

It might naturally be thought that our bird would be *C. massaica* of Fischer and Reichenow, which comes from the base of Kilimanjaro, but this species is said to be nearly related to *C. natalensis*; it is also considerably larger than *C. similis*, and has the top of the head dark brown.

The single male collected by Dr. Abbott is not quite adult, and a female has therefore been chosen for the type.

10. **Melanobucco abbotti**, new species.

Type. — No. 117957, U. S. N. M.; female, adult, Plains of Taveita, July 22, 1888.

Entire head, nape, sides of neck, throat, breast, upper portion of abdomen, under tail-coverts, rump, upper tail-coverts, and entire tail (even concealed portion of base) white, with a faint sulphur yellow tinge on the rump, breast and upper abdomen; sides of breast, sides of body, lower abdomen, and flanks, brownish black, most of the feathers with whitish tips or triangular shaft spots of the same color. Scapulars brownish black, with whitish triangular shaft streaks; back and wings brownish black, the feathers of the former and of the wing-coverts and tertiaries faintly tipped with whitish or pale brown; thighs white, with a slight admixture of brown; under wing-coverts dark brown, with a slight mottling of white; axillaries dark brown; under surface of wings dusky brown, the inner webs of the wing feathers (except first primary) with basal half or more edged with white. Wing, 3.90 inches; tail, 2.26; tarsus, .98; culmen, 1.02.

This bird is closely related to both *M. albicauda* and *M. senex*, but differs from the former in having a white breast and white tail (even to the base), and from the latter in the blackish brown abdomen, sides of body, and scapulars. The three species appear to have the same dimensions.

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NEW BIRDS FROM THE ISLANDS AND PENINSULA  
OF LOWER CALIFORNIA.

BY A. W. ANTHONY.

THE past summer a small collection of birds was made by the writer, assisted by Mr. Horace Gaylord, along the west coast of

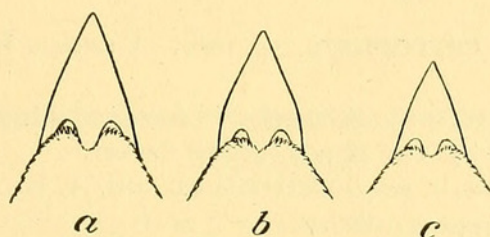


Lower California, north of  $27^{\circ}$ . In advance of a more complete paper on the avifauna of this interesting region the following new species are described.

***Carpodacus mcgregori*, sp. nov. MCGREGOR'S HOUSE FINCH.**

*Sp. char.*—Nearest *C. amplus* but slightly smaller, with more compressed and laterally flattened mandible, longer tail and different coloration; larger than *C. mexicanus frontalis*, bill much larger, its lateral outlines viewed from above, parallel for nearly half the length. Red colors replaced by orange tints.

*Type*, ad. ♂, No. 7393 coll. A. W. A., San Benito Island, Lower California,<sup>1</sup> Sept. 7, 1896. Above dark olive gray heavily streaked with blackish slate; rump pinkish orange; forehead, superciliary stripe, and malar region orange vermillion; chin, throat and breast lighter, approaching orange chrome; rest of lower parts whitish, heavily streaked with slaty; wings and tail dusky brown, primaries and tail-feathers edged with whitish; wing-coverts edged and tipped with buffy white. Wing, 81 mm.; tail, 73; culmen, 13; depth of bill, 11. Habitat, San Benito Islands, Lower California.



A. *Carpodacus amplus*.

B. *C. mcgregori*.

C. *C. mexicanus frontalis*

I take great pleasure in naming this very strongly marked species in honor of my friend Mr. R. C. McGregor of Palo Alto, Cal., in recognition of valuable assistance he has often rendered me. The basal third of the bill is slightly compressed laterally so that viewed from above the lateral outlines are parallel for nearly one half of the length. A series of from two to four more or less well defined grooves run from the anterior border of the nostril parallel with the culmen nearly to the commissure.

<sup>1</sup> In a note on *Ammodramus sanctorum* (Auk, Vol. XIV, p. 92) Dr. Elliott Coues, places the San Benito Islands in the Gulf of California; their true position is about twenty miles west of Cerros Island — on the Pacific side of the peninsula — or about Lat.  $28^{\circ} 20''$ , and Long.  $115^{\circ} 35'$ .



In a large series of *C. amplus* and *C. m. frontalis* I am unable to find either the grooved upper mandible or any approach toward parallel outlines on the basal third of the bill. The rosy colors in *mcgregori* are confined to definite areas, those of the head and rump being especially well-defined, and in none of my specimens is there any rosy suffusion over the upper parts, as is often the case with *C. frontalis*. There seems to be some variation in the intensity of the orange and rosy tints, some males being almost entirely orange over the rump, breast, and forehead, and one bird which escaped me seemed to be clear lemon yellow on those parts.

McGregor's Finch seems to be rather rare but well distributed over the island that we explored, the largest of the group of three. There is very little vegetation on this island, which is little more than a reef less than two (?) miles in extent, and it is rather surprising that a species of this genus should be found there at all.

***Thryothorus cerroensis*, sp. nov. CERROS ISLAND WREN.**

*Sp. char.* — Differs from *Thryothorus leucophrys* in much shorter bill, flanks less deeply gray, and upper surface darker.

*Type*, No. 7391, adult, sex undetermined, coll. A. W. A., Cerros Island, Lower California, Sept. 3, 1896.

Above sepia; chin, throat, superciliary stripe and middle of breast and belly grayish white; sides of neck, breast and flanks smoke gray; under tail-coverts grayish white with a buffy tinge, barred with black; tail blackish, middle feathers barred with black and clove brown; rectrices, except middle pair, broadly tipped with cinereous. Wing, 48 mm.; tail, 55; exposed culmen, 11.5; depth of bill, 3; tarsus, 18.

The present species needs comparison with none of our western species of the genus unless it be *T. leucophrys*, from which it is very easily separated by its much shorter bill, as well as other discrepancies in size, as will be seen from the accompanying table of measurements. From specimens before me taken at Rosalia Bay, 55 miles east of Cerros Island, the new species is easily separated by much more extensively gray lower parts, less heavily barred. The lower tail-coverts, and its tail-feathers have a terminal band of gray of not less than 4 mm., whereas the mainland bird



has a semi-obsolete bar of about 1 mm. The middle rectrices are also less plainly barred in the mainland specimen, the bars becoming somewhat obsolete near the shaft.

Cerros Island Wrens were not common at any point on the island, though more were seen about the pine timber on the higher ridges. Mr. L. Belding secured specimens of the species several years ago, but owing to their poor plumage no attempt was made to separate them.

## COMPARATIVE MEASUREMENTS.

	Wing.	Tail.	Culmen.	Tarsus.	Remarks.
	mm.	mm.	mm.	mm.	
<i>Thryothorus b. spilurus</i> .	52	57	12.5	17	Rosalia Bay, L. Calif.
<i>T. cerroensis</i> .	48	55	11.5	18	Type of species.
<i>T. leucophrys</i> .	55	60	16	20.5	" " "

***Harporhynchus lecontei arenicola*, subsp. nov. DESERT THRASHER.**

*Subsp. char.*—Differing from *H. lecontei* in upper parts being darker and grayer, tail blacker and breast gray, tail shorter (?).

*Type*, ♂, No. 7346, coll. A. W. A., Rosalia Bay, Lower California, Aug. 20, 1896. Above smoke gray; pileum and cervix between drab and broccoli brown; chin and belly white; throat, breast and flanks approaching drab gray; crissum buffy clay color; tail slaty black, each feather marked at tip with gray. Wing, 97 mm.; tail, 136; culmen, 31; tarsus, 30.

The region immediately back from the beach at Rosalia and Playa Maria Bays is a series of wind swept sand dunes, with scarcely any vegetation. A few hardy shrubs and yuccas struggle for existence and afford shelter for quite a number of Thrashers.

A series of sixteen was secured with little effort, though the present race well maintains the reputation of the species for shyness. On several occasions they were seen on the beach, and a few were found inland, where *H. cinereus mearnsi* was more common. They were nowhere so plenty as in the sand dunes



near the surf. Nests were found in the thickest shrubs, that were probably of the present race, proving that they are resident.

As specimens in fresh fall plumage were needed for comparison with the Lower California birds I forwarded a skin to Mr. R. Ridgway who writes me: "A specimen of the same sex of *H. lecontei* from the Mojave River, California, has a shorter wing and *very much* longer tail than your bird."

A comparison of my peninsula birds with a small and unsatisfactory series of typical *H. lecontei* before me, shows the latter to have a slightly longer tail (average), though the wing and other measurements are the same. An immature specimen from the collection of Mr. F. Stephens, taken fifteen miles inland from Point Lobos, Sonora, Mexico, Aug. 19, 1884, is just assuming the fall plumage, which is considerably paler than my Lower California specimens, though darker than any true *lecontei* I have examined.

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## A PRELIMINARY LIST OF THE BIRDS OF OKANOGAN COUNTY, WASHINGTON.

BY WILLIAM LEON DAWSON.

ANY list of the birds of this region would be unintelligible without a brief survey of the topography and physical conditions. Okanogan County, with an area almost equal to that of the State of New Jersey (being slightly under 7000 square miles), is pre-eminently a mountain county. The only really level spots in it are the narrow terraces, or benches, which mark former high levels of the Columbia and Okanogan Rivers, with their tributaries. The rest is mountains, low and grass-clad, with scattering pines along the north bank of the Columbia River, which bounds the county on the south; higher and well-timbered in the eastern and central portions; high and rugged in the extreme, with abounding glaciers, in the western part. The drainage is effected principally by five rivers: Wenatchee, Entiat, Chelan, Methow,



Anthony, A. W. 1897. "New Birds from the Islands and Peninsula of Lower California." *The Auk* 14, 164–168. <https://doi.org/10.2307/4068879>.

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