

the Lower California bird receiving the new name *castaneiceps*. Seven species and ten subspecies of Golden Warblers are now recognized only two of which (*D. æstiva* and *D. bryanti castaneiceps*) pertain to the fauna of North America, as defined in the new 'A. O. U. Check List,' the remainder being West Indian and Central American.—J. A. A.

Ridgway on the Type Specimen of *Buteo oxypterus* Cassin.*—A re-examination of the type specimens of *Buteo oxypterus* Cassin, preserved in the Museum of the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences, has led Mr. Ridgway to refer *B. oxypterus* to *B. swainsoni* as a pure synonym, the type of *oxypterus* proving to be unquestionably a young *B. swainsoni*. "Upon the whole," says Mr. Ridgway, "I cannot see the slightest reason for recognizing '*B. oxypterus*' even as a local race of *swainsoni*, . . ." He also adds that the "specimen described in 'History of North American Birds' (III, p. 266) as the melanistic adult of '*Buteo swainsoni* var. *oxypterus* is not *B. swainsoni* at all, but *B. fuliginosus* Scl." Comparative diagnoses are given of these two species.—J. A. A.

Ridgway's List of Emended Names of North American Birds.†—The names "represent new or hitherto unpublished combinations" adopted by the A. O. U. 'Committee on Classification and Nomenclature of North American Birds.' "They are here presented in order that the first known use of such combinations may be cited among the references which the committee has decided to give under each species, viz., the first pertinent binomial or trinomial appellation, and the first use of the name as adopted in the new list now being prepared by the committee." The changes, some 77 in number, relate chiefly to the generic part of the name, and result largely from the depression of formerly current genera to the rank of subgenera, partly from the change of status of the form in question from specific to subspecific rank, or the reverse, and in small part from actual change of names, found necessary on synonymic grounds. Comparatively few are therefore of a very 'radical' character, and are mainly the following, with which are given their current equivalents.

Parus cinctus obtectus (Cab.) = *P. cinctus*.

Sylvania microcephala Ridgw. = *Myiodiocetes minutus*.

Pyranga rubra cooperi = *P. æstiva cooperi*.

Loxia curvirostra stricklandi Ridgw. = *L. c. mexicana*.

Ammodramus savannarum passerinus = *Coturniculus passerinus*.

Melospiza georgiana (Lath.) = *M. palustris*.

Corvus corax sinuatus (Wagl.) = *C. c. carnivorus*.

Aphelocoma sieberii arizonæ = *A. sordida arizonæ*.

Zenaidura macroura = *Z. carolinensis*.

* Remarks on the Type Specimen of *Buteo oxypterus*, Cassin. By Robert Ridgway, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., VIII, pp. 75-77. Published April 22, 1885.

† Some Emended Names of North American Birds. By Robert Ridgway, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., VIII, pp. 354, 355. Published Sept. 2, 1885.

Callipepla californica vallicola Ridgw. = *Lophortyx californica brunnescens* Ridgw. = *L. californica* (Shaw).

Among the more striking changes of generic names are the substitution of *Sylvania* for *Myiodiodes*, *Dryobates* for *Picus*, *Dendragapus* for *Cauace*, and *Tympanuchus* for *Cupidonia*, in addition to some others already published in 'The Auk.'—J. A. A.

Minor Ornithological Publications.—964. *Decorative Sentiment in Birds.* By James Carter Beard. *Harper's New Monthly Magazine*, LXXI, No. 423, Aug. 1885, pp. 405-416.—A popular paper, with illustrations, on bird architecture.

965. *Circular of the Public Museum of the City of Milwaukee.* No. 1. "Some Directions for Preparing, Labelling and Packing Skins of Animals." No. 2. "List of Mammals and Birds of Wisconsin desirable for the above named Museum." 8vo. No date (1884?), pp. 8 and 12.—No 1 contains excellent directions for the purpose in view.

966. *Observe the Birds.* By Samuel Wells Willard. *Wisconsin Journ. of Education*, XXV, No. 3, March, 1885, pp. 98-101.—Ornithology recommended as offering a good field for the cultivation of the powers of observation.

967. *Our Observers—March.* By F. H. King. *Ibid.*, pp. 111, 112.—A list of "Observations to make" respecting a few birds, beasts, insects, and plants, etc.

968. *The Migration of Birds.* By Alexander O'Driscoll Taylor. *Proc. Newport Nat. Hist. Soc.*, 1883-84, pp. 22-24.—Abstract of a paper on this subject read before the Society on Jan. 3, 1884.

969. *List of Birds shot near Newport [R. I.].* By Col. John Hare Powel. *Ibid.*, pp. 42, 43.—A nominal list (under English names only) of 101 species.

970. *Pigeons and the Pigeon Fancy.* By Wm. G. Barton. *Bull. Essex Inst.*, XVI, 1884, pp. 59-82.—A very interesting summary of the subject, giving a brief history of the 'pigeon fancy,' and describing briefly the leading varieties of the domesticated bird. Several pages are devoted to the 'Homing Pigeon,' or 'Carrier' Pigeon, and to 'Pigeon-racing,' giving statistics of flights, etc.

971. *Intelligence in Birds.* By E. E. Fish. *Bull. Buffalo Naturalists' Field Club*, I, No. 6,* 1884, pp. 129-138.—On change of habits in consequence of experience, with citation of various instances, and remarks on instinct, the migration of birds, and various interesting anecdotes illustrative of the general subject.

972. *The Ducks of this Locality [Ottawa, Canada].* By W. P. Lett. *Trans. Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club*, No. 4, pp. 52-64.—The following species are treated at length: *Anas obscura*, *A. boschas*, *Aix sponsa*, *Querquedula carolinensis*, *Q. discors*, *Dafila acuta*, *Fuligula ferina americana*, *Mergus merganser*, *M. serrator*, *M. cucullatus*, and *Clangula*

* For index to ornithological articles in Nos. 1-5 of this publication see *Auk*, I, pp. 184, 189, 190.