

## GENERAL NOTES.

**The Little Black Rail (*Porzana jamaicensis*) at Key West, Florida.**—Mr. John W. Atkins secured on March 11, 1890, an adult male of this species which he kindly gave to me. The bird in question was caught on one of the principal and most frequented wharves of the water front of the city. It was evidently migrating, and had but just arrived at the point in question in a very fatigued condition, and was observed by a passer by, trying to hide among some loosely piled brick. This person secured it easily and brought it to Mr. Atkins alive. So far as I am aware this is the first absolute record of the occurrence of this species on the Island of Key West.—W. E. D. SCOTT, *New York City*.

**The Dowitcher at Ottawa.**—On May 9, 1890, I shot a female *Macrorhamphus griseus* feeding in a moist meadow within a mile of this city. It is now in my collection.—GEO. R. WHITE, *Ottawa, Ontario*.

**The American Barn Owl near Troy, New York.**—In my collection is a specimen of *Strix pratincola* in rather dark plumage, lately received from Mr. A. E. Weinbender of West Troy, who informed me that he shot the Owl November 19, 1888, in a clump of poplar trees, where it had just been mobbed by Crows, on Weinbender's Hill, about one mile west of the Hudson River at Troy, N. Y.—AUSTIN F. PARK, *Troy, N. Y.*

**Strix pratincola in Western New York.**—On July 5, 1890, a live Barn Owl was captured in Buffalo in the warehouse of a large tannery close to the New York Central R. R. Station. The bird had probably entered the building during the preceding night through an open window, and failing to find the same means of exit was captured in the morning. It was a fine full-plumed male. It was kept by its captor for a number of days before it came into my possession. It is interesting to note that the few days preceding the bird's capture were very hot, and that the nights were also warm. I know of only one previous record of the capture of this Owl in Erie County, and of but few elsewhere in this region.—W. H. BERGTOLD, M. D., *Buffalo*.

**A Correction.**—In the current volume of 'The Auk,' page 91, Dr. R. W. Shufeldt records the capture of the Hawk Owl near Washington, D. C. The undersigned called at the studio of Mr. F. S. Webster to see the specimen, and found it to be a Short-eared Owl (*Asio accipitrinus*) instead of the above named species.—A. K. FISHER, *Washington, D. C.*

**Breeding of the Pileated Woodpecker in Worcester County, Massachusetts:**—In a recent paper\* I noticed the fact that a few Pileated Wood-

\* Notes on the Birds of Winchendon, Worcester Co., Mass. 'The Auk,' Vol. V No. 4, Oct. 1888, pp. 386-393.