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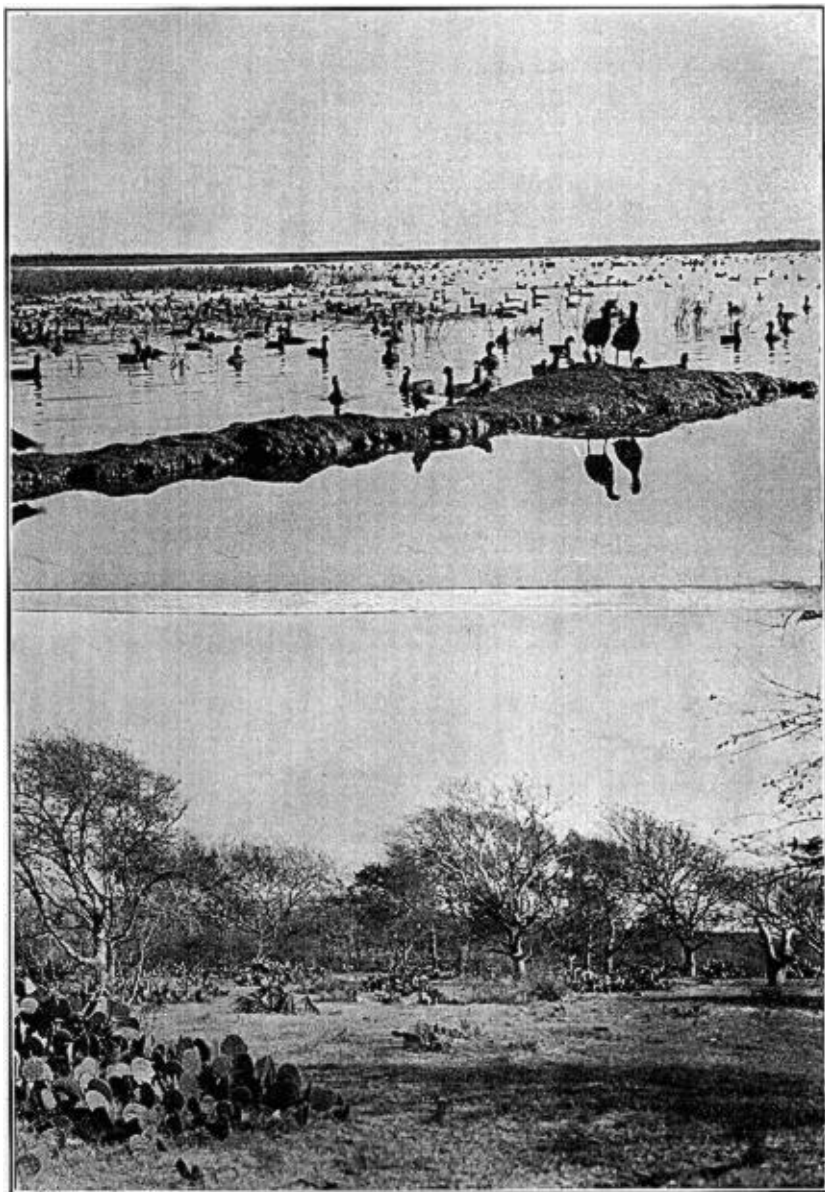
NOTES ON THE WINTER BIRDS OF CHENIER AU TIGRE, LOUISIANA.

BY ALFRED M. BAILEY.

Plates VIII-X

CHENIER AU TIGRE is, as the name indicates, an oak-grown ridge, situated on the gulf coast of Louisiana. It is an isolated spot, being fifty miles or more from a railroad, the traveller winding down the picturesque Bayou Vermillion by boat from Abbeville (on the Southern Pacific), or from Avery Island via the Salt Mine Bayou to Vermillion Bay, and then southward down miles of narrow channels through the marshland to the Gulf of Mexico. The Chenier is now easily accessible, for deep canals have been dug, and as a good summer camp has been established, it will probably become a popular resort.

The ridge proper is about five miles in length, and anywhere from a few acres to half a mile in width. Vegetation flourishes, and among the common trees are the majestic moss-hung oaks, which have been storm-whipped for generations, prickly ash, locust, ironwood, hackberry, chinaberry, red haw and mesquite (*Acacia*),—as well as almost impenetrable growths of palmetto, prickly pear and tough-limbed shrubs. Sandy beaches extend along the Gulf, with extensive mud flats at the western end, while open marshland is on all sides, except for the Gulf of Mexico to the south; it is a wonderful place for wild life, and at no time of the year is it without its hosts of birds. In the spring, the mi-



UPPER: COOTS NEAR CHENIER.

LOWER: TYPICAL VIEW ALONG THE SEA RIDGE, CHENIER AU TIGRE, LA.

grating hordes cross the Gulf from South and Central America, and rest a few days along the Chenier before continuing their northward journey, and again, in the fall, there are great numbers working along the ridge, gaining strength preparatory to their long flight across the water. The summer period is full of interest because of the nesting birds which are so abundant; while winter time, though there are fewer species than at any other season, is just as interesting because of the northern birds which crowd the marshland. Many thousand acres have been set aside in this region as permanent wild life sanctuaries,—the Rockefeller Foundation to the west, Marsh Island to the east, the Audubon (Paul Rainey), and the Ward-McIlhenny and State Wild Life Reservations to the northward. The Louisiana Land Co. has extensive holdings, and aside from the few members who shoot upon their land, no hunting is allowed. The marsh surrounding the Chenier is typical of the southern country, with great fields of cane along the higher ridges; tules and cattails growing in profusion, as well as marsh grasses which often provide excellent forage for cattle. Broad lagoons are the favorite haunts of different water birds, while many perching forms are found upon the grass-grown ridges.

I have made several trips to Chenier au Tigre at all seasons of the year, but up to this time I did not have an opportunity to make a careful study of the winter birds. I spent December 8 to 18, 1925, along the ridge in the interests of the Colorado Museum of Natural History, and was able to make rather complete notes on the forms wintering there. An unusual scarcity of Herons and other water birds was doubtlessly caused by the drouth which prevailed for nearly a year, with a consequent destruction of animal and plant life upon which the birds feed. Although I have observed many species on the Chenier on former trips, not seen at this time, I am limiting this article to species noted during the period stated above (with one exception). In case of doubt as to the identification of a bird, the specimen was collected, and whenever I have been in doubt as to the subspecies, I have so indicated. One or two Sparrows were observed with which I was unfamiliar, and in addition to these, many forms were undoubtedly overlooked. I am sure that any ornithologist could add a dozen species

to the list during the same period. The birds are constantly shifting from one area to another, in their search for food, and so, there may be a scarcity one day, while the birds will be very plentiful the next.

There is a small settlement on the Chenier, and the collector will find the people hospitable and willing to aid him in his work. Boats run from Abbeville on more or less regular schedule in summer, and I believe the Chenier will prove an easily accessible and an interesting place for other ornithologists to visit. As mentioned above, there is a small hotel where one is made very comfortable at a minimum charge.

I am indebted to Mr. Stanley C. Arthur who kindly arranged for the necessary collecting permits, to Mr. E. A. McIlhenny for permission to collect upon his land and that of the Louisiana Land Co., and for many other courtesies, and to Mr. and Mrs. Sagrera for their help upon the Chenier. To Mr. J. D. Figgins, Director of the Colorado Museum of Natural History, I am indebted for the opportunity to again work upon the Chenier.

Podilymbus podiceps. PIED-BILLED GREBE.—These little Grebes were never common around the Chenier. One was seen in the upper canal December 10.

Larus argentatus. HERRING GULL.—Water birds were scarce, and only half a dozen individuals of this species were noted, straggling along the beach. There were a great many Gulls offshore December 14, when a "norther" exposed the mud flats, but they were too far away to identify. This species is fairly common in the spring.

Larus delawarensis. RING-BILLED GULL.—Fairly common along the beach. On December 12 while riding west along the ridges, we saw fully two hundred birds cruising against the wind.

Larus atricilla. LAUGHING GULL.—Usually abundant along the Chenier, but I saw less than twenty-five individuals. They worked the beaches singly, or a few at a time.

Sterna maxima. ROYAL TERN.—A few were seen over the marsh, a couple of miles north of the Chenier, and others noted daily over the extensive mud flats. They were not common. I thought I recognized *Sterna caspia* also, but the birds were not near enough for positive identification. Both forms are common in the spring.

Sterna forsteri. FORSTER'S TERN.—This little Tern, usually abundant in the vicinity, was very scarce. A few were seen over East Chenier Lakes on December 8, and again on December 15. An occasional bird was seen over the Gulf.

Phalacrocorax auritus auritus. DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT.—Usually a very common winter bird. I saw a few individuals daily, as they cruised by, far offshore.

Pelecanus erythrorhynchos. WHITE PELICAN.—A few were noted daily over the marsh, where they fed on small fish, or in passage over the Gulf. Large flocks were often seen in the evening, skirting the beach, as they flew from the westward. They are beautiful in flight, and were it not for the Pelicans, white and brown, the beaches would be lonesome places, for these birds return to their roosting bars long after the others have settled for the night.

Pelecanus occidentalis. BROWN PELICAN.—This is a common bird along the Gulf coast, and from a dozen to one hundred could be seen daily near the Chenier.

Lophodytes cucullatus. HOODED MERGANSER.—These little fellows are usually met in some small bayou, near large bays. I saw but one bird—in the east canal December 8.

Anas platyrhynchos. MALLARD.—Mallards were very common, and were seen daily in the marsh surrounding the Chenier. While they were often in flocks, they were usually in pairs, and would be jumped from their feeding grounds when I walked the marsh.

Anas fulvigula maculosa. MOTTLED DUCK.—“Southern Mallards” were common, especially near West Chenier Lakes. As with the above species, these birds were mated, and although several were often seen together, the flock would usually split and the paired birds would go their own way. They are expert divers, and crippled birds are almost sure to escape in the grass. They nest commonly near the Chenier in late May.

Chaulelasmus streperus. GADWALL.—Very common. This bird was noted daily in the marsh, usually in large flocks.

Mareca americana. BALDPATE.—Widgeons are usually not uncommon, but I saw very few on this trip. Possibly a dozen birds were seen Dec. 8, and a few more the 15th.

Nettion carolinense. GREEN-WINGED TEAL.—

Querquedula discors. BLUE-WINGED TEAL.—Both species of Teal were common in the marsh, and often times both were found in the same flock. In the spring, they assemble in great bands.

Spatula clypeata. SHOVELLER.—Very common. This species was noted daily.

Dafila acuta tzitzihoa. PINTAIL.—Common. They were often observed in large flocks.

Aix sponsa. WOOD DUCK.—This form does not commonly range near the Chenier, as it prefers the ponds near the cypress swamps. I saw a female killed by a boy in the canal back of the oak ridge. He did not know what he had killed. It is the only one I have ever seen in that locality.

Marila americana. REDHEAD.—Uncommon. I saw a few specimens



UPPER: BEACH VIEW ON THE CHENIER.

LOWER: PENINSULA OF LIVE OAKS, WITH MARSH IN THE DISTANCE.

killed by the hunters at the Club, but did not see any in life. They are often seen on Belle Isle Lake, a few miles farther north.

Marila valisineria. CANVAS-BACK.—They are fairly abundant, especially on the West Chenier Lakes, where they secure food to their liking. They are often seen in flight, and a few are taken by the hunters from the Club.

Marila affinis. LESSER SCAUP DUCK.—These little Ducks were very common on the larger marsh ponds. They sometimes occur in enormous flocks.

Chen hyperboreus hyperboreus. SNOW GEESE.—These Geese are not common on the Chenier, their range being farther to the westward along the Sabine river. A few birds occurred with the Blue Geese, possibly one in one hundred birds. I took two specimens, one an adult male, the other a bird-of-the-year. On December 18 as I was leaving the Chenier, I saw a flock of twenty or more, without the usual convoy of Blue Geese.

Chen caerulescens. BLUE GOOSE.—This is an extremely common species. I believe the bulk of all the Blue Geese winter in that section, working from Marsh Island along the shores of Vermillion Bay and westward to the Rockefeller Foundation. The birds have two favorite haunts, the "pasture," a grass grown prairie just west of Chenier au Tigre, and a great marshy area on the Audubon preserve. They usually work between these two points, and one can almost be certain of a morning and evening flight of Geese, to and from these places; if they spend the night on the ponds of the pasture, they are almost sure to take wing about eight in the morning for the Audubon preserve, where they feed upon grass roots. The big flocks literally tear up the prairie, and often spoil acres of pasturage. It is a wonderful sight to see the Blue Geese in flight. The morning of December 9, I rode out into the pasture in the hope of collecting a few birds. It was very early as we splashed across the wet prairie, and listened for the call of Geese. Nothing was heard but the resonant quack of Mallards. Then far to the northeast we heard the first quavering notes, and then as time passed, the calls became more distinct—a perfect bedlam of Goose clamor. They were flying in regular V formation, flock after flock trailing one another at intervals of one hundred yards or more. When the vanguard reached their favorite pond, there was a different note, one of anxiety apparently, and the birds circled, still high in the heavens. Other birds joined the circling flock as they gradually lowered, making a great funnel-shaped mass as they slowly descended. It may have been my imagination, but I thought that although the different V's were soon as one, that the big flock was made up of hundreds of family groups. It seemed that instead of a great band of hundreds of individuals, that it was composed of hundreds of groups, each little unit, three, four, five, as the case may be, being distinct. As the first birds alighted in safety, the others poured from the sky, faster and faster until all had settled—a field of snowy heads showing above the marsh grass. The flock was composed of both adult and young

birds. Such a band, consisting of several thousand individuals, can be heard for miles when the wind is favorable.

The Blue Geese begin to appear at the Chenier in late October, and most of them have arrived by the middle of November. They remain in the same general vicinity the entire winter, beginning to leave in April for the far north. I have seen a good many birds on the Chenier as late as May 15.

The future of the Blue Goose looks bright, for no hunting is allowed on the different reservations, and a warden lives on the Chenier to keep poachers from the pasture. In passing from their evening resting place to their feeding grounds, the birds fly so high that few are killed.

Blue Geese are fairly common at the mouth of the Mississippi river and along the Gulf to the eastward, but as I have said, the country from Marsh Island westward seems to be their chief wintering ground.

Anser albifrons gambeli. WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE.—I saw one little band of eight December 16, over West Chenier Lakes. They are uncommon near the Chenier, their main range being to the westward. They are often abundant in Cameron Parish.

Dendrocygna bicolor. FULVOUS TREE-DUCK.—These interesting birds proved to be abundant in the marsh, and a good series was collected. There were a few about the Chenier during the spring of 1918, but I never found them in winter before.

The "Mexican squealer," as he is locally known, gets his name from the peculiar whistling note which he makes in flight, or while at rest. They are very conspicuous on the wing, moving slowly, in mass formation, with legs visible behind the tail, and head and neck outstretched—looking almost like Glossy Ibises. They appear black when upon the wing, and anyone at all familiar with the species could not fail to recognize them. I had been told that several thousand birds had been staying in the vicinity of the Chenier all fall, and there were at least five hundred at the time of my visit. They were rather tame, and easily bagged by gunners, although the crippled birds are adepts at diving. In the distance, a large flock of these ducks looks not unlike an immense swarm of Boat-tailed Grackles.

Plegadis guarauna. WHITE-FACED GLOSSY IBIS.—This species is usually abundant during the winter months, but the marshmen told me the birds had been unusually scarce, doubtlessly due to the lack of crayfish in the marsh. I saw but two birds, in flight back of the Chenier, December 12.

Ardea herodias subspecies. GREAT BLUE HERON.—Very common. I did not collect specimens, but it is probable that both the Great Blue and Ward's Herons were present.

Casmerodius egretta. EGRET.—The large Egrets were fairly common, and a dozen or more could be seen from the canal at any time. They winter along the ridges, often alighting in the trees. Many years ago, these birds were extremely abundant and were used as bait for the traps—a practice which has long since been discontinued.

Egretta candidissima candidissima. SNOWY EGRET.—These beautiful little Herons are familiar features of the "marshscape," and I know nothing more striking than a flock fishing in some shallow, tule-bordered lagoon. They are to be found near the Chenier the year around, and usually are more abundant than I found them this year. I do not know of any nesting colony near the ridge, and have never found them nesting in cane as they do in the salt marshes of Utah. These birds were remarkably tame, and are never molested.

Florida caerulea. LITTLE BLUE HERON.—There were very few of these Herons about, the only ones noted being along a little tidal stream, on the flat near the west end of the Chenier. Half a dozen birds hung about this place, and were noted daily. They were very tame and would allow us to ride close to them.

Nycticorax nycticorax naevius. BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON.—Common. Although the only birds positively identified were of this species, I have no doubt the Yellow-crowned Night Heron was also seen. Several flocks of twenty or more birds were jumped at different times. There is a short period just before dark when these "gros-becs" may be seen commonly in flight.

Grus americana. WHOOPING CRANE.—This species was not observed, and is included in the list because of the great interest taken in its welfare. The Chenier country was formerly a favorite wintering ground, and I saw several birds during the winter of 1916 and 1917. Adam Broussard, the warden on the Chenier was told that three Cranes were wintering six miles west of the ridge.

Rallus elegans. KING RAIL.—This is usually a common bird but the only specimen I saw was one caught by a boy in a muskrat trap.

Rallus crepitans saturatus. LOUISIANA CLAPPER RAIL.—Usually common. I flushed several birds in the pasture, but owing to their secretive habits, they are difficult to find without the use of a dog.

Porzana carolina. SORA.—This is the common form in winter. The trappers often catch them in their traps, and they are often jumped when one walks the marsh. They seem to take to wing more readily than the above species.

Gallinula galeata. FLORIDA GALLINULE.—I believe the bulk of this species moves south of our boundary during the winter months. A pair fed along the little stream in front of the Chenier, where they were seen almost daily. Gallinules run like Rails, and so, though they may be common, they are rarely seen.

Fulica americana. COOT.—An extremely common bird near the Chenier. Thousands were on the Club property where they lived in ease on the grain placed for Ducks. They herd together in large flocks, and as they are rarely molested, they have become very tame. The French people have an appropriate name for this bird, "poule d'eau,"—the water chicken.

Gallinago delicata. WILSON'S SNIPE.—Not particularly abundant near the Chenier. A few could be seen daily, in favorable places; on the Club grounds, however, two miles north, they were very numerous.

Pelidna alpina sakhalina. RED-BACKED SANDPIPER.—Usually very common during the winter and spring months, but very few were seen this trip. A small flock hung about the mud flat in front of the ridge, and could be seen at any time. In former years, I found them in great numbers along certain ponds in the marsh.

Limnodromus griseus scolopaceus. LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER.—A few were seen on the mud flats in the pasture. Usually an abundant winter bird. They are very tame, and often assemble in large flocks.

Ereunetes mauri. WESTERN SANDPIPER.—Several flocks of small sandpipers were seen daily on the mud flats and specimens collected were all of this species. It is possible that the Least and Semipalmated Sandpipers were present, but none were taken.

Squatarola squatarola. BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER.—A dozen or more of this species worked the beach and mud flats, remaining in the same vicinity. They were very tame.

Oxyechus vociferus. KILLDEER.—Very common, especially in the marshy area on the ridge. Their familiar call was the first to be heard in the morning, and the last in the evening.

Arenaria interpres morinella. RUDDY TURNSTONE.—A few stragglers worked the beach daily, usually one or two birds being seen at a time.

Zenaidura macroura carolinensis. MOURNING DOVE.—They are very common on the Chenier during the early winter months, but very few were seen during my visit. They were noted in small numbers in the fields. This is an abundant species along the southern coast, and as it is classed as a game bird, great numbers are killed.

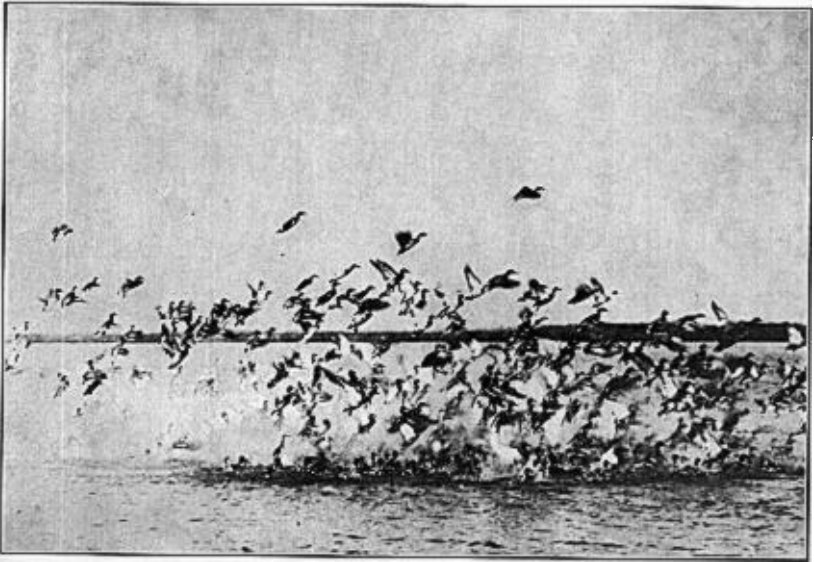
Cathartes aura septentrionalis. TURKEY VULTURE.—An occasional bird was noted in the flocks of Black Vultures. They are not common.

Coragyps urubu. BLACK VULTURE.—A common bird on the Chenier. As they often work over the marshes and destroy the fur bearing animals caught in traps, they are extremely unpopular; the people on the Chenier made a practice of shooting the Vultures at their evening roost, and have discouraged the birds to some extent.

Circus hudsonius. MARSH HAWK.—Common. This bird is also unpopular, due to its habit of catching crippled Ducks, or stealing birds dropped by gunners. They may be seen sailing over the marsh at all hours of the day.

Buteo borealis borealis. RED-TAILED HAWK.—A fairly common species. Their familiar cry was heard commonly, and several could be seen daily.

Buteo lineatus lineatus. RED-SHOULDERED HAWK.—Only two birds were seen on the Chenier. This is a very common Hawk along the wooded bayous just to the northward.



Photos by E. A. McIlhenny.

UPPER: MALLARDS AND PINTAILS IN THE AIR, NEAR CHENIER, LA.
LOWER: MALLARDS RISING FROM THE WATER, NEAR CHENIER, LA.

Haliaeetus leucocephalus leucocephalus. BALD EAGLE.—A brown-headed bird was seen over the marsh December 14. The Bald Eagles nest in favorable places in the cypress swamps to the northward, and make long excursions over the marsh country, where they catch many crippled Ducks. Mr. Sagera caught an adult in a trap a few days previous to my visit.

Falco peregrinus anatum. DUCK HAWK.—One can not help but admire the dexterity with which these fellows secure their victims. Fortunately they are not common. A pair worked the vicinity of the Chenier, and were seen on a few occasions.

Falco columbarius columbarius. PIGEON HAWK.—A few were seen over the marsh and I collected one on the Chenier. It had been feeding on Myrtle Warblers.

Tyto pratincola. BARN OWL.—These Owls are found among the oaks at all times of the year. I have seen them on numerous occasions in the past, but observed only one this trip. It was being mobbed by half a dozen Fish Crows.

Otus asio subspecies. SCREECH OWL.—Not common. They were heard on a few occasions, and one was seen after dusk, but not collected. I am uncertain as to the subspecies, but it would probably prove to be *floridanus*, as I have taken this form on Avery Island, the first high land to the northward.

Bubo virginianus virginianus. GREAT HORNED OWL.—One was flushed from a ridge west of the Chenier, and instead of following through the thick cover, it cut across a mile of open prairie land to the Chenier proper. It flew low, and very rapidly. These birds are rare on the Chenier.

Speotyto cunicularia hypogaea. BURROWING OWL.—A rather uncommon bird on the Chenier. Mr. Arthur in 'The Birds of Louisiana' suggests the possibility of the Louisiana form proving to be *floridana*, but the specimen I secured was typical *hypogaea*. It was living in a hole among the roots of a great live-oak. One bird was seen at its burrow on a canal bank, where a dredge had formed a big mound.

Ceryle alcyon alcyon. BELTED KINGFISHER.—Not common. A few birds worked the canals and could be seen daily.

Sphyrapicus varius varius. YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER.—This is a common species.

Colaptes auratus auratus. FLICKER.—Very common. As they have the unfortunate habit of drilling holes through the houses, they are heartily disliked by the people of the Chenier.

Sayornis phoebe. PHOEBE.—Common. They are found on all parts of the ridge.

Cyanocitta cristata cristata. BLUE JAY.—Common. These birds are disliked, as they harvest the greater part of the pecan crop.

Corvus ossifragus. FISH CROW.—Not more than a dozen birds were found, six being seen at one time, as they tormented a Barn Owl. (Mr.

Sagrera tells me the large Crow is common in the summer and fall, and I saw a great many on Avery Island in December.)

Agelaius phoeniceus phoeniceus. RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD.—These birds were very abundant, in large flocks, according to their sexes. The flocks of males seemed to be the most numerous. I made no attempt to collect a series to determine the forms present; those taken, however, proved to be this subspecies.

Sturnella magna argutula. SOUTHERN MEADOWLARK.—Common upon the ridges west of the Chenier. They were in full song, and were especially active early in the morning. I did not determine whether other forms were present or not.

Megaquiscalus major major. BOAT-TAILED GRACKLE.—A very common bird. As with the Red-wings, these fellows gathered in large flocks according to their sexes. When great flocks began to assemble in a moist area near the house, the people assured me we were due for a "norther." The storm arrived on schedule, but I am unable to say whether the weather had been forecast by the flocking Grackles.

Passerculus sandwichensis savanna. SAVANNAH SPARROW.—This form was very common, being found on the ridge proper, in the fields, and even in the marsh.

Passerculus sandwichensis subspecies.—Among the Savannah Sparrows of the coast region of Louisiana is a very dark form which is apparently undescribed. I took but one specimen on the trip, although many others were seen; and, we have two others from the same general region. These specimens were submitted to Mr. Outram Bangs, and he wrote me as follows:—

"*Passerculus sandwichensis* subspecies. Three very dark birds from Louisiana, with very blackish upper parts, deep chestnut edges to wing feathers, much black on the head and intense black stripes below. These are so different from eastern specimens of *savanna* that I feel pretty sure that they represent an undescribed form. Where does this form breed is the question. I wonder if it can be resident and breeding in the marshes of Louisiana. They are too large to be stray migrants of the Californian *bryanti*, and are also still darker, or rather, blacker than that form. There is a rather dark Savannah Sparrow that breeds in Wisconsin and Michigan and migrates to Arkansas, Texas (sometimes) and Tarpon Springs, Florida (though most of the specimens from there are the eastern bird). This form, which is rather ill defined, is, however, much less blackish than your birds. We have four skins from Louisiana, one taken at Rigolets as late as April 4. These are much nearer to yours than they are to eastern specimens of *savanna*, and are the darkest of our several hundred Savannah Sparrows."

I hope to have an opportunity to secure a good series of these birds in the near future, and if not, I trust that this brief notice will cause some other worker to study them. While these birds were fairly common, they

seemed to prefer the heavy cover of the salt marsh, near the beach, and were extremely difficult to secure.

Melospiza georgiana. SWAMP SPARROW.—This species seemed to prefer the fields bordering the oak woods, where they were common.

Cardinalis cardinalis cardinalis. CARDINAL.—These beautiful birds were very common upon the ridges, and they were sometimes seen in small flocks.

Iridoprocne bicolor. TREE SWALLOW.—Very common over the marsh, where thousands were in sight at once.

Bombycilla cedrorum. CEDAR WAXWING.—A few small flocks were seen.

Lanius ludovicianus migrans. MIGRANT SHRIKE.—Shrikes were fairly common, and the two specimens collected proved to be this form.

Lanivereo solitarius solitarius. BLUE-HEADED VIREO.—One specimen was seen and collected.

Dendroica coronata. MYRTLE WARBLER.—A common bird along the fields and ridges. They worked in small flocks of twenty or more individuals.

Dendroica palmarum palmarum. PALM WARBLER.—Only a few were seen, not more than a dozen all told.

Mimus polyglottos polyglottos. MOCKINGBIRD.—Very common. They are residents of the Chenier, being as abundant at one time of the year as another.

Dumetella carolinensis. CATBIRD.—Only two birds were seen.

Toxostoma rufum. BROWN THRASHER.—This species was fairly common, and several could be seen on an hour's walk. They seemed shy, and remained in heavy cover.

Thryothorus ludovicianus ludovicianus. CAROLINA WREN.—These little fellows were fairly well distributed along the Chenier. They were in full song.

Troglodytes aedon aedon. HOUSE WREN.—Very few were seen, all those noted being away from the buildings.

Cistothorus stellaris. SHORT-BILLED MARSH WREN.—Only one specimen was positively identified, and that was one taken on the ridge west of the Chenier. The cover is so heavy it would take a whole winter to work the vicinity satisfactorily, to determine the winter status of a species.

Regulus satrapa satrapa. GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET.—Very common being found in flocks on all parts of the Chenier.

Regulus calendula calendula. RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET.—A good many of this species were noted but they were not so numerous as the Golden-crowned Kinglets.

Polioptila caerulea caerulea. BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER.—A few were noted daily in the oak woods.

Planesticus migratorius subspecies. Robins were very common, but as none were collected, the subspecies was not determined. It is quite

probable that both *migratorius* and *achrusterus* were represented as both forms are known to winter in Louisiana.

Sialia sialis sialis. BLUEBIRD.—These beautiful little fellows were common in the open woods bordering the cultivated fields. They were catching insects on the wing, looking in general appearance very much like Flycatchers.

*Chicago Academy of Sciences,
Chicago, Illinois.*