

has only 10, and in *Callipepla* proper, which has 14. *Lophortyx* has 12, like all the rest of the genera, excepting the two just named, and in my judgment should never have been united with *Callipepla* by the A. O. U. I propose that we restore it to full generic rank, on the ground of the difference from *Callipepla* in the number of rectrices, together with the remarkable peculiarity of the crest, and also the decided difference in the plumage of opposite sexes, as compared with the great similarity between the sexes of *Callipepla*. *Lophortyx* seems to me to be, in fact, one of the best characterized genera of Odontophorinæ; and *Callipepla* is unique in this subfamily in the number of its rectrices. — ELLIOTT COUES, *Washington, D. C.*

Notes on the Mexican Ground Dove. — Desiring to do what I can to free the A. O. U. Check-List of even the slightest blemishes, I may correct two errors which appear under *Columbigallina passerina pallescens*, No. 320a, where “C 374, part” and “C 547, part” appears. The facts are otherwise. I believe I am the only author who has persisted in recognizing this subspecies ever since it was described by Baird in 1859; it is ignored in the A. O. U. List of 1886, and first given a place in the List of 1895. But it has stood unchallenged in the ‘Key’ since 1872; it is “C 374a” of my first Check-List, 1873, and “C 548” of my second Check-List, 1882, with the same separate number in all the eds. of the ‘Key’ since 1884.

No doubt many ornithologists share my regret, that *Chamæpelis* must give way, under our rules, to such a monstrous name as *Columbigallina*; but the peculiar atrocity of *Columbigallina* may not yet have dawned upon all of them. It is traceable back to the “Colombi-Galline” of the mendacious Levaillant, Oiseaux d’Afrique, VI, 1808, p. 98, pl. 278, the same being a fictitious bird of Africa, made up of the skin of a tame pigeon with artificial wattles: see Sund., Kön. Svensk. Vet.-Ak. Handl., 1857, p. 55, and Tent., 1873, p. 98; also, Salvad., Cat. B. Brit. Mus., XXI, 1893, p. 647. This miserable artefact became promptly the *Columba carunculata* of M. Temminck and Mme. Knip, and in due term spawned three bastard genera: *Verrulia* Fleming, 1822; *Creogenys* Gloger, 1842; and *Alectryopelia* Van der Hoeven, 1855. Such is the pity that our innocent little Ground-doves should expiate the original sin by bearing the stigma of such a name; and more’s the pity that it is saddled on the patient ass of ornithological nomenclature. — ELLIOTT COUES, *Washington, D. C.*

Another Golden Eagle in Connecticut. — An adult male Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*), weighing eight pounds and a half, alar extent seven feet five inches, now in my possession, was taken Jan. 19, at Salem, twelve miles west of this place towards the Connecticut River. It was trapped while feeding on the carcasses of sheep killed by dogs. Its tracks were seen the day before, and foot-prints similar to these were seen last winter

in the same locality. Possibly this Eagle was mate to the fine female whose capture was noted by Prof. A. E. Verrill of New Haven in the January 'Auk' (XIV, p. 891). — C. L. RAWSON, *Norwich, Conn.*

Northern Hawks in Massachusetts. — The American Goshawk (*Accipiter atricapillus*) has been abundant in this section the past fall and winter. I myself have secured three specimens, one of which I caught in a steel trap. All that I have secured or seen, except one, were in adult plumage.

On Feb. 25, 1897, I drove within ten yards of a Rough-legged Hawk (*Archibuteo sancti-johannis*), in the light phase of plumage, perched by the roadside on the edge of a grove of white pines. — HERBERT K. JOB, *North Middleboro', Mass.*

Swainson's Hawk in Michigan. — I wish to record the capture of a Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*) taken by myself in Cheboygan County, Mich., in October, 1883. I can find but three other records for the State. — NORMAN A. WOOD, *Ann Arbor, Mich.*

Note on *Elanus glaucus*. — Benjamin Smith Barton's 'Fragments of the Natural History of Pennsylvania,' published in 1799, is a folio of pp. xviii + 24, so rare as to be little-known or almost forgotten. Many ornithologists might never have heard of it, had it not been for *Hirundo horreorum*, which Baird adopted in 1858 for the Barn Swallow. But in 1878 I gave a careful analysis of this tract (B. Coll. Vall., pp. 592-594), which made all its ornithological points accessible; and had due attention been paid to this matter, we should not now have to change certain names which have obtained undeserved currency through the deservedly high authority of the A. O. U. Check-List. Some objections which have been urged against Bartram's names do not extend to those of Barton, who was a strict binomialist, and whose identifiably described species must consequently be recognized if they happen to fall under our rule of priority. One of these is "*Falco glaucus* of Bartram," whose name and sufficient description are repeated by Barton, with due binomiality on p. 11 of his work. "Now," as I observed (*l. c.*, p. 593), "those who decline to have anything to do with Bartram, on the ground of his untenable nomenclature, will necessarily observe that *Elanus glaucus* (Barton, 1799) must replace *E. leucurus*," as Vieillot's *Milvus leucurus* dates 1818. Our Committee can hardly plead ignorance of the fact that *E. glaucus* has also stood as the name of the White-tailed Kite in my 'Key' since 1884; for that would argue an incredible unfamiliarity on their part with current ornithological literature. The mistake may be regarded as an oversight which we can hasten to correct in the next Supplement to the Check-List.

Reference to the Bibliography above mentioned will reveal a number of other Bartonian names which need attention. For example, *Certhia familiaris fusca* (Barton, 1799); for Barton's *C. fusca*, fully described, antedates Bonaparte's *C. americana* of 1838, as the name of the American