plumage is much lighter in color; it is considerably larger; the bill is conspicuously longer and stronger.

DESCRIPTION OF AN APPARENTLY NEW *POOCÆTES* FROM OREGON.

BY G. S. MILLER, JR.

Poocætes gramineus affinis, subsp. nov.

SUBSP. CH.—(Type No. 2503, Coll. G. S. Miller, Jr.; Salem, Ore., May 29, 1887). Similar to *Poocætes gramineus confinis* Baird in respect to the slender bill and narrow dark dorsal streakings, but differing in being

smaller and having the ground color above buffy-brown rather than grayish-brown. All the lighter areas of the plumage (including crissum, under wing-coverts and lining of wings) suffused with pinkish buff.

Dimensions (average of eight adults): wing, 3.04; tail, 2.46; tarsus, 0.79; culmen, 0.46; bill from nostril, 0.31 inch.

HABITAT. Salem, Oregon.

NESTING OF THE PRAIRIE WARBLER, (*DENDROICA DISCOLOR*) IN THE VICINITY OF WASHINGTON, D. C.

BY ELLIOTT BAIRD COUES.

ALTHOUGH common throughout the District of Columbia, this beautiful little bird nests more abundantly in certain suitable localities than in others. One of these breeding-places was discovered by my friend, Mr. T. W. Richards, and myself last spring, and I have pleasure in laying before the readers of 'The Auk' the results of our joint observations.

The locality is along the Potomac River, on the Virginia side, about seven miles from the city, among some small hills from which all the large trees have been cut away, and which are now grown up to a thick scrub of hickory, dogwood, and laurel (*Kalmia latifolia*), with here and there a few young pines and cedars. Here were found breeding within a small area an astonishing number of the birds, perhaps more than fifty pairs. On reaching the place, they could be heard singing on all sides, sometimes several at the same moment. Among them were a few Yellow-breasted Chats (*Icteria virens*), but our whole attention was directed to the Warblers. On our first visit, May 22, we found one nest; but on two subsequent visits, a week later, many more than we cared to take were easily found, with full sets of eggs. They were so numerous and so readily discovered that to take all we desired was simply a matter of walking about in the bushes. The nests were only a few feet from the ground, and were placed preferably in the hickory and dogwood bushes. Only three nests were found in the young pines, and one in a cedar bush. During the heat of the day the