

## ORTYX COYOLCOS.

Coyolcos Partridge.

### SPECIFIC CHARACTER.

*Ort. gulâ nigrâ, pectore, et corpore inferiore castaneo-rufis.*

Forehead, sides of the neck and throat black; over and behind the eye an obscure line of buffy white; back of the neck chestnut-brown, with oblong spots of white; upper surface reddish brown, each feather crossed with dark brown, and spotted on the margin with buffy white; primaries brown; tail slate-grey, the centre feathers freckled with white; chest and all the under surface chestnut-red; bill black; feet fleshy brown.

Total length,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches; *bill*,  $\frac{9}{16}$ ; *wing*,  $3\frac{7}{8}$ ; *tail*,  $2\frac{3}{8}$ ; *tarsi*,  $1\frac{1}{4}$ ; *middle toe and nail*,  $1\frac{3}{16}$ .

*Perdix Coyolcos*, Lath. Ind. Orn., vol. ii. p. 653?—Bonn. et Vieill. Ency. Méth. Orn., Part I. p. 215?

*Tetrao Coyolcos*, Gmel. Syst., vol. i. p. 763?

*Coturnix Mexicana*, Briss. Orn., tom. i. p. 256.—Ib. 8vo Edit., tom. i. p. 71?

*Coyolcozque, seu Cali sonalis*, Ray, Syn. Av., p. 158?

*Coturnix Indica*, Willoughby, Orn., p. 304?

*Le Coyolcos*, Buff. Ois., tom. ii. p. 486?

*Lesser Mexican Quail*, Lath. Gen. Syn., vol. iv. p. 786?—Ib. Gen. Hist., vol. viii. p. 327?

*Ortyx Coyolcos*, Gray and Mitch. Gen. of Birds, vol. iii. p. 514, *Ortyx*, sp. 3.

*Coyolcozque* of the Mexicans.

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THIS is one of the least and one of the rarest species of *Ortyx* with which I am acquainted; its jet-black throat, the deep and uniform chestnut colouring of its under surface, and the nearly obsolete line of buffy white which surmounts the eye, serve at once to distinguish it from all its congeners; it is moreover characterized by the possession of a small and short crest, not well shown in my drawing, but which is very apparent when erected. Occasionally specimens occur without a trace of the line over the eye, that part being black like the throat. Although I have figured this bird as identical with the *Perdix Coyolcos* of Latham and the older authors, their descriptions are so indefinite that it is by no means certain that such is the case.

Habitat. Mexico; locality Tabasco, according to the label attached to a fine specimen obligingly lent to me by M. Le Viscomte DuBus of Brussels, in the Royal Museum of which city it may be seen.

The figures are of the natural size; one of them may represent the female, with which sex I am unacquainted.