

Swarth 'Distributional List of the Birds of British Columbia' so that the specific mention of the bird in any early book dealing with travel in British Columbia, is worth placing on record. In the work entitled "The North-west Passage by Land—Being a narrative of an Expedition from the Atlantic to the Pacific—Undertaken with the view of exploring a route across the continent to British Columbia through British Territory by one of the Northern passes in the Rocky Mountains—By Viscount Milton, M. P. F. R. G. S. F. G. S. etc and W. B. Cheadle M. A. M. D. Canrab F. R. G. S." at p. 203 of the Seventh Edition appears mention of Pigeons: "Pigeons, wood partridges and pine partridges became very plentiful and we shot them at first in great numbers." The paragraph goes on to describe the different birds and finishes "The pigeon is the beautiful long tailed passenger pigeon so common in the American woods; we found this bird as far west as the sources of the North Thompson."

The first part of the paragraph quoted, from the context had more particular reference to conditions in Western Alberta but the source of the North Thompson is well in British Columbia.

The expedition reached British Columbia in the summer of 1863 crossing the Rocky Mountains by the Yellowhead Pass, present route of the Canadian National Railway.—THEED PEARSE, *Courtenay, B. C.*

**Additional Records of *Neomorphus radiolosus*.**—Recent collections of South American birds acquired by Field Museum through the generosity of Mr. Leslie Wheeler include a pair of Ecuadorian Banded Ground Cuckoos (*Neomorphus radiolosus*). Chapman records but two known specimens of this distinctive species other than the type; one being in the Royal Natural History Museum of Stockholm, the second lately in the Tring Museum. In view of the extreme rarity of this form in collections it is considered advisable to place pertinent facts on record.

The specimens at hand, F. M. No. 100727 ♂ and F. M. No. 100728 ♀, were collected by Carlos Olalla, August 21, 1935, at Montes del Achotal (possibly Arkotal), a locality on the Esmeraldas-Quito road fifteen kilometers south of the woods of Paramba, in the department of Pichincha.

Measurements of the Field Museum specimens approximate those of the type, being: wing, ♂ 162 mm.; ♀ 165 mm.; tail, ♂ 230 mm.; ♀ 240 mm.; culmen, ♂ 50 mm.; ♀ 48 mm.; tarsus, ♂ 70 mm.; ♀ 67 mm. Both birds are in adult or semi-adult plumage, but differ from published descriptions in several minor respects. No olive is apparent either on the abdomen or under tail coverts, nor is the former entirely without buffy bars. Particularly noteworthy is the narrow, though definite and unbroken black band, lacking in the male, which crosses the fore-breast of the female.—EMMET R. BLAKE, *Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, Illinois.*

**Saw-whet Owl Apparently Nesting in Wisconsin.**—In view of the fact that the Saw-whet Owl (*Cryptoglaux acadica acadica*) is regarded as a very rare breeder in Wisconsin, the following observations are of interest.

I have rented a piece of land some 200 acres in Waukesha County. On it is a lake, probably fifteen acres in area. The land surrounding the lake is well wooded. On the second of June I was skirting the shore a little after sunset. Suddenly a small Owl, no bigger than a Robin, darted at me just missing my head. It repeated this several times, snapping its bill as it came. The only other sound it made was a single, plaintive note, something like the whine of a puppy. The bird was a light buffy brown, streaked with darker brown. I noted very carefully that it had no ear-tufts. It followed me for almost a quarter of a mile, continually darting at my head and snapping its bill.

The next night I returned with a flashlight. The Owl repeated its former maneuvers, only this time it was joined by its mate. I had no difficulty catching it in the flash-light beam, and had an excellent opportunity to note at close range its markings.

I should have collected it as a specimen for a permanent state record, but I was more interested to note whether or not the bird was a breeder. I returned the next morning, but could find no trace of a nest. So far I still have been unsuccessful, but every night the occurrence takes place. So there must be a nest or young in the vicinity.—WALTER J. MUELLER, *Ashbourne Farm, Hartland, Wis.*

**A New Screech Owl from Colombia.**—When studying bird specimens of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, it was noted that two specimens of Screech Owls represented a form not previously described. Therefore they are here characterized as a new race.

***Otus vermiculatus huberi* subsp. nov.**

*Type.*—Adult unsexed, Academy of Natural Sciences, No. 2440, Bogota, Colombia, Rivoli Collection.

*Subspecific characters.*—Similar to *Otus vermiculatus napensis* but ground color of crown and back deep buffy beneath surface and rust red on surface instead of a tawny or hazel brown color; ear-tufts apparently lacking; ground color of under parts buffy instead of whitish; each feather of sides and abdomen with two to three faint bars instead of four or more sharply distinct bars; tail longer, 90 mm. or more instead of 80 mm. or less.

*Measurements of type.*—Total length, 220; wing, 172; tail, 91; culmen, from cere, 13.5 mm.

*Range.*—Bogota, Colombia.

*Remarks.*—Eleven specimens of *Otus vermiculatus* have been examined. The above described form differs from all these in the six characters mentioned above. The second of the two specimens of the new form represents the rufescent phase, the ground color of the upper parts and face being bright cinnamon-rufous. This form is named for Mr. Wharton Huber of the Academy of Natural Sciences.—LEON KELSO, AND ESTELLE H. KELSO, *Washington, D. C.*

**Olive-sided Flycatcher in Virginia.**—On May 5, 1936, three of these birds were seen on Indian Creek in Wise Co., Va., at an elevation of 1700 ft. I observed them at 6:10 P.M. flying out from the tops of a few scattering dead trees on a cut-over hillside. When I first saw them I was too far off to identify them but knew that they were birds I had never seen before. When I got close to them I was agreeably surprised to find out what they were. For the next hour I watched them until the approaching darkness caused them to go to their roosting place. Two of the birds were paired and on the numerous occasions when the other bird would try to join them, it was chased by both of the paired birds. Early the next morning I went back to the same place and soon after I arrived there I saw the pair of birds chasing the other around a point on the hillside and this was the last I saw of them.—F. M. JONES, *Wise, Va.*

**Arkansas Kingbird at Cape May Point, N. J.**—Two Arkansas Kingbirds (*Tyrannus verticalis*) accompanied a flock of about fifty common Kingbirds (*Tyrannus tyrannus*) at Cape May Point, N. J., on September 1, 1936. These two birds were observed at the Witmer Stone Wildlife Sanctuary on the morning of that date. They were unsuspecting and allowed close approach at two different times. They moved