

this is a record for California. There is no question as to the identity for I am familiar with both our American forms. *P. nuttallii* occurs as far north along the Sacramento River as Shasta County.—R. C. MCGREGOR, U. S. Fish Hatchery, Battle Creek, Cal.

**On the Genus *Astragalinus* Cabanis.**—When Cabanis established the genus *Astragalinus* (Mus. Hein. I, July, 1851, 159) he mentioned no type, but ranged under the generic name *A. tristis*, *A. mexicanus*, and *A. columbianus*, and in a footnote mentions also *A. pistacinus* and *A. yarrelli* "as the nearest relatives of the type of the genus," which must, therefore have been one of the above mentioned species. In the catalogue of the Fringillidæ in the collection of the British Museum (Cat. Birds Brit. Mus. XII, 1888, 192), Dr. Sharpe gives the type as *Fringilla tristis* Linnaeus; and that he is correct in doing so is proven by the fact that the only one of the three species named by Cabanis to be made the type of another supposed genus is *Fringilla psaltria* Say (conspecific with *Carduelis mexicanus* Swainson), which Cassin, fourteen years later, designated as type of his subgenus *Pseudomitris* (Proc. Ac. Nat. Sci. Phila. 1865, 93). This clearly establishes *Fringilla tristis* as the type of the genus *Astragalinus*, even were *F. psaltria* (with its subspecies *mexicanus* and *columbianus*) generically distinct, which they are not. *Carduelis lawrencei* Cassin is also an *Astragalinus*, and the only known species of the genus not mentioned by Cabanis. The genus is confined, so far as known, to North America, one form barely entering the northern frontier of the southern continent. This is *Astragalinus psaltria columbiana*, which ranges from Colombia to Costa Rica. *Carduelis yarrelli* Audubon, which Cabanis, in the footnote cited above, refers to *Astragalinus* is a *Spinus*, as are all other purely South American species, as well as all of those peculiar to Mexico and Central America (excepting, of course, the subspecific forms of *Astragalinus psaltria*).

The North American species and subspecies of *Astragalinus* are as follows:—

529. *Astragalinus tristis* (LINN.).

*A. [stragalinus] tristis* CABANIS, Mus. Hein. I, July, 1851, 159.

529a. *Astragalinus tristis pallidus* (MEARNS).

529b. *Astragalinus tristis salicamans* (GRINNELL).

*Spinus tristis salicamans* GRINNELL, Auk, XIV, Oct. 1897, 397.

GEOG. DIST.—Pacific coast district of United States.

530. *Astragalinus psaltria* (SAY).

*Astragalinus psaltria* RIDGWAY, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus. III Aug. 27, 1880, 177.

530a. *Astragalinus psaltria arizonæ* (COUES).

*Astragalinus psaltria arizonæ* RIDGWAY, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus. III, Aug. 27, 1880, 177.

530b. *Astragalinus psaltria mexicanus* (SWAINS.).

*Astragalinus psaltria mexicanus* RIDGWAY, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus. III, Aug. 27, 1880, 177.

531. *Astragalinus lawrencei* (CASSIN).

*Astragalinus lawrencei* RIDGWAY, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus. III, Aug. 27, 1880, 177.

The remaining species ranged under *Spinus* in the A. O. U. Check-List should remain in that genus. — ROBERT RIDGWAY, *Washington, D. C.*

**Lapland Longspur (*Calcarius lapponicus*) in Massachusetts in Winter.** — The statement that there is but one winter record of the Lapland Longspur in New England (Brewster's *Minot's Land and Game Birds of New England*, page 194) makes it interesting to record a second occurrence. The record above was at Brandon, Vermont, February 21, 1879. On February 22, 1892, Mr. H. F. Kendall of Cambridge, Mass., shot a Longspur (unsexed) among a flock of Horned Larks at Duxbury, Mass. There were two Longspurs in the flock feeding on the beach, but one separated from the Larks as they flew up, and could not be found. The fact that the birds were in winter plumage among a flock of Horned Larks, would seem to show that they could hardly have been early migrants. The specimen that was shot is in Mr. Kendall's collection. — MINOT DAVIS, *Cambridge, Mass.*

**Henslow's Sparrow in Ontario.** — I have to record the first capture of Henslow's Sparrow (*Ammodramus henslowii*) in Canada, and its presence in fair numbers at different localities. At the north of the Thames River (Lake St. Clair) two were taken on May 24, and June 12, 1898; while near Sarnia, forty miles north, on July 2, two more were shot. Altogether about twelve specimens were seen and heard, and it seems probable that they are regular breeders in the western end of Ontario, their unobtrusive habits accounting for their not having been previously noted.

The birds were all in wet meadows not far from marshy ground, and while not particularly wild, were so difficult to see on the ground, and so shy of exposing themselves above it, that we saw probably only a few of those actually present. — W. E. SAUNDERS, *London, Ont.*

**On the Generic Name *Aimophila* versus *Peuceæa*.** — In a footnote on page 226 of 'The Auk' for July, 1898, I expressed my inability "to discover any characters sufficient to separate *Peuceæa* from *Aimophila*, unless the former be restricted to *P. æstivalis*, *P. botteri*, and *P. cassini*." After careful reconsideration of the matter, I am only the more firmly convinced that the generic name *Aimophila* must be used for *Ammodramus ruficeps* Cassin, and its subspecies, together with *Peuceæa carpalis* Coues. Some doubt exists as to the latter, the relationship of which is without doubt closer to *Aimophila sumichrasti* Lawrence than to any other species; but in any event, *P. carpalis* is not a *Peuceæa*, and since it must be removed from the last named genus (in event of its recognition as dis-