

A PARTIAL LIST OF BIRDS OBSERVED IN HAITI  
AND THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

BY R. M. BOND.

THE birds here listed are some of those noted on a limnological expedition to the island, lasting from February 5 to March 15, 1933. As will be observed, the greater part of the birds mentioned are aquatic, since they were of especial interest to me. I wish to take this opportunity to thank Mr. James Bond, of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, for going over this manuscript, and deleting the notes which were of no particular interest, and also those based on possibly faulty identifications. The order in which the list is arranged, and the scientific names are taken from 'Birds of Haiti and the Dominican Republic' by Wetmore and Swales (Bull. U. S. Nat. Mus. No. 152, 1931).

**Colymbus dominicus dominicus** Linnaeus. WEST INDIAN GREBE.—Haiti: Trou Caïman, February 15–17, several. Étang Saumâtre, February 18–28, six were to be seen at almost any time near Fond Parisien. Others were seen elsewhere on the lake. A female shot near Fond Parisien (February 21) was found to have the stomach filled with a green mass consisting mostly of its own feathers, but filamentous green algae, *Chara*, and the remains of several fish (apparently *Limia* sp.) were also present. The ovaries were undeveloped.

Dominican Republic: Laguna Rincón, March 5–9, two or three seen from the road. Lago Limón, March 8, two or three seen in the open water.

**Podilymbus podiceps antillarum** Bangs. ANTILLEAN GREBE.—Haiti: Oxbow of the Artibonite River, a few miles from the mouth of the river, February 14, half a dozen or more, diving, and apparently feeding. They were quite tame. Étang Saumâtre, February 18–28, seen in nearly every part of the lake, usually solitary, or in pairs.

Dominican Republic: Lago Enriquillo, March 5–8, a few seen, always solitary, often far from shore.

**Casmerodius albus egretta** (Gmelin). AMERICAN EGRET.—Haiti: Étang Saumâtre, February 24, not rare along shore near Glore and to the eastward. About 25 nests, most of them occupied, in trees on a small rocky island close to the north shore, about three miles east of Glore.

Dominican Republic: Lago Enriquillo, March 5–8, 10 or 12 visible at almost any time along shore about five miles west of Las Baitoas.

**Egretta thula thula** (Molina). SNOWY EGRET.—Haiti: Étang Saumâtre, February 24–25, a few pair nesting among the Egrets on the small

island near the north shore, and a few more pair nesting on a low island on the west side of the promontory which juts out from the south shore of the lake.

Dominican Republic: Lago Enriquillo, March 5-8, the most conspicuous bird about the lake. Flocks of three to fifty perched on dead trees standing in the water near shore, or flying over the lake. They were never observed to feed as the Egrets were feeding (standing in the shallow water), but only on the wing. When looking for fish, they fly slowly against the wind, with the neck almost completely extended. They usually fly from five to about thirty feet above the water, occasionally descending to within a few inches of the surface, and hovering awkwardly, while they thrust the head under water. (This method of feeding was not observed on the Étang Saumâtre.) I was told at Jimaní that they nest on the peninsula (formerly island) de Cabritos.

**Florida caerulea caerulescens** (Latham). WEST INDIAN BLUE HERON.—Haiti: Étang Saumâtre, February 18-28, along shore near Fond Parisien. A nest was in the process of building (first noticed February 22) in a white mangrove (*Conocarpus erecta* L.) and whenever it was approached, one or both birds would perch near me and scold. In a tree a hundred yards or more from the lake, near a spring much used by the natives for washing clothes, two young were seen. They were well grown (February 25). They were scared, but at the same time curious, and climbed about from branch to branch, coming closer when I was still, and retreating when I moved. A parent stood on a fence post thirty yards away, and scolded vigorously.

**Phoenicopterus ruber** Linnaeus. FLAMINGO.—Dominican Republic: Lago Enriquillo, I saw a flock of about 300 from an airplane, in July, 1931. They were flying west, and were about over the middle of the lake. Local reports said Flamingos were breeding at the southern end of Laguna Trujín, and that twenty or thirty appeared every three or four days to feed either at the west end of Lago Enriquillo or the east end of the Étang Saumâtre. I saw none myself during this last visit.

**Dendrocygna arborea** (Linnaeus). WEST INDIAN TREE DUCK.—Haiti: Trou Caïman, February 15-17, considerable numbers seen on the water and flying. Étang Saumâtre, February 18-28, several flocks seen flying over. Half a dozen were on the water near the south shore, close to where the Snowy Herons were nesting.

Dominican Republic: Laguna Rincón, March 5-9, a few were seen flying, apparently having just been frightened from the water by the noise of the car. Lago Limón, March 8, eight were flushed near shore. They were much tamer here than those seen elsewhere.

**Dafila bahamensis bahamensis** (Linnaeus). BAHAMA PINTAIL.—Haiti: Étang Bois Neuf, February 12-15, a flock of about thirty. They were rather timid, and by flying and swimming kept as far away as possible from my boat. As this pond seems to contain no animal life but some very small copepods and a great many corixids, it seems likely that the ducks were feeding on the latter.

Dominican Republic: Lago Enriquillo, March 7, four or five at the west end of the lake, in a flock of twenty to thirty Lesser Scaups.

**Pandion haliaëtus carolinensis** (Gmelin). OSPREY.—Haiti: Étang Saumâtre, February 24, one flew low over my boat when I was in the central, narrow part of the lake. It hovered a moment, but did not dive. It was quite close enough to see the dark streak on the side of the head which differentiates it from *ridgwayi*.

**Falco columbarius columbarius** Linnaeus. PIGEON HAWK.—Dominican Republic: Lago Enriquillo, March 5, one was seen on the south shore, apparently much interested in some Yellow-legs. It did not succeed in catching one while I was watching.

**Charadrius nivosus tenuirostris** (Lawrence). CUBAN SNOWY PLOVER.—Dominican Republic: Lago Enriquillo, March 7, not at all rare on the salinas along the south shore of the lake, especially near the west end. They occurred singly or in very small groups, and none that was approached acted wounded, or particularly disturbed, so it was assumed that nesting was not in progress.

**Totanus flavipes** (Gmelin). LESSER YELLOW-LEGS.—Dominican Republic: Lago Enriquillo, March 5-8, Yellow-legs were seen all along the south shore of the lake in fair abundance. Two were collected about noon, March 8. The gut of one was entirely empty, and the gut of the other contained no identifiable remains except those of fish. As I took no crustacea (except minute copepods) and no insects in the lake, it seems possible that the *Totani* in that locality are all fish eaters. Several small flocks of this or the Greater Yellow-legs were seen flying over the Étang Saumâtre near Fond Parisien.

**Larus atricilla** Linnaeus. LAUGHING GULL.—Dominican Republic: Lago Enriquillo, March 5-7, seen flying over the lake singly or in twos about an hour or two before sunset.

**Aratinga chloroptera chloroptera** (Souancé). HISPANIOLAN PAROQUET.—Haiti: Fond Parisien, February 18-28, a pair of these birds was observed climbing in and out of a woodpecker hole in a fan-palm trunk about thirty feet above the ground. There was a considerable flock in the locality which made rapid and very noisy flights at such short intervals that they could be approached only with difficulty, though they were quite tame. The whole flock fed from time to time in a large *Ficus* growing in the middle of town. Flocks were observed in nearly every part of the island visited, but no nesting birds were observed elsewhere.

**Tyto glaucops** (Kaup). HISPANIOLAN BARN OWL.—Dominican Republic: Between Azua and Barahona, March 4. I left camp about half way between San Juan and Azua at about 3:00 A. M. and arrived in Barahona at 8:00. Just before, during, and after daybreak, half a dozen or more Barn Owls were scared up from beside the road.

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