

Full clutches of fresh eggs may be found on the 20th of May, and I found one nest containing young just hatched on the 4th of June, 1893.

Although I have seen a number of small snakes, throughout these ponds and swamps, drop off the lower branches of the trees and bushes at my approach, I have never found any nests of the Parula Warblers which had been disturbed by them.

On May 21, 1894, after a heavy wind and rain storm which lasted some four or five days, the swamps in northern Cape May County were completely flooded. I found one Parula's nest during this storm which had been washed out, and probably many others on the lower branches were destroyed. The land bordering one of these swamps northwest of Dennisville, which on May 18 seemed very dry, was also flooded for some distance, and many Black and White Warblers, a nest of which was found here on that date, were seen feeding among the trees, and no doubt not only their nests, but many others of the ground nesting species were destroyed.



## DESCRIPTION OF A NEW TOWHEE FROM CALIFORNIA.

BY JOSEPH GRINNELL.

### *Pipilo clementæ*, new species. SAN CLEMENTE TOWHEE.

*Specific characters.* — Differs from *P. maculatus megalonyx* in its larger size, and in having the dark upper and anterior parts in both sexes of a much lighter shade.

*Type*, ♂ ad., No. 2290, Coll. J. G., Smuggler's Cove, San Clemente Island, California, Mar. 31, 1897.

Head and neck all around sooty seal brown, purest and darkest on the throat. Upper parts, including wings and tail, sooty, 'washed' with olive-gray. Rump lighter. Upper tail-coverts finely barred with dusky. Distribution of white markings, and rest of plumage, as in ♂ *P. m. megalonyx*.

*Type*, ♀ ad., No. 2291, Coll. J. G., Smuggler's Cove, San Clemente Island, California, Mar. 31, 1897.

Much lighter than ♀ *P. m. megalonyx*. Head and neck all around, and upper parts, broccoli brown. Wings and tail darker. Rump gray. These colors are not pure and continuous, but the feathers have darker centres with light edgings. Plumage otherwise as in *P. m. megalonyx*.

*Habitat.*—San Clemente Island, California.

The male of *P. clementæ* thus closely resembles the female of *P. m. megalonyx* in the tone of the upper parts, and the female of the insular form is still lighter. From the accompanying table of measurements the difference in size, especially in the proportions of the bill, is evident.

During my six days' visit on San Clemente Island, from March 28 to April 3, the past spring, I did not see more than four others of these Towhees besides the six specimens secured. So that they can not by any means be numerous. However, my observations were confined to the south end of the island, so possibly they are more abundant toward the north end. They were shy, and usually remained closely hidden in the clumps of wild cherry bushes which lined the beds of the ravines. The reproductive organs of the single female taken, showed that oviposition had already taken place.

The notes of the San Clemente Towhee are quite unlike those of the mainland form. The (*tow*)-*hee* was more flimsy, and not so loud. The Catbird call-note which is so characteristic of *P. m. megalonyx*, appeared to be unknown to the island bird, as I did not once hear it.

I have seen no Towhees from the other Southern Californian islands, so that more material may relegate *Pipilo clementæ* to subspecific rank, but reasoning from analogy, I think not.

MEASUREMENTS IN INCHES OF A FEMALE *Pipilo clementæ* FROM SAN CLEMENTE ISLAND, CALIFORNIA.

| No. Coll. J. C. | Date.         | Length. | Wing. | Tail. | Tarsus. | Hind Claw. | Bill from Nostril. | Exposed Culmen. | Depth of Bill at Nostril. |
|-----------------|---------------|---------|-------|-------|---------|------------|--------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| 2291            | Mar. 31, '97. | 8.37    | 3.12  | 3.90  | 1.06    | .51        | .41                | .54.            | .34                       |

MEASUREMENTS IN INCHES OF FIVE MALES OF *Pipilo clemente* FROM  
SAN CLEMENTE ISLAND, CALIFORNIA.

| No. Coll. J. G. | Date.         | Length. | Wing. | Tail. | Tarsus. | Hind Claw. | Bill from Nostril. | Exposed Culmen. | Depth of Bill at Nostril. |
|-----------------|---------------|---------|-------|-------|---------|------------|--------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| 2266            | Mar. 30, '97. | 8.75    | 3.50  | 4.31  | 1.04    | .64        | .42                | .54             | .35                       |
| 2267            | Mar. 30, '97. | 8.75    | 3.37  | 4.26  | 1.11    | .51        | .41                | .53             | .32                       |
| 2290            | Mar. 31, '97. | 8.62    | 3.37  | 4.20  | 1.09    | .52        | .44                | .55             | .35                       |
| 2312            | April 1, '97. | 8.62    | 3.50  | 4.25  | 1.12    | .48        | .43                | (.56)           | —                         |
| 2319            | April 2, '97. | 8.50    | 3.56  | 4.30  | 1.09    | .53        | .42                | .57             | .33                       |
| Average         |               | 8.65    | 3.46  | 4.26  | 1.09    | .53        | .42                | .55             | .34                       |

MEASUREMENTS IN INCHES OF SIX MALES OF *Pipilo maculatus megalonyx*  
FROM PASADENA, CALIFORNIA.

| No. Coll. J. G. | Date.         | Length. | Wing. | Tail. | Tarsus. | Hind Claw. | Bill from Nostril. | Exposed Culmen. | Depth of Bill at Nostril. |
|-----------------|---------------|---------|-------|-------|---------|------------|--------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| 643             | Feb. 8, '96.  | 8.12    | 3.37  | 4.09  | 1.07    | .52        | .38                | .52             | .32                       |
| 660             | Feb. 22, '96. | 8.50    | 3.50  | 4.18  | 1.05    | .57        | .39                | .53             | .33                       |
| 665             | Feb. 26, '96. | 8.50    | 3.25  | 4.03  | 1.06    | .52        | .42                | .55             | .31                       |
| 728             | Mar. 19, '96. | 8.00    | 3.37  | 4.00  | 1.06    | .51        | .41                | .53             | .32                       |
| 2051            | Feb. 6, '97.  | 8.37    | 3.37  | 3.90  | 1.03    | .47        | .37                | .49             | .33                       |
| 2052            | Feb. 6, '97.  | 8.37    | 3.37  | 4.18  | 1.04    | .53        | .38                | .51             | .33                       |
| Average         |               | 8.31    | 3.37  | 4.06  | 1.05    | .52        | .39                | .52             | .32                       |