

ODONTOPHORUS LINEOLATUS.

Striped-breasted Partridge.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER.

Od. corpore subtus pallidè cervino-fusco, sive pallidè ferruginoso, plumis singulis lineâ albâ centrali impressis.

Crown of the head and crest dark brown, becoming of a paler hue down the shafts of the feathers; at the back of the neck a patch of dark brownish black, blotched on either side with buff; middle of the back brown, finely freckled with dark brown, and with pale brown centres to each feather; wing-coverts mottled brown and buff, the latter predominating on the outer web and with a line of buff down the shaft; primaries and secondaries brown, mottled with buff on their outer webs; tertiaries rich chestnut-brown and black, with a small triangular spot of buff at their tips, and a broad conspicuous mark of buff on the margins of their inner webs; lower part of the back and upper tail-coverts brownish buff, crossed with broken bands of dark blackish brown; scapularies dark brown on their inner webs, buffy white freckled with black on the outer webs, and with a stripe of buff down the centre; tail dark brown, freckled with buff; chin white; face and throat grey, bounded by a narrow line of black, produced by the outer row of feathers being tipped with that colour; under surface sandy red, fading into white on the vent, each feather with a lighter stripe down the centre, under tail-coverts buff with black centres.

Total length, 8 inches; bill, $\frac{3}{4}$; wing, 5; tail, 2; tarsi, $1\frac{1}{2}$; middle toe and nail, $1\frac{1}{2}$.

Perdix lineolata, Licht. in Mus. Berlin.

Ortyx lineolatus, Natt. MSS.

— *thoracicus*, Gamb. Proc. of Acad. Phil. 1847, t. 77.

Odontophorus lineolatus, Gray and Mitch. Gen. of Birds, vol. iii. p. 513, *Odontophorus*, sp. 7.

EIGHT years ago—February 22, 1843—the following note respecting this species was sent to me by my valued friend the late Mr. John Natterer of Vienna:—"Of this bird I saw two specimens in the Museum of Berlin, under the name of *Perdix lineolata*, Licht. Unfortunately I took no description, as it was very cold in the Museum towards the end of November 1838, the time of my visit there: I merely noted, 'two curious birds with large feet and long toes; differing so much in colour that they might be considered as two species.' I have no doubt M. Lichtenstein will lend you these birds, and any others you may want for your Monograph." Shortly after the receipt of the above, and many other useful notes from the same kind friend, I paid a visit to Berlin and examined the birds in question, and was permitted to bring them to London and make drawings of them: one strictly accords with the description given above; the other differs in having the throat and broad stripe over the eye and down the side of the neck rufous, and the under surface greyish brown. I have no doubt that they are the opposite sexes of the same species, and as such I have figured them.

Unaware, I presume, that this species had been previously named by M. Lichtenstein, Dr. Gambel of Philadelphia has lately assigned to it the specific appellation of *thoracicus*, which I am sure he will readily resign in favour of the prior name of *lineolatus*.

Habitat. The specimens at Berlin and at Philadelphia are all from Mexico, which we may hence infer is the true habitat of the species.

The figures are of the natural size.