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BIRD RECORDS FROM THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

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INTRODUCTION

This paper gives the results of several short ornithological excursions which the author made to certain of the British and American Virgin Islands. During these trips the three American Virgin Islands of St. Croix, St. Thomas and St. Jan were visited, and also three of the British islands, namely, Tortola, Salt Island, and Virgin Gorda. A brief description of each of the islands visited may be in order.

DESCRIPTION OF THE ISLANDS

St. Croix is the largest of the Virgin Islands, and occupies a somewhat isolated position considerably south of the other islands of the group. It is twenty-one miles long and five miles wide at its widest point. The island is much flatter than most of the Virgin Islands and much of the land is under cultivation. The land which is not cultivated is largely covered with a dry, brushy type of vegetation which is very prevalent throughout the islands under discussion. There is one good sized hill, Mount Eagle, which reaches a height of 1165 feet. On this hill, and near it at a place called Prosperity, there is still some forest growth which has not been destroyed. Along the coastal region of St. Croix there are a number of salt water lagoons and mangrove swamps which produce the most favorable conditions for shorebirds that I found in any of the islands visited. The largest of these lagoons is Krausse's Lagoon, on the south side of the island. There are no fresh water ponds or swamps on the island. The eastern end of the island is wild and brushy. I arrived on St. Croix on the evening of December 24, 1926, and stayed there until the morning of January 3, 1927.

St. Thomas is the westernmost of the larger islands of the Virgin group. It is twelve miles in length and averages three or four miles in width. It is almost entirely hilly with very little level land. The

highest hill is West Mountain, which reaches a height of 1,550 feet. Only a small proportion of the land is under cultivation, and most of it is covered with a dry brushy type of vegetation. Along the coast there are a few indentations where some small mangrove-bordered lagoons exist. Between the only town on the island and its docks there is a cattail swamp perhaps an acre in extent, which is the only fresh water swamp on the island of which I am aware. The time which I spent in St. Thomas was very much broken up consisting mostly of short periods spent there while waiting for transportation to other islands. The following is a list of the days which I spent on St. Thomas: December 24, 1926; January 3-5 and 8-9, and December 17, and 30-31, 1927; January 1 and December 22-23, 1928; and January 3-5, 1929.

St. Jan lies directly east of St. Thomas. It is about eight miles long, and has a very irregular shoreline. It is almost entirely hilly, and has practically no land under cultivation. The highest land is Bordeaux Mountain, which attains an elevation of 1,277 feet. Most of the land on the island is covered with dry brushy vegetation, but on the higher hills larger trees and a less xerophytic type of vegetation are found. Like the British islands which I visited, St. Jan has no roads for wheeled vehicles. I spent two and a half days on St. Jan, from January 6 to 8, 1927.

Tortola is the most important and westernmost of the British Virgin Islands. It lies slightly north and east of St. Jan. It is ten miles long and about three and a half miles wide at its widest point. Its surface is almost entirely hilly, though at places near the coast there are small patches of level land, most of which are under cultivation. Its hills are the highest and most rugged of any in the Virgin Islands. One peak (Mount Sage) reaches a height of 1,780 feet. In some of the stream valleys on the higher hills the most humid type of vegetation which I have seen anywhere in the Virgin Islands can be found; in fact it is practically the only place where fresh water streams which never dry up can be found. Along the coast there are a number of mangrove swamps, but I found no fresh water swamps on the island. I spent the period from December 24, 1928 to January 3, 1929 on Tortola, with the exception of the two days of December 29 and January 1, on which I visited neighboring islands.

Salt Island is a small island directly south of the eastern end of Tortola, lying between Peter Island and Cooper Island. It is an irregular shaped island somewhat over a mile in length, and about the same distance in its greatest width. It is mostly hilly. A hill

in the northeast corner of the island is particularly rugged and nearly inaccessible, although it is only about 700 feet in height. South of this hill there are two little level valleys, one of which is occupied by saltponds for the production of salt by the evaporation of sea water. The other is used as grazing land. In the center of the latter valley is a small mudhole which is the nearest approach to a fresh water swamp on the island. The eastern shore of the island slopes off very gradually, leaving extensive shallows. There are some small areas of mangroves on this side of the island. The majority of the island is covered with the brushy xerophytic vegetation so characteristic of the Virgin Islands. I spent only one day (December 29, 1928) on Salt Island, but the island is so small that on that day I covered practically every bit of the island, despite the difficulties and even dangers of traversing certain parts of it (notably the cliffs which one has to negotiate in rounding the hill on the northeast part of the island).

Virgin Gorda, (known to mariners as Spanish Town), is a long, narrow island, and is the easternmost of the group of islands with which we are dealing. It is about ten miles long, but not much over a mile wide in most parts. In reality it consists of two islands joined together, a northern mountainous part culminating in a hill (Virgin Peak, 1,370 feet high), and a low, nearly flat southern part.

The southern part is strewn with large boulders which give it an aspect entirely different from that of any of the other islands of the Virgin group. Back of the beach on the western shore is an extensive brackish water, mangrove bordered lagoon where many ducks and other waterfowl can be found. Under the loose bark of dead mangroves bordering this lagoon I took six examples of *Bufo turpis*, a toad known only from Virgin Gorda, and previously known only from the type specimen taken in 1915 by Mr. J. L. Peters. I spent only one day (January 1, 1929) on Virgin Gorda, so time did not permit me to visit the entire island. Accordingly I confined my attentions to the southern part of the island, making only a short trip at the end of the day into the edge of the mountainous part.

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During the course of my work in the Virgin Islands many persons rendered valuable assistance. Outstanding among them was Dr. J. B. Thompson, Director of the Federal Experiment Station, which occupies Anna's Hope Estate in St. Croix. Dr. Thompson made me his guest during my stay in St. Croix, and furnished me with a Ford

car for use during my work on the island. He has also assisted me very materially in other ways, and I owe a very special debt of gratitude to him. Mr. M. J. Nolan, the Director of Police of St. Thomas, was of special assistance to me in that island. He greatly expedited the issuance of my collecting license, permitting me to begin collecting the minute I landed, and also supplied a Police Department car and chauffeur for use on some of my collecting trips.

So many other persons were of assistance in various ways that it is impossible to mention them all, but I must not neglect to mention my little friend Nelson Biaggi, of Mayagüez, P. R., who accompanied me on my trip to the British Islands. His cheery companionship and assistance in many ways helped very materially in making the expedition more successful than it would otherwise have been.

METHOD OF TREATMENT

In the discussion of birds which follows fifty-eight forms are mentioned, of which I actually collected or observed fifty-six.

In each of the forms covered in this paper the scientific name with the authority is given first, followed by the English name by which the bird is known in published works. In many cases that is followed by the name by which the bird is known locally. However, some birds are so rare as to have no local name, and in other cases I was unable to ascertain any local name. Then a brief general statement about the status of the birds in the Virgin Islands is given, followed by more detailed statements of my observations concerning the birds in each of the islands I visited. Following that is a list of the specimens I collected in the Virgin Islands, giving the number of each specimen in my collection, its sex, and the locality and date where each was collected. The specimens are all in my collection, which is at present deposited at the College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts of the University of Porto Rico, at Mayagüez, P. R.

The most remarkable feature of the bird life of the Virgin Islands is the rapid dispersal of the Mockingbird through the islands which is at present taking place.

DISCUSSION OF BIRDS

PELECANUS OCCIDENTALIS OCCIDENTALIS Linné. Brown Pelican.
Local Name "Pelican".

The Brown Pelican is found in suitable localities along the coasts of all the islands.

St. Croix: Noted at Frederiksted December 24, 1926 and Janu-

ary 3, 1927 (25); Krausse's Lagoon, December 27 and 31 (25); Christiansted Harbor, December 28; East End, January 1; and Buck Island, January 1.

St. Thomas: A few were noted on every visit to the Island.

St. Jan: Seen at Cruz Bay January 6-8, 1927, and off the north coast on January 3, 1929.

Tortola: Common all along the south coast in December 1928 and January 1929.

Salt Island: Fifteen were seen on December 29, 1928.

Virgin Gorda: Four were seen on January 1, 1929.

SULA LEUCOGASTRA LEUCOGASTRA (Boddaert). Common Booby.

The Booby is generally distributed, but not particularly common throughout the islands.

St. Croix: One was seen at Frederiksted on January 3, 1927.

St. Thomas: One was seen off the south coast on January 5, 1928, and on January 8 one near the east end of the island and another in St. Thomas Harbor.

St. Jan: A few were seen off the west coast on January 7 and 8, 1927, and on January 3, 1929 two in immature plumage were observed off the north coast.

Tortola: Three were seen west of Roadtown on December 25, 1928.

FREGATA MAGNIFICENS Mathews. Man-o-war Bird. Local Name "Hurricane Bird"; in St. Jan; "Weather Bird" in St. Croix.

Although I did not happen to meet this bird in St. Croix, it is well known there, and I found it on a number of the other islands. It doubtless occurs throughout them all.

St. Thomas: One was noted on December 24, 1926, and one on December 22, 1928.

St. Jan: A few were noted off the north and west coasts on January 7 and 8, 1927; and on January 3, 1929 I counted eighteen while sailing along the north coast. Fifteen of these were in one flock.

Tortola: A few were observed at Roadtown and West End on December 26, 1928 and January 3, 1929.

ARDEA HERODIAS ADOXA Oberholser. West Indian Great Blue Heron.

This bird is probably found occasionally on all the islands, although I have definite records from only three.

St. Croix: At Krausse's Lagoon one was recorded on December

27 and two on December 31, 1926. One was seen at Salt River on December 30, 1926, and one at Shoy's Lagoon on January 1, 1927.

St. Thomas: One was noted fishing in shallow water on the south coast on January 4, 1927.

Tortola: One was seen at East End on January 1, 1929.

CASMERODIUS ALBA EGRETTA (Gmelin). Egret.

The Egret is very rare in the Virgin Islands, where it has been recorded only from St. Croix.

St. Croix: Two were noted at Krause's Lagoon on December 31, 1926.

EGRETTA THULA THULA (Molina). Snowy Egret.

The Snowy Egret is rare in the Virgin Islands, where it has previously been reported only from St. Croix.

St. Thomas: One was clearly observed at Bender's Lagoon on January 4, 1927.

HYDRANASSA TRICOLOR RUFICOLLIS (Gosse). Louisiana Heron.

The Louisiana Heron has apparently not previously been recorded from the Virgin Islands, and I have only one record for it.

St. Thomas: One was seen at Bender's Lagoon on January 4, 1927.

FLORIDA CAERULEA CAERULESCENS (Latham). Southern Little Blue Heron.

The Little Blue Heron is one of the commonest and most generally distributed of the herons in the Virgin Islands. It is probably found on them all. I recorded it on all the islands visited except Virgin Gorda.

St. Croix: A few in both blue and white plumages were observed at Salt River, Cane Bay, Krause's Lagoon and Shoy's Lagoon in December 1926 and January 1927.

St. Thomas: My only record is of three seen at Bender's Lagoon on January 4, 1927.

St. Jan: A few, in both blue and white plumages, were seen at Cruz Bay on January 6 and 8, 1927.

Tortola: Birds in both plumages were fairly common during my stay in December, 1928 and January, 1929. On December 25, 1928 I collected at one shot two birds in the white plumage. The stomach of one contained fourteen small crabs, eight of them fiddler crabs. The stomach of the other had five small *Anolis* lizards and two large red-legged grasshoppers.

Salt Island: One white plumaged bird was seen December 29, 1928 in a small fringe of mangroves.

Specimens collected:

No. 680, male, Roadtown, Tortola, Dec. 25, 1928 (white plumage).

No. 683, female, Roadtown, Tortola, Dec. 25, 1928 (white plumage).

BUTORIDES VIRESCENS MACULATUS (Boddaert). West Indian Green Heron.

The Green Heron is not as common as one would expect to find it in the Virgin Islands. St. Croix was the only island on which I found it at all common.

St. Croix: Fairly common. In December, 1926 and January, 1927 I observed it at Christiansted, Anna's Hope, Krausse's Lagoon, and Shoy's Lagoon. A stomach contained fifteen short-horned grasshoppers; a large long-horned grasshopper (*Neoconocephalus triops*); three small long-horned grasshoppers (*Conocephalus* sp.), and three medium sized spiders.

St. Thomas: Rare. I observed this species only twice, one seen in a small cattail swamp on December 31, 1927, and again on January 1, 1928.

St. Jan: One was observed at Cruz Bay on January 6, and another on January 8, 1927.

Tortola: I recorded the Green Heron three times at Roadtown, (December 25, 26, and 27, 1928).

Specimen collected:

No. 276, male, Anna's Hope, St. Croix, Jan. 1, 1927.

NYCTANASSA VIOLACEA VIOLACEA (Linné). Yellow-crowned Night Heron.

The Yellow-crowned Night Heron has been previously recorded from St. Thomas, St. Croix and Virgin Gorda.

Tortola: On December 26, 1928, I collected a juvenile female apparently scarcely out of the nest, in some mangroves near Roadtown. Its stomach was empty.

Specimen collected:

No. 686, female juv., Roadtown, Tortola, Dec. 26, 1928.

DAFILA BAHAMENSIS BAHAMENSIS (Linné). Bahama Duck.

The Bahama Duck has been previously recorded from St. Thomas. It is very rare in the Virgin Islands.

Virgin Gorda: On January 1, 1929 a pair was observed at close range on the large brackish lagoon in the southern part of Virgin Gorda.

MARILA AFFINIS (Eyton). Lesser Scaup Duck.

The Lesser Scaup Duck has been recorded previously from St. Croix and St. Thomas.

Virgin Gorda: On January 1, 1929 a flock of thirty-five was noted on the large brackish lagoon back of the beach.

BUTEO BOREALIS JAMAICENSIS (Gmelin). West Indian Red-tailed Hawk.

The Red-tailed Hawk has apparently not previously been recorded in life from the Virgin Islands, although bones are known from a kitchen midden in St. Croix.

St. Croix: One was seen at Christiansted on December 28, 1926, and one at Anna's Hope on January 1, 1927. On December 29 I was shown a specimen that had been shot by a planter while attacking his chickens a few days previously.

St. Thomas: One was observed soaring over the hills west of the town on December 30, 1927.

St. Jan: One was observed at Cruz Bay on January 6, 1927, and one in the hilly interior the following day.

Tortola: A pair was seen at Roadtown on December 25, 1928, and again on December 27, and a single bird on December 31. On January 1, 1929 a single bird was noted at East End.

PANDION HALIAËTUS CAROLINENSIS (Gmelin). Osprey. Local name, "Fish Hawk".

The Osprey is a winter visitor in small numbers to the Virgin Islands.

St. Croix: Ospreys were observed on four occasions: Krausse's Lagoon (two on December 27 and one on December 31, 1926); East End (one on January 1, 1927); Anna's Hope (one on January 1, 1927).

Tortola: One was seen at Roadtown Harbor on December 27, 1928.

Salt Island: One was collected on December 29, 1928. Its stomach contained exclusively the remains of fishes.

Specimen collected:

No. 696, male, Salt Island, Dec. 29, 1928.

FALCO PEREGRINUS ANATUM (Bonaparte). Duck Hawk.

The Duck Hawk is a rare winter visitor to the Virgin Islands, where it has previously been recorded from St. Croix and Virgin Gorda.

St. Croix: One was seen at Krausse's Lagoon on December 27, 1926.

Salt Island: One was shot but not recovered on December 29, 1928.

FALCO SPARVERIUS CARIBAEARUM (Gmelin). Antillean Sparrow Hawk.
Local Name "Killi-killi Hawk".

The Killi-killi Hawk is fairly common on St. Croix, but quite rare on the other islands. Although it has been recorded from St. Thomas and St. Jan I have never observed it on those islands.

St. Croix: Fairly common at Christiansted, Anna's Hope, Southgate and Kingshill in December, 1926, and January, 1927. One stomach contained six caterpillars, a Katydid, fragments of a spider, and two *Gordia* fruits. Another had four *Anolis* lizards, and a cricket (*Gryllus* sp.).

Tortola: During my visit the only example seen was a female which I collected at Roadtown on December 28, 1928. Its stomach contained the tail, fur, and some of the bones of a young rat. The tail of the rat was three and a half inches in length. The stomach also contained two grasshoppers, (*Schistocerca colombina*).

Virgin Gorda: A pair was noted on January 1, 1929.

Specimens collected:

No. 293, female, Anna's Hope, St. Croix, Dec. 27, 1926.

No. 294, female, Anna's Hope, St. Croix, Dec. 31, 1926.

No. 692, female, Roadtown, Tortola, Dec. 28, 1928.

COLINUS VIRGINIANUS VIRGINIANUS (Linné). Quail.

Although I did not personally observe any Quail on my visit to St. Croix, I was told that a few still existed there.

RALLUS LONGIROSTRIS CARIBAEUS Ridgway. Caribbean Clapper Rail.

Clapper Rails have been recorded from St. Thomas and St. Croix, but I found none on those islands.

Tortola: Clapper Rails were common on a small mangrove Island in Roadtown harbor during the time of my visit.

GALLINULA CHLOROPUS PORTORICENSIS Danforth. Antillean Gallinule.

The only one of the Virgin Islands on which I found any Gallinules was Virgin Gorda.

Virgin Gorda: On January 1, 1929 five gallinules were observed and a female collected at the brackish lagoon back of the beach. Its stomach contained algae, small black seeds, and some

fine white sand. The specimen agrees well in coloration and measurements with examples in my collection from Porto Rico and Santo Domingo. Therefore I am considering it as belonging to the same race.

I am presenting herewith a tabulation of the measurements of the specimens of Antillean Gallinules now in my collection. The measurements are expressed in millimeters.

	Wing	Tail	Tarsus	Culmen with frontal shield	Width of frontal shield
No. 14, female, P. R., Cartagena Lagoon Apr. 4, 1924.....	174	76	53	45.5	13.5
No. 374, female, P. R., Cartagena Lagoon, Mar. 7, 1927....	168.5	80	51	48	15
No. 623, female, P. R., Aguadilla, May 7, 1928.....	163	79	55	47.5	15
No. 454, female, R. D., Laguna Salodillo, June 26, 1927....	177	80	55	50	17
No. 544, female, R. D., Laguna Salodillo, June 26, 1927....	168	75	50.5	48	14
No. 706, female, V. I., Virgin Gorda, Jan. 1, 1929.....	165	76	54	45.5	13.5

PAGOLLA WILSONIA WILSONIA (Ord). Wilson's Plover.

The Wilson's Plover has been recorded from several of the Virgin Islands, but I found it only on St. Croix.

St. Croix: Ten were observed at Krausse's Lagoon on December 31, 1926, and six at East End on January 1, 1927. The stomach of a bird collected contained fragments of a centipede.

Specimen collected:

No. 281, male, Krausse's Lagoon, St. Croix, Dec. 31, 1926.

OXYECHUS VOCIFERUS VOCIFERUS (Linné). Killdeer.

Killdeers were found by me only on St. Thomas and Salt Island.

St. Thomas: A number of Killdeers can usually be found, at least in December and January, at the edge of a small cattail swamp between the town and the docks. In my notes I find the following records: December 17, 1927 (flock of six); December 31, 1927 and January 1, 1928 (flock of nine); December 22, 1928 (several); January 4, 1929 (flock of twenty-five, out of which a male was collected.) The stomach of the bird collected contained nine large Tabanid larvae.

Salt Island: On December 29, 1928 a male was collected at a very small mudhole on the east side of the island. It was the only individual of its species seen. Its stomach contained exclusively comminuted insects, mainly Coleoptera, including a Scarabaeid beetle.

The two males from St. Thomas and Salt Island, and a male from St. Martin, are much darker and browner than three males

from Porto Rico and Santo Domingo in my collection. Their wings are also longer. Although they come within the limits given by Ridgway for *O.v. rubidus*, I am inclined to regard these birds as *O.v. vociferus*, on account of the darker coloration, and of the fact that they also come within the limits given for *vociferus*. The wing measurements of the specimens of male Killdeers from the West Indies in my collection follow: They are expressed in millimeters:

	Wings
No. 21, <i>O.v. rubidus</i> , P.R., Cartagena Lagoon, Sept. 23, 1924	140
No. 22, <i>O.v. rubidus</i> , P.R., Arecibo, Oct. 14, 1926	144.5
No. 410, <i>O.v. rubidus</i> , R.D., Haina, June 16, 1927	147
No. 557, <i>O.v. vociferus</i> , St. Martin, Great Bay, Dec. 24, 1927	161.5
No. 693, <i>O.v. vociferus</i> , Salt Island, Dec. 29, 1928	157
No. 707, <i>O.v. vociferus</i> , St. Thomas, Jan. 4, 1929	159

SQUATAROLA SQUATAROLA CYNOSURAE Thayer and Bangs. American Black-bellied Plover.

The Black-bellied Plover was observed only on St. Croix, where it was found to be common. It has not previously been recorded from the Virgin Islands.

St. Croix: Common. Fifty were observed at Krausse's Lagoon on December 27, 1926, and a hundred on December 31. On January 1, 1927 five were observed at Coakley Bay, and fifty at Southgate. The stomach of a bird collected contained 93 per cent of very small bivalve shells, and 7 per cent of very small snails.

Specimen collected:

No. 280, female, Krausse's Lagoon, St. Croix, Dec. 31, 1926.

ARENARIA INTERPRES MORINELLA (Linné). Ruddy Turnstone.

The Ruddy Turnstone almost undoubtedly occurs at times on all the islands, but I have found it only on St. Croix and Tortola.

St. Croix: Common. More than 150 were seen at Krausse's Lagoon on December 27, 1926, and about 100 on December 31. On January 1, 1927 two were noted at Southgate. The stomach of a bird collected contained fourteen small snails, four earwigs (*Anisolaba maritima*), and a little miscellaneous animal matter.

Tortola: Two were observed at Roadtown on December 25, 1928, and on December 27 one was shot but not recovered.

Specimen collected:

No. 282, male, Krausse's Lagoon, St. Croix, Dec. 31, 1926.

CAPELLA DELICATA (Ord). Wilson's Snipe.

The Wilson's Snipe has been previously recorded from St. Croix, but from none of the other Virgin Islands.

St. Croix: My only record is of one bird seen at Shoy's Lagoon on January 1, 1927.

ACTITIS MACULARIA (Linné). Spotted Sandpiper.

The Spotted Sandpiper is a fairly common and well distributed winter visitor to the Virgin Islands.

St. Croix: One was observed on the sand beach at Prosperity on December 30, 1926, one in a mangrove swamp at Shoy's Lagoon on January 1, 1927, and two on a gravel beach at East End the same day. The stomach of a bird collected was nearly filled with small Crustaceans (sand fleas). It also contained a few insects.

St. Thomas: One was seen at Bender's Lagoon on January 4, 1927, and one near the town on January 5, 1929.

St. Jan: Five were seen in mangrove swamps at Cruz Bay on January 6, 1927, and the same number the following day.

Tortola: One or two were seen at Roadtown on each of the following days: December 25, 26, 27, 28 and 30, 1928.

Virgin Gorda: One was seen at the lagoon on January 1, 1929.

Specimen collected:

No. 279, female, East End, St. Croix, Jan. 1, 1927.

TOTANUS FLAVIPES (Gmelin). Lesser Yellowlegs.

The Lesser Yellowlegs is a fairly common winter visitor to the Virgin Islands.

St. Croix: Twenty-five were observed at Krausse's Lagoon on December 27, 1926, and ten on December 31. On January 1, 1927 ten were seen at Shoy's Lagoon.

St. Thomas: Five were seen at Bender's Lagoon on January 4, 1927.

St. Jan: Five were observed near Cruz Bay on January 6, 1927, and one the following day.

Virgin Gorda: Two were noted at the brackish lagoon on January 1, 1929.

TOTANUS MELANOLEUCUS (Gmelin). Greater Yellowlegs.

Until now, the Greater Yellowlegs has not been recorded from the Virgin Islands.

St. Croix: A few were noted at Krausse's Lagoon on December

27, 1926. The stomach of a bird collected contained four fishes each about an inch in length.

Specimen collected:

No. 277, male, Krausse's Lagoon, St. Croix, Dec. 27, 1926.

PISOBIA MINUTILLA (Vieillot). Least Sandpiper.

The Least Sandpiper was found by me only on St. Croix.

St. Croix: Ten were seen at Krausse's Lagoon on December 31, 1926, and eight at Shoy's Lagoon on January 1, 1927. A stomach had two very small snails, and the wings of two termites. It also contained a large amount of sand.

Specimen collected:

No. 278, male, Krausse's Lagoon, St. Croix, Dec. 21, 1926.

THALASSEUS MAXIMUS MAXIMUS (Boddaert). Royal Tern.

The Royal Tern is fairly common in winter in the Virgin Islands. Probably it visits all the islands at times.

St. Croix: Five were seen at Frederiksted on December 24, 1926, and ten on January 3, 1927. On December 28 one was seen at Christiansted; two at Krausse's Lagoon on December 31, and one at East End on January 1.

St. Thomas: On January 3, 1929 three were seen at the entrance to the harbor.

St. Jan: Three were seen off the west coast on January 8, 1927.

Tortola: A few were observed near Roadtown on December 26, 29, and 31, 1928, and at East End on January 1, 1929.

COLUMBA LEUCOCEPHALA Linné. White-crowned Pigeon.

The White-crowned Pigeon has been recorded from St. Croix and Virgin Gorda, but I found it only on St. Croix.

St. Croix: At Anna's Hope from five to twenty-five of these large pigeons were observed feeding in the cabbage palms on December 26, 28, and 29, 1926, and on January 1 and 2, 1927. One was also observed at Krausse's Lagoon on December 31, and three at Shoy's Lagoon on January 1. The stomach of a bird collected contained five large seeded fruits.

Specimen collected:

No. 283, female, Anna's Hope, St. Croix, Dec. 28, 1926.

COLUMBA SQUAMOSA Bonnaterre. Scaled Pigeon.

The Scaled Pigeon has been previously recorded from St. Croix, St. Thomas, and St. Jan.

St. Croix: One was noted at Prosperity on December 30, 1926.

St. Jan: One was observed in the thick woods in the hilly interior on January 7, 1927.

Tortola: Two were seen in some dense rather dry woods near the summit of one of the higher hills on Tortola on December 26, 1928.

Specimen collected:

No. 685, male, Tortola, Dec. 26, 1928.

ZENaida ZENaida ZENaida (Bonaparte). Zenaida Dove. Local name, "Mountain Dove".

The Zenaida Dove, or Mountain Dove, as it is called locally, was found on all the islands visited.

St. Croix: The Zenaida Dove is astonishingly common and tame in St. Croix. In Porto Rico this species is so shy that on going to St. Croix it seemed hard for me to believe that I was seeing the same species. I find it recorded in my notes from Christiansted, Anna's Hope, St. John Estate, Krausse's Lagoon, Cane Bay, Prosperity, and Salt River. The contents of four stomachs were examined. They contained seeds of many kinds, among which *Cordia* sp., some *Crotalaria*-like seeds, and some large hooked seeds of the stick-tight type were noted. Gravel to the extent of 12 per cent of the stomach contents was also found.

St. Thomas: Rare. I have recorded the species only once (January 3, 1927).

St. Jan: Fairly common at Cruz Bay during the period of my visit.

Tortola: Observed only once (one at Roadtown on December 28, 1928).

Salt Island: Three were observed on December 29, 1928.

Virgin Gorda: About twenty-five were flushed in some brush and mangroves near the head of the brackish lagoon on January 1, 1929. The stomach of one of these contained the seeds of fruits and a little sand.

Specimens collected:

No. 284, male, St. John Estate, St. Croix, Dec. 25, 1926.

No. 285, female, Anna's Hope, St. Croix, Dec. 28, 1928.

No. 286, male, Anna's Hope, St. Croix, Dec. 29, 1926.

No. 287, male, Cane Bay, St. Croix, Dec. 30, 1926.

No. 700, female, Virgin Gorda, Jan. 1, 1929.

CHAEMPELIA PASSERINA TROCHILA Bonaparte. Porto Rican Ground Dove. Local Name, "Ground Dove".

The Ground Dove is common in suitable localities on all the islands.

St. Croix: Common practically all over the Island. I find it recorded in my notes as common at Christiansted, Anna's Hope, Prosperity, Salt River, and East End. The stomachs of three birds shot contained exclusively small seeds. The bills of these birds were dusky brown.

St. Thomas: Common. A stomach contained small seeds, including many of the spiny, stick-tight type. It also contained a little sand, amounting to five per cent of the stomach contents. The bill of a bird collected was dusky brown, tinged with rose at the base.

St. Jan: Common. Two stomachs contained small seeds; also sand to the extent of 40 per cent of the contents. The color of the bills of the birds collected was dusky brown, with tinges of dull rose, especially at the base.

Tortola: Fairly common around Roadtown.

Salt Island: About twenty were observed on the day of my visit.

Virgin Gorda: Very common.

Specimens collected:

No. 288, male, Anna's Hope, St. Croix, Dec. 27, 1926.

No. 289, female, Anna's Hope, St. Croix, Dec. 28, 1926.

No. 290, female, Cruz Bay, St. Jan, Jan. 7, 1927.

No. 291, female, Cruz Bay, St. Jan, Jan. 7, 1927.

No. 292, male, St. Thomas, Jan. 8, 1927.

No. 676, male, Roadtown, Tortola, Dec. 25, 1928.

No. 705, female, Virgin Gorda, Jan. 1, 1929.

OREOPELEIA MYSTACEA MYSTACEA (Temminck). Bridled Quail Dove.

St. Croix: One was observed at Prosperity on December 30, 1926.

EUPSITTULA PERTINAX PERTINAX (Linné). Curacao Paroquet.

St. Thomas: On January 4, 1927, I observed a small flock in a thickly grown brushy region east of Bender's Lagoon, in the eastern part of the island. They were so wary and the brush so dense and spiny that I was unable to get within gunshot of them. However it is good to know that the paroquets still exist in St. Thomas, and as the eastern end of the island is largely wild and uncultivated they may continue to exist there for a long time. In the summer from June to August when the guinep fruits are ripe, the paroquets are

said to come to these trees in large numbers to feed, and to be much tamer and easier to shoot at that time.

COCYZUS MINOR TERES Peters. Mangrove Cuckoo. Local Name "Mani Coco".

The Mangrove Cuckoo probably occurs at least occasionally on all the Virgin Islands, but I have recorded it from only three of them.

St. Croix: I did not find the Mangrove Cuckoo common on St. Croix. The only two examples seen were collected. The stomachs contained exclusively Orthoptera and their eggs, (*Microcentrum triangulatum*, 62.5 per cent; *Neoconocephalus triops*, 25 per cent; Locustid eggs, 12.5 per cent).

Tortola: Heard at Roadtown on December 24 and 31, 1928.

Specimens collected:

No. 297, male, Anna's Hope, St. Croix, Dec. 26, 1926.

No. 298, female, Anna's Hope, St. Croix, Dec. 28, 1926.

No. 299, female, Cruz Bay, St. Jan, Jan. 6, 1927.

No. 300 male, Cruz Bay, St. Jan, Jan. 6, 1927.

CROTOPHAGA ANI Linné. Ani. Local Name, "Black Witch".

The Ani is a common bird throughout the Virgin Islands.

St. Croix: Common. Recorded at Christiansted, Anna's Hope, Salt River, and Shoy's Lagoon. A stomach contained a large spider carrying a very large silk case full of young spiders, and a black cricket (*Gryllus* sp).

St. Thomas: Fairly common.

Tortola: Fairly common. A stomach contained three stinkbugs (*Nezara viridula*); one grasshopper (*Plectotettrix* sp); and nine grasshoppers (*Schistocerca colombina*).

Salt Island: Three flocks, with a total of about twenty individuals were noted on the day of my visit.

Virgin Gorda: Common.

Specimens collected:

No. 296, female, Anna's Hope, St. Croix, Dec. 27, 1926.

No. 681, male, Roadtown, Tortola, Dec. 25, 1928.

ORTHORHYNCHUS EXILIS EXILIS (Gmelin). Gilt-crested Hummingbird. Local Name "Doctor Bird".

This beautiful little hummer with its brilliant metallic green crest occurs more or less commonly throughout the Virgin Islands.

St. Croix: Common. Recorded at Christiansted and Anna's

Hope. A stomach contained nothing but small insects, including a small weevil, other small beetles, and some earwigs.

St. Thomas: Fairly common.

St. Jan: Several were seen in the vicinity of Cruz Bay.

Tortola: Common around Roadtown.

Salt Island: Two were seen on December 29, 1928.

Virgin Gorda: Two were seen and one collected on January 1, 1929.

Specimens collected:

No. 301, male, Anna's Hope, St. Croix, Dec. 29, 1926.

No. 302, male, Anna's Hope, St. Croix, Dec. 29, 1926.

No. 303, male, Anna's Hope, St. Croix, Jan. 2, 1927.

No. 304, female, Cruz Bay, St. Jan, Jan. 6, 1927.

No. 305, male, St. Thomas, Jan. 8, 1927.

No. 702, female, Virgin Gorda, Jan. 1, 1929.

ERICOTES HOLOSERICEUS HOLOSERICEUS (Linné). Blue-breasted Hummingbird. Local Name, "Doctor Bird".

This large hummer with the blue breast is common throughout the Virgin Islands.

St. Croix: Common. Recorded at Christiansted, Anna's Hope and East End. Two stomachs contained insects (mainly small beetles), and a few small spiders.

St. Thomas: Fairly common. Seen around the town and at East End.

St. Jan: Common near Cruz Bay.

Tortola: Fairly common around Roadtown.

Salt Island: Two were seen on December 29, 1928.

Virgin Gorda: Four were seen and two collected on January 1, 1929.

Specimens collected:

No. 306, female, Anna's Hope, St. Croix, Dec. 25, 1926.

No. 307, female, Anna's Hope, St. Croix, Dec. 25, 1926.

No. 308, male, Anna's Hope, St. Croix, Dec. 26, 1926.

No. 703, male, Virgin Gorda, Jan. 1, 1929.

No. 704, male, Virgin Gorda, Jan. 1, 1929.

ANTHRACOTHORAX AURULENTUS (Audebert and Vieillot). Porto Rican Mango. Local Name "Doctor Bird".

St. Thomas: Seen on four occasions in December and January.

STREPTOCERYLE ALCYON ALCYON (Linné). Belted Kingfisher.

The Kingfisher is a fairly common winter visitor to the Virgin Islands.

St. Croix: Single birds were observed on four occasions (Cane Bay, December 30, 1926; Krausse's Lagoon, December 31, 1926; East End, January 1, 1927, and Southgate, January 1, 1927).

St. Thomas: One was observed at Bender's Lagoon on January 4, 1927.

St. Jan: One was collected in some mangrove swamps near Cruz Bay on January 6, 1927. Its stomach contained a herring-like fish four and a quarter inches long, so large that it could hardly be contained in the stomach.

Tortola: From one to three individuals were seen near Roadtown on each of the days from December 24 to 27, 1928, inclusive.

Specimen collected:

No. 295, male, Cruz Bay, St. Jan, Jan. 6, 1927.

TYRANNUS DOMINICENSIS DOMINICENSIS (Gmelin). Gray Kingbird.

Local Names, "Chiehiri" and "Chinchiri".

The Gray Kingbird is one of the most abundant resident birds in the Virgin Islands.

St. Croix: Common all over the Island. One stomach contained an assassin bug (*Zelus rubidus*), and fragments of a large Diptera. Another had a flat bug, six large winged black ants, a caterpillar, and some miscellaneous insect fragments.

St. Thomas: Abundant.

St. Jan: Very common. The stomach of a bird collected was nearly empty, and contained only a few comminuted insect fragments.

Tortola: Common. A stomach contained eight adult Lepidoptera and a few lizard bones.

Salt Island: Twelve were observed on December 29, 1928. A stomach contained a Histerid beetle (*Omalodes klugii*), 40 per cent; bones of small *Anolis* lizards, 15 per cent; fragments of Odonata, 20 per cent; Coleopterous fragments 5 per cent; and some small black seeds, 20 per cent.

Virgin Gorda: Ten were observed on January 1, 1929.

Specimens collected:

No. 309, male, Anna's Hope, St. Croix, Dec. 27, 1926.

No. 310, male, Anna's Hope, St. Croix, Jan. 1, 1927.

No. 311, female, Cruz Bay, St. Jan, Jan. 7, 1927.

No. 677, male, Roadtown, Tortola, Dec. 25, 1928.

No. 695, female, Salt Island, Dec. 29, 1928.

ELAENIA MARTINICA RIISII Sclater. Riise's Elaenia. Local Name,
"John Phillip".

The Elaenia is a common bird in the Virgin Islands, but I found none on Salt Island or Virgin Gorda. It has not previously been recorded from St. Croix.

St. Croix: I found the Elaenia very common in dry brushy areas. On December 25, 1926 I counted fifteen on a dry brushy hill near Anna's Hope. In addition to this locality I found the species at Cane Bay, Coakley Bay, and Prosperity. The song is a whistled "*Cheery cheery, cheer*". The stomachs of four birds contained 98.75 per cent of vegetable matter (berries and small drupes), and 1.25 per cent of animal matter (small spiders in one stomach).

St. Thomas: Fairly common. A stomach contained a large drupe (85 per cent), and a caterpillar (15 per cent).

St. Jan: Common. A stomach had two large green berries with flat seeds.

Tortola: Fairly common. One was collected in some dry woods on top of a high hill. Its stomach contained one small drupe.

Specimens collected:

No. 318, female, Anna's Hope, St. Croix, Dec. 25, 1926.

No. 319, female, Anna's Hope, St. Croix, Dec. 25, 1926.

No. 320, female, Anna's Hope, St. Croix, Dec. 26, 1926.

No. 321, male, Anna's Hope, St. Croix, Dec. 31, 1926.

No. 322, male, East End, St. Thomas, Jan. 4, 1927.

No. 323, male, Cruz Bay, St. Jan, Jan. 6, 1927.

No. 685, male, Tortola, Dec. 26, 1928.

HIRUNDO ERYTHROGASTER Boddaert. Barn Swallow.

The Barn Swallow has previously been recorded from the Virgin Islands only from St. Croix.

St. Thomas: On December 17, 1927, a flock of fifteen was observed flying over a small cattail marsh between the town and the docks.

MIMUS POLYGLOTTOS ORPHEUS (Linné). Jamaican Mockingbird.
Local Name, "Mockingbird".

The Mockingbird was not known from the Virgin Islands until recent years. The first record was of a series collected on St. Thomas in 1916 by R. H. Beck, recorded by Griscom and by Wetmore. Until now this remains the only published record of the species from the Virgin Islands. But more recently the Mockingbird has been spreading through the other islands, and, finding con-

ditions very favorable for its existence, it is increasing very rapidly. The type of brushy country that so abounds in the Virgin Islands is the very type of country where the Mockingbird is most abundant in Porto Rico and other islands where it has long been established.

St. Croix: I was told by residents that Mockers first appeared on the island about ten years before my visit. During my visit I found a pair at Krausse's Lagoon on December 31, 1926, and collected the female. On January 1, 1927 I observed and collected a singing male at Southgate. One of the stomachs contained a *Cordia* fruit. The other was empty.

St. Thomas: I found the species very common on all of my visits to St. Thomas. Two stomachs contained nothing but berries and drupes.

St. Jan: About half a dozen were noted on each of the days I spent on the island in January, 1927. Two stomachs contained drupes.

Tortola: Not common, but two or three could be observed almost any day. A stomach contained three drupes.

Salt Island: One was observed singing on December 29, 1928.

Virgin Gorda: A singing bird was seen on January 1, 1929.

Specimens collected:

No. 312, female, Krausse's Lagoon, St. Croix, Dec. 31, 1926.

No. 313, male, Southgate, St. Croix, Jan. 1, 1927.

No. 314, male, East End, St. Thomas, Jan. 4, 1927.

No. 315, male, Cruz Bay, St. Jan, Jan. 6, 1927.

No. 316, female, Cruz Bay, St. Jan, Jan. 7, 1927.

No. 684, male, Roadtown, Tortola, Dec. 26, 1928.

No. 688, male, Roadtown, Tortola, Dec. 27, 1928.

MARGAROPS FUSCATUS FUSCATUS (Vieillot). Pearly Eyed Thrasher.
Local Name, "Thrush".

The Pearly Eyed Thrasher is a common resident in the Virgin Islands. It is found most abundantly on brushy hillsides.

St. Croix: A few were observed at Anna's Hope, and the species was found to be common at Prosperity.

St. Thomas: Fairly common.

St. Jan: Very common in the hilly interior, less so near the coast. They were in song at the time of my visit. A stomach was nearly filled with fleshy fruits, but also contained one small beetle.

Tortola: Very common on the wooded brushy hills. A stomach contained eleven red solanaceous berries and two hard black seeds.

Specimens collected:

No. 324, female, Cruz Bay, St. Jan, Jan. 6, 1927.

No. 674, male, Tortola, Dec. 24, 1928.

COEREBE PORTORICENSIS SANCTI-THOMAE (Sundevall). Virgin Island
Honey Creeper. Local Name, "Yellow Breast".

In my series of Honey Creepers from the Virgin Islands, except St. Croix, I find that the characteristics given by Wetmore for this subspecies hold true. These characteristics are that the yellow of the underparts is brighter and clearer than that of the Porto Rican birds, and that the flanks are paler.

St. Thomas: Fairly common and generally distributed. On January 1, 1928 one was observed building a nest of wild cotton and fine twigs and roots in the lower branches of a tree about six feet above the ground. At that time the nest was about one quarter completed. The stomach of a bird collected on St. Thomas contained ten small black seeds and some insect fragments.

St. Jan: Common. Three stomachs were examined. One was empty, the second contained a few insect fragments, and the third contained thousands of pollen grains amounting to 40 per cent of contents, and insect fragments amounting to 60 per cent.

Tortola: Common and breeding in December, 1928.

Virgin Gorda: Common in the brushy region around the edges of the large brackish lagoon. Two stomachs had nothing but comminuted insects. A Thrips was recognized in one, and two small Lepidopterous larvae in the other.

Specimens collected:

No. 334, female, East End St, Thomas, Jan. 4, 1927.

No. 335, male, Cruz Bay, St. Jan, Jan. 6, 1927.

No. 336, female, Cruz Bay, St. Jan, Jan. 7, 1927.

No. 337, female, Cruz Bay, St. Jan, Jan. 7, 1927.

No. 672, male, Roadtown, Tortola, Dec. 24, 1928.

No. 679, male imm., Roadtown, Tortola, Dec. 25, 1928.

No. 698, male imm., Virgin Gorda, Jan. 1, 1929.

No. 699, female, Virgin Gorda, Jan. 1, 1929.

COEREBE NEWTONI (Baird). St. Croix Honey Creeper. Local Name,
"Yellow Breast".

St. Croix: This Honey Creeper, which is confined to the Island of St. Croix, is very common and generally distributed on that island. During my visit in December, 1926 and January 1927 I observed many nests similar to those of *C. portoricensis* placed at

heights of from ten to twenty feet in tamarind and other trees. The iris of the specimens collected was hazel brown. The bill was black, while the fleshy rictus was light pink in color. The legs and feet were mouse gray, the soles of the feet being tinged with yellow. The general appearance, notes and habits of this bird are indistinguishable from those of the Porto Rican species. The contents of five stomachs were examined. Insects formed 90 per cent of the contents, while fine bits of white eggshell in one stomach formed ten per cent of the total contents. Small Lepidopterous larvæ formed 31 per cent; Coleoptera 22, per cent; small Diptera, 4 per cent; Thysanoptera, 2 per cent; and miscellaneous comminuted insects, 31 per cent.

Specimens collected:

- No. 329, male, Anna's Hope, St. Croix, Dec. 26, 1926.
- No. 330, male, Anna's Hope, St. Croix, Dec. 29, 1926.
- No. 331, male, Anna's Hope, St. Croix, Dec. 30, 1926.
- No. 332, male, Anna's Hope, St. Croix, Dec. 31, 1926.
- No. 333, female, Anna's Hope, St. Croix, Jan. 2, 1927.

MNIOTILTA VARIA (Linné). Black and White Warbler.

In the Virgin Islands I have found the Black and white Warbler only on St. Croix. However, it has been recorded from St. Thomas, and doubtless occurs on other of the islands as a winter visitor.

St. Croix: Two were seen at Anna's Hope on December 26, two on December 29, 1926, and one on January 2, 1927. One was also noted at Prosperity on December 30, 1926.

Specimen collected:

- No. 338, female, Anna's Hope, St. Croix, Dec. 26, 1926.

COMPSOTLHYPIS AMERICANA PUSILLA (Wilson).

Northern Parula Warbler.

The Parula Warbler is probably the most common of the migrant warblers in the Virgin Islands.

St. Croix: One or two individuals were noted at Anna's Hope on December 25, 26, 28 and 29, 1926, and on January 1 and 2, 1927. At Cane Bay one was seen on December 30, 1926. On January 1, 1927 one was observed at Shoy's Lagoon and one at East End. A stomach contained exclusively comminuted insects and their eggs.

St. Thomas: One was noted on each of the following dates: December 24, 1926; December 30 and 31, 1927; January 1 and December 23, 1928.

Tortola: Common near Roadtown from December 24, 1928 to

January 2, 1929. A male and a female were collected, but both were too much damaged to save as specimens.

Specimen collected:

No. 340, sex? Anna's Hope, St. Croix, Dec. 25, 1926.

DENDROICA PETECHIA CRUCIANA Sundevall. Porto Rican Golden Warbler.
Local Name, "Canary".

The Golden Warbler is a common resident in the Virgin Islands, frequenting mainly the mangroves, but also occurring in other habitats.

St. Croix: Common. Found most abundantly in the mangroves, but frequently observed in the larger shade trees at some distance from the sea. I find the species recorded in my notes from Anna's Hope, Cane Bay, Salt River, Krausse's Lagoon, and Shoy's Lagoon. Three stomachs contained nothing but comminuted insects, mainly Coleoptera.

St. Thomas: Fairly common. Found in the mangroves, dry brushy regions, and shade trees. A stomach contained 95 per cent of insects (beetles and other); also two spiders amounting to 5 per cent of the contents.

St. Jan: Fairly common in dry brushy places as well as in the mangroves. A stomach contained a spider (50 per cent); insect eggs (15 per cent), and some unidentifiable insect fragments (35 per cent).

Tortola: Common in the mangroves and in the brush growing immediately back of the beaches, but not observed elsewhere. A stomach contained a large Lepidopterous larva *Oxydia* sp. (92 per cent); a very small brown cockroach (4 per cent); an aphid (1 per cent); and some miscellaneous insect fragments (3 per cent).

Specimens collected:

- No. 346, female, Anna's Hope, St. Croix, Dec. 27, 1926.
- No. 347, male, Krausse's Lagoon, St. Croix, Dec. 27, 1926.
- No. 348, male, Shoy's Lagoon, St. Croix, Jan. 1, 1927.
- No. 349, male, East End, St. Thomas, Jan. 4, 1927.
- No. 350, male, Cruz Bay, St. Jan, Jan. 6, 1927.
- No. 678, female, Roadtown, Tortola, Dec. 25, 1928.
- No. 687, female, Roadtown, Tortola, Dec. 27, 1928.

DENDROICA DISCOLOR (Vieillot). Prairie Warbler.

The Prairie Warbler is one of the common warblers that visit the Virgin Islands in winter. It occurs mostly in dry brushy regions

while in these islands, although a few are occasionally seen in the mangroves.

St. Croix: At Anna's Hope two were observed on December 25, one on December 26, one on December 28, three on December 29, and six on December 31, 1926; and one on January 1 and two on January 2, 1927. Two were also seen at Shoy's Lagoon on January 1, 1927. A stomach contained nothing but insects, mostly beetles, including a small Coccinellid.

St. Thomas: One was seen on December 24, 1926, two on January 3, 1927, one on January 8, 1927, and three on January 1, 1928. A stomach contained only comminuted insects, largely Coleoptera.

St. Jan: Three were observed near Cruz Bay on January 6, and one on January 7, 1927. A stomach had comminuted insects, (beetles and others); also six large insect eggs.

Tortola: One was seen on a high hill on December 24, two in some mangroves on December 25, and two in a dry brushy region on December 26, 1928.

Virgin Gorda: Two were seen on January 1, 1929.

Specimens collected:

No. 351, male, Anna's Hope, St. Croix, Dec. 26, 1926.

No. 352, female, St. Thomas, Jan. 3, 1927.

No. 353, female, Cruz Bay, St. Jan, Jan. 6, 1927.

No. 675, female, Tortola, Dec. 24, 1928.

SEIURUS NOVEBORACENSIS NOVEBORACENSIS (Gmelin). Water-thrush.

The Water-thrush is a very common winter visitor to the Virgin Islands, where it is mostly confined to the coastal mangroves and the vicinity of small streams.

St. Croix: Common. Recorded at Anna's Hope, Krausse's Lagoon, Salt River, and Shoy's Lagoon, from December 25, 1926 to January 2, 1927. Two stomachs contained mostly insects, among which Coleoptera figured prominently. A Carabid beetle was recognized in one stomach. Two seeds were found in one stomach, also a small snail.

St. Thomas: One was noted at Benner's Lagoon on January 4, 1927.

St. Jan: Eight were counted in mangrove swamps near Cruz Bay on January 6, 1927. A stomach contained only comminuted insects, among which a small Lygaeid bug and a *Notonecta* sp. were recognized.

Tortola: Common from December 25, 1928 to January 2, 1929. Two stomachs contained nothing but insects, mainly Coleoptera.

Virgin Gorda: Two were observed in the mangroves bordering the brackish lagoon on January 1, 1929.

Specimens collected:

No. 342, female, Salt River, St. Croix, Dec. 25, 1926.

No. 343, female, Anna's Hope, St. Croix, Jan. 2, 1927.

No. 344, male, Cruz Bay, St. Jan, Jan. 6, 1927.

No. 689, male?, Roadtown, Tortola, Dec. 27, 1928.

No. 690, female, Roadtown, Tortola, Dec. 27, 1928.

No. 691, female, Roadtown, Tortola, Dec. 28, 1928.

SEIURUS NOVEBORACENSIS NOTABILIS Ridgway. Grinnell's
Water-thrush.

St. Croix: An example was collected at Anna's Hope on December 28, 1926, and is the first record for the island. Its stomach contained five small snails (45 per cent); and insect fragments, mainly Coleoptera, (55 per cent).

Specimen collected:

No. 345, male, Anna's Hope, St. Croix, Dec. 28, 1926.

SEIURUS AUROCAPILLUS AUROCAPILLUS (Linné). Ovenbird.

The Ovenbird doubtless occurs as a winter visitor on most of the Virgin Islands, but I have found it only on St. Croix and Tortola.

St. Croix: One was observed at Anna's Hope on December 28, two on December 29, 1926, and three on January 2, 1927. A stomach contained gravel, 12 per cent; a small snail, 2 per cent; the silky eggcase of a spider, 40 per cent; fragments of insects, 36 per cent, and seeds, 10 per cent.

Tortola: One was observed on a brushy hill above Roadtown on December 24, 1928.

Specimen collected:

No. 341, female, Anna's Hope, St. Croix, Dec. 29, 1926.

SETOPHAGA RUTICILLA (Linné). Redstart.

The Redstart is a fairly common winter visitor to the Virgin Islands.

St. Croix: From one to four individuals were observed at Anna's Hope on December 26, 27, 28, 29 and 31, 1926, and on January 2, 1927. One was seen at Cane Bay on December 30, 1926, and another at Prosperity the same day. A male was shot at Anna's

Hope on January 2, but it was too hopelessly damaged to save as a specimen. The majority of the birds seen were in the female plumage, but a few high-plumaged males were noted.

St. Thomas: A bright plumaged male was collected on January 3, 1927. 95 per cent of its stomach contents consisted of comminuted insects, among which some weevils were noted. Spiders constituted 5 per cent of the stomach contents.

St. Jan: A bird in female plumage was seen in a mangrove swamp near Cruz Bay on January 6, 1927.

Tortola: Two were observed near Roadtown on December 26, and one on December 31, 1928, none of them bright plumaged males. A stomach contained exclusively insects and their eggs, (a fleabeetle, *Cryptocephalus* sp., 10 per cent; two small weevils, 10 per cent; a Lantern Fly, 30 per cent; fifteen insect eggs, 10 per cent; miscellaneous insect fragments, 40 per cent).

Specimens collected:

No. 339, male, St. Thomas, Jan. 3, 1927.

No. 697, male, Tortola, Dec. 31, 1928.

ICTERUS ICTERUS RIDGWAYI (Hartert). Troupial.

St. Thomas: Although I did not succeed in finding the Troupial in St. Thomas, I was universally assured by residents of the island that it is still found commonly there, but that in the winter they are difficult to see, while in the summer they become tamer and come around the houses more freely.

TIARIS BICOLOE OMISSA Jardine. Carib Grassquit. Local Name "Sinbird" in St. Croix; "Sparrow" in St. Thomas and the British Islands.

The Carib Grassquit is a very common resident in the Virgin Islands.

St. Croix: Common resident; recorded at practically every locality visited. Two stomachs were filled with very small seeds.

St. Thomas: Common. On December 31, 1927 an albinistic individual was noted among a flock of eight grassquits. It was of a very light yellowish brown color, nearly white in spots. A stomach contained small seeds, also sand to the extent of 30 per cent of the stomach contents.

St. Jan: Abundant. A stomach contained seeds, also sand (40 per cent).

Tortola: Common. Breeding in December, 1928.

Salt Island: The commonest land bird on the Island.

Virgin Gorda: Common.

Specimens collected:

No. 325, female, Anna's Hope, St. Croix, Dec. 25, 1926.

No. 326, male, Anna's Hope, St. Croix, Dec. 28, 1926.

No. 327, female, Interior of St. Jan, Jan. 7, 1927.

No. 328, male, St. Thomas, Jan. 8, 1927.

No. 673, male, Roadtown, Tortola, Dec. 24, 1928.

No. 694, female, Salt Island, Dec. 29, 1928.

No. 701, male, Virgin Gorda, Jan. 1, 1929.

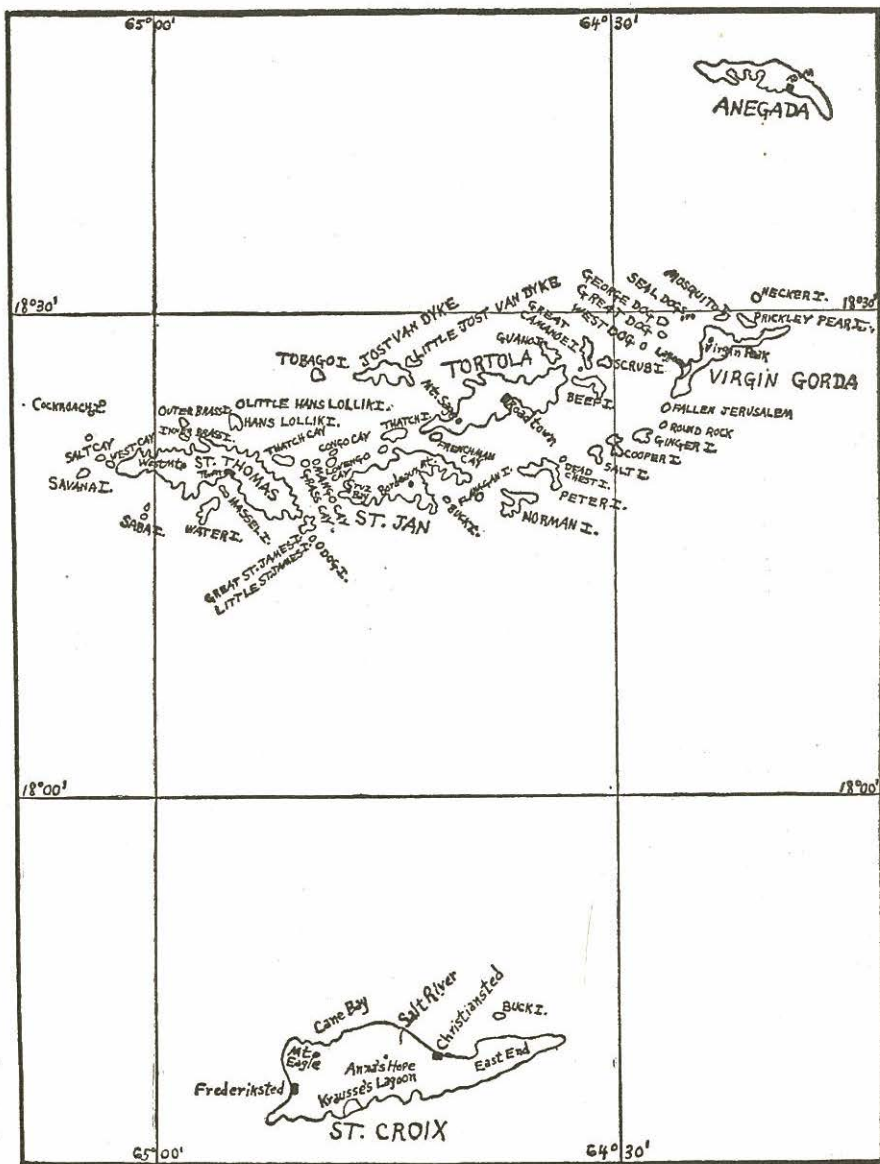


FIG. I.—MAP OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS (Adapted from map in Wetmore's "Birds of Porto Rico and the Virgin Islands".)