

261
1961

ODONTOPHORUS COLUMBIANUS, Gould.

Caraccas Partridge.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER.

Od. vertice fusco, delicatulè nigro adperso; nuchâ rufo marmoratâ; strigâ superciliari inconspicuâ; gulâ albâ irregularitèr nigro guttatâ præcipuè apud marginem; corpore subtùs rufescenti-fusco, plumis singulis notâ albâ nigro circumdatâ prope apicem ornatis.

Crown of the head brown, minutely freckled with black; back of the neck washed with rufous; over each eye an indistinct mottled stripe; throat white, irregularly spotted, especially on the sides, with black; upper surface brown, washed with grey on the centre of the feathers, each of which is delicately penciled with black, and has a narrow stripe of buff bounded on each side by a narrower one of black down the centre; those of the scapularies and wing-coverts have moreover a large patch of rich dark brown on the inner web near the tip, bounded above by two narrow lines, one of buff, the other of dark brown; primaries brown; secondaries brown, freckled and barred with dark brown, and washed with rufous; tertiaries brown, washed with grey and rufous, freckled with black, having a broad V-shaped mark of black near the tip, and broadly margined and tipped internally with deep buff; under surface reddish brown, each feather with a large irregularly-shaped mark of white margined with black near the tip; under tail-coverts and vent mottled reddish brown and sandy buff; bill black; feet lead-colour.

Total length, 11 inches; *bill*, 1; *wing*, $5\frac{3}{4}$; *tail*, $2\frac{3}{4}$; *tarsi*, 2; *middle toe and nail*, $2\frac{1}{4}$.

Odontophorus Columbianus, Gould in Proc. of Zool. Soc., May 14, 1850.

THIS fine bird has a stouter bill, and is of a larger size than *O. dentatus*, but is smaller than *O. Balliviani*, to which it is nearly allied.

A fine specimen graces the Museum at Leyden, to which it was transmitted by M. Landsberger, Netherlands Consul at Caraccas: another example from, I believe, the same locality, differs in having the under surface of a nearly uniform greyish brown, with here and there a few only of the white marks so conspicuous in the bird above described; it is also of a somewhat smaller size, but notwithstanding these differences, the two birds appear to be one and the same species.

Habitat. Caraccas.

The figures are of the natural size.