

Troglodytes ædon, House Wren, Breeding in a Sand Bank.—Of all the quaint places this familiar little busybody could choose in which to lay its eggs and rear its young, one might imagine a sand bank, the common home of Bank Swallows and Kingfishers, to be the most singular and unusual. The fact that a House Wren might be found thus breeding may not be surprising to all observing ornithologists, but it certainly must be to most of them. On August 1, 1888, while Dr. B. H. Warren, State Ornithologist of Pennsylvania, and I were driving up one of the ravines leading from the beautiful Bay at Erie, Pennsylvania, the Doctor's keen eye caught sight of a House Wren as it darted into a Kingfisher's hole in the almost perpendicular bank about ten feet from the roadway. By the aid of a fence rail and easy digging the young, already able to fly, were caught in the hand, and the nest secured. I had already been interested in observing a pair of Wrens that had taken possession of a Blue-bird's nest in the hollow limb of an apple tree in the dooryard of my summer house, but the taking for its own domicile this home of our large Kingfisher cast completely into the shade all I had known of the bird's housekeeping achievements, in which tin pails, kettles, skulls, and the like had figured.—GEO. B. SENNETT, *New York City*.

Saxicola œnanthe in Louisiana.—I have in my collection a mounted specimen of *Saxicola œnanthe*, a male in winter plumage, or a young male, which was shot within the limits of the City on September 12, 1888. Several others were seen on the same day, but only this one was procured. The bird is entirely out of its range.—GUSTAVE KOHN, *New Orleans, La.*

Summer Birds at Bridgewater and Moultonboro', New Hampshire.—In connection with Mr. Faxon's list of birds observed at Holderness, New Hampshire (See *Auk*, Vol. V, p. 149), the following observations of my own made at Bridgewater and Moultonboro', N. H., may be of interest, as they seem to give quite different results. Bridgewater is about six miles to the southwest of Holderness, and Moultonboro' about twelve miles to the east-southeast.

Birds observed at Bridgewater, N. H., July 12—Sept. 4, 1883.

- Ardea herodias.**—One or two seen.
- Ardea virescens.**—Not common.
- Actitis macularia.**—Not common.
- Bonasa umbellus.**—Common.
- Circus hudsonius.**—Not common.
- Haliaeetus leucocephalus.**—One seen.
- Coccyzus erythrophthalmus.**—Common.
- Ceryle alcyon.**—Not common.
- Dryobates villosus.**—Quite common.
- Dryobates pubescens.**—Quite common.
- Sphyrapicus varius.**—Seen several times.
- Colaptes auratus.**—Quite common.

- Antrostomus vociferus*.—Quite common.
Chordeiles virginianus.—Very common.
Chætura pelagica.—Common.
Trochilus colubris.—Not common.
Tyrannus tyrannus.—Common.
Sayornis phœbe.—Quite common.
Contopus virens.—Very common.
Empidonax minimus.—Quite common.
Cyanocitta cristata.—Not common.
Corvus americanus.—Quite common.
Dolichonyx oryzivorus.—Not common.
Agelaius phœniceus.—Not common.
Icterus galbula.—Quite common.
Carpodacus purpureus.—Common.
Spinus tristis.—Common.
Pooecætes gramineus.—Common.
Spizella socialis.—Common.
Spizella pusilla.—Very common.
Junco hyemalis.—A few on high hills.
Melospiza fasciata.—Common.
Pipilo erythrophthalmus.—Several seen on hills.
Habia ludoviciana.—Not common.
Passerina cyanea.—Very common.
Piranga erythromelas.—Common.
Progne subis.—A few seen.
Petrochelidon lunifrons.—One colony seen.
Chelidon erythrogaster.—Common.
Ampelis cedrorum.—Common.
Vireo olivaceus.—Very common.
Vireo flavifrons.—Not common.
Vireo solitarius.—Common.
Mniotilta varia.—Quite common.
Helminthophila ruficapilla.—Common.
Compsothlypis americana.—Quite common.
Dendroica æstiva.—Not common.
Dendroica coronata.—A few young seen Aug. 16.
Dendroica maculosa.—One seen Sept. 1.
Dendroica pennsylvanica.—Not common.
Dendroica virens.—Very common.
Dendroica vigorsii.—One shot Aug. 21.
Seiurus aurocapillus.—Common.
Geothlypis trichas.—Quite common on side-hills.
Setophaga ruticilla.—Quite common.
Galeoscoptes carolinensis.—Common.
Harporhynchus rufus.—Common.
Sitta carolinensis.—Quite common.
Parus atricapillus.—Common.

Turdus fuscescens.—Quite common.
Turdus aonalaschkæ pallasii.—Common.
Merula migratoria.—Common.
Sialia sialis.—Common.

Birds observed at Moultonboro', N. H., July 21—August 11, 1885.

Urinator imber.—Several seen; one young in down captured.
Ardea herodias.—Tracks and one feather.
Actitis macularia.—A few seen.
Coccyzus erythrophthalmus.—Common.
Dryobates pubescens.—Not common.
Colaptes auratus.—Quite common.
Antrostomus vociferus.—Not common.
Chordeiles virginianus.—Not common.
Chætura pelagica.—Very common.
Tyrannus tyrannus.—Quite common.
Myiarchus crinitus.—A few seen.
Sayornis phœbe.—Common.
Contopus virens.—Quite common.
Empidonax pusillus traillii.—A few seen.
Empidonax minimus.—Not common.
Cyanocitta cristata.—Quite common.
Corvus americanus.—Quite common.
Dolichonyx oryzivorus.—Quite common.
Agelaius phœniceus.—Not common.
Carpodacus purpureus.—Not common.
Spinus tristis.—Common.
Poocætes gramineus.—Very common.
Zonotrichia albicollis.—Two heard singing.
Spizella socialis.—Common.
Spizella pusilla.—Common.
Junco hyemalis.—Quite common on mountains.
Melospiza fasciata.—Common.
Melospiza georgiana.—Not common.
Pipilo erythrophthalmus.—Quite common.
Passerina cyanea.—Very abundant.
Piranga erythromelas.—One heard.
Progne subis.—Common.
Chelidon erythrogaster.—Very common.
Ampelis cedrorum.—Very common.
Vireo olivaceus.—Common.
Vireo solitarius.—Not common.
Dendroica coronata.—A few on Ossipee Mt.
Dendroica pennsylvanica.—One seen.
Dendroica virens.—Not common.
Seiurus aurocapillus.—Quite common.
Geothlypis trichas.—Quite common.

Setophaga ruticilla.—Quite common.
 Galeoscoptes carolinensis.—Quite common.
 Harporhynchus rufus.—One seen.
 Sitta carolinensis.—Quite common.
 Parus atricapillus.—Common.
 Regulus satrapa.—A few seen on Ossipee Mt.
 Regulus calendula.—A few seen.
 Turdus aonalaschkæ pallasii.—Quite common.
 Merula migratoria.—Common.
 Sialia sialis.—Common.

One each of *Haliaeetus leucocephalus* and *Vireo gilvus* was observed at Centre Harbor in passing through. — FRANCIS H. ALLEN, *West Roxbury, Mass.*

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Correspondents are requested to write briefly and to the point. No attention will be paid to anonymous communications.]

The proper Name for the Genus *Melanipitta* of Schlegel.

EDITORS OF THE AUK:—

Dear Sirs: In the 14th volume of the "Catalogue of the Birds in the British Museum," p. 449, published in 1888, Dr. P. L. Sclater has proposed to substitute *Coracopitta* for *Melanipitta* of Schlegel (type *Pitta lugubris* Rosenb.), the latter name being preoccupied. I would call attention, however, to the fact that as early as 1885 I replaced *Melanipitta* by *Mellopitta* for the same reason, my name consequently having the priority over that of Dr. Sclater. The change was made in the 'Standard Natural History,' IV, Birds, p. 466.

Yours very truly,

LEONHARD STEJNEGER.

Washington, D. C., Dec., 1888.

NOTES AND NEWS.

MR. HENRY STEVENSON, of Norwich, England, a Corresponding Member of the A. O. U., died August 18, 1888. In 1864 he was elected a member of the British Ornithologists' Union, and was one of the founders, and for many years President of the Norfolk and Norwich Naturalists' Society, to whose 'Transactions' he was a frequent contributor, as also to the pages of the 'Zoölogist.' As an ornithologist he is perhaps best known as the author of a work entitled 'The Birds of Norfolk,' Vol. I of which appeared in 1866, and Vol. II in 1870. the work remaining unfinished at the time of his death. "To those who en-