

upon this point, its text being as follows: "... a specific or subspecific name is to be changed when it has been applied to some other species of the same genus, or used previously in combination with the same generic name." The phrase, "or used previously in combination with the same generic name," seems to leave no doubt of its meaning; and a strictly literal interpretation of this clause will treat alike all combinations, whether or not they happen to be those of original descriptions.

Such being the case, there are two names in our North American List which must be changed. The first of these, *Piranga rubra*, for the Summer Tanager, is untenable because *Piranga rubra* was previously used by Vieillot, as well as by many succeeding authors, for the species now known as *Piranga erythromelas*. The rejection of *Piranga rubra* for the Summer Tanager permits its employment for the Scarlet Tanager; the former then becoming *Piranga æstiva*. This is rather a fortunate circumstance, for these two birds will thus bear the names so long in use before the publication of the first edition of the A. O. U. Check-List.

The specific term of *Carpodacus mexicanus frontalis* (*Fringilla frontalis* Say, Long's Exped. to Rocky Mts., 1824, II, 40) must give way on account of *Fringilla frontalis* Vieillot (Nouv. Dict. d'Hist. Nat. 1817, XII, 181), which is a synonym of *Sporopipes frontalis* (Daudin). The next available name seems to be *Carpodacus obscurus* McCall (Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila., June, 1851, 220), and the United States form of the House Finch will consequently become *Carpodacus mexicanus obscurus*. — HARRY C. OBERHOLSER, *Washington, D. C.*

Four Preoccupied Names. — *Psittacus augustus* Vigors, P. Z. S. (1836), Jan. 16, 1837, 80, for the Imperial Parrot of Dominica, is preoccupied by *Psittacus augustus* Shaw, Mus. Lever., 1792, 59, pl. 2. This will necessitate a new name for *Amazona augusta* (Vigors), which may be called *Amazona imperialis*, this name having stood for several years in Mr. Ridgway's MSS.

Pachyrhamphus similis was first used by Cherrie for a Nicaraguan Becard (Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., XIV, 1891, 343) and its subsequent use by Mr. Salvin for a South American species (Novit. Zool., II, 1895, 13) renders the latter open to a new name. It may be called *Pachyrhamphus salvini*.

Blax, lately proposed by Reichenow (Ornith. Monats., II, 1894, 126) for an African Barbet, is preoccupied by two or three genera of the same name in insects (Thomson, 1860; Loew, 1872, etc.). It is proposed to use as a substitute *Blacops*,¹ with a single species, *Blacops gymnophthalmus* (Reichenow).

Bocagia of Shelley (Bull. Brit. Orn. Club, XVIII, May 26, 1894, xliii), for two species of African Shrikes, is untenable, there being a *Bocageia*

¹ Βλαξ, and ὠψ.

Girard, Journ. Soc. Lisboa, III, 1893, 100, for a genus of Mollusks. Capt. Shelley's genus may be renamed *Antichromus*,¹ the two species being *Antichromus anchitæ* (Bocage), and *A. minutus* (Hartl.).—CHAS. W. RICHMOND, *Washington, D. C.*

New and Rare Birds in Kansas.—On June 12, 1898, Mr. R. Matthews, of Wichita, while enjoying an outing along the banks of the Arkansas River, some miles south of the city of Wichita, captured a specimen of Chuck-will's-widow, *Antrostomus carolinensis*. There is no doubt as to the identity, which was confirmed by Prof. Snow of Lawrence, to whom the specimen was submitted. This is the first record for the State, although the late Col. Goss and Prof. Popenoe were both confident that they had heard the notes of this bird.²

On August 16, 1898, Mr. F. E. Forbes of Topeka captured a fine male specimen of the Turnstone, *Arenaria interpres*, on the Kansas River near that place. The specimen was found alone and is an addition to the Kansas list.

About the middle of January, 1899, Prof. E. A. Popenoe of Berrytown, near Topeka, shot a pair of Bohemian Waxwings (*Ampelis garrulus*) from a flock of four. They were in company with some Cedar Waxwings, feeding on the berries of the ordinary red cedar. These are the first of these birds noted in the state for eighteen years; and there are only three other authentic records. They were previously taken at Fort Riley, by Dr. Hammond; at Ottawa, by Wm. Wheeler; and at Manhattan, by the writer.—D. E. LANTZ, *Chapman, Kan.*

More New Birds for Colorado.—*Astragalinus psaltria mexicanus*. A Goldfinch was shot near the city of Denver during the summer of 1888 by Mr. A. T. Allen, a taxidermist. He considered the bird to be *mexicanus*, and judging it to be out of its ordinary summer home he preserved the specimen. His identification has lately been confirmed by Prof. J. A. Allen who says that the specimen is not quite typical, but much nearer this form than any other. It is of course an accidental occurrence, as the species belongs in southern Texas and southward.

Branta canadensis minima. A typical specimen of this subspecies was shot April 10, 1898, by Mr. John F. Campion on a small lake near Loveland, Colorado. He presented it to the State Natural History

¹Ἄντι and χρώμα.

[²The head and wings of a female specimen of this species, taken at Wichita, Kansas, in 1898 (exact date not stated), were received recently at the American Museum of Natural History, New York, for identification, from Prof. L. L. Dyche, of the Kansas University. This adds a second authentic record for the Chuck-wills-widow in Kansas.—J. A. ALLEN.]