THREE ·REMARKABLE NEW SPECIES OF BIRDS FROM SANTO DOMINGO

BY
J. H. RILEY

THREE REMARKABLE NEW SPECIES OF BIRDS FROM SANTO DOMINGO

By J. H. RILEY

Dr. W. L. Abbott, the well-known traveller and collector, during the past summer and fall paid a visit to Santo Domingo, the Spanish-speaking portion of the Island of Haiti. He visited the highlands of the interior where few zoölogical collectors have ever penetrated and amongst the last shipment of birds received from this region the three following prove to be apparently undescribed. One is a white-winged crossbill, another is a song sparrow of the genus *Brachyspiza,* both belonging to genera that have never been reported from the West Indies, while the owl is closely related to a species found in Cuba and on the mainland, from which, however, it is very distinct.

These three birds, without question, are the most remarkable discoveries in West Indian ornithology in recent years.

ASIO NOCTIPETENS, sp. nov.

Type, U. S. National Museum, No. 249475. ♂ adult, Constanza, 4,000 feet, Santo Domingo, September 23, 1916. Collected by Dr. W. L. Abbott.

Similar to *Asio stygius* (Wagler) but much darker, with the lighter markings much restricted everywhere above and entirely disappearing on the interscapular region. Wing, 300; tail, 161; culmen from cere, 21 mm.

Remarks: Below, the differences are not so well-marked, but still the dark markings are darker than in *Asio stygius,* while the differences above are obvious. The type is the only specimen.

LOXIA MEGAPLAGA, sp. nov.

Type, U. S. National Museum, No. 249615, ♂ adult, El Rio, 4,000 feet, Santo Domingo, October 7, 1916. Collected by Dr. W. L. Abbott.

Similar to *Loxia bifasciata* (Brchm) but with a heavier and stouter bill and shorter wing.

Description: Head dusky, the feathers tipped with dull scarlet red and sulphine yellow; back dull black, the feathers washed with