

Description of the Nestling Plumage of *Falco islandus*. — While preparing a report on the various collections of birds received by the American Museum of Natural History through the Peary Expeditions to Greenland, I learned from Mr. J. D. Figgins, taxidermist of the expeditions of 1896–97, that Mr. R. D. Perry, one of the members of the expedition of 1897, secured two specimens of *Falco islandus* from the nest. The plumage of the species at that age having a very important bearing on the question of the relationships of the Greenland Gyrfalcons, I wrote Mr. Perry with the result that he kindly forwarded the birds for examination, and with his permission, I append the following description, which applies equally to both specimens:

Crown and nape as in the adult, white with narrow blackish shaft-streaks increasing in width posteriorly; back white, the apical half of the feather with a guttate or elliptical ovate fuscous mark bordered by white, and sometimes continuing as a narrow line down the shaft of its feather to the base; rump white with narrow fuscous shaft-streaks; quills with broken blackish bars and a sub-apical blackish tip, agreeing in pattern with the quills of the adult bird, but with the white portions, especially of the outer web, slightly suffused with pale ochraceous; wing-coverts as in the adult but with the blackish markings linear rather than transverse; tail, about two thirds grown, pure white without bars or other markings; under parts white, as in the adult, with a few fuscous shaft-streaks; under tail-coverts white, unmarked.

In general appearance these birds are quite as white as fully adult individuals and apparently prove that *Falco islandus* is, as has been claimed, white at all ages, and they thus furnish confirmatory evidence of its specific distinctness.

Moulting specimens of *Falco rusticolus* show that the immature, linear-marked plumage is directly succeeded by the mature barred plumage and it is probable, therefore, that the adult plumage of *F. islandus* is acquired in the same manner. — FRANK M. CHAPMAN, *American Museum Natural History, New York City*.

Prairie Horned Larks Nesting in Maine. — In his 'List of the Birds of Maine,' page 82, Mr. Knight says respecting the occurrence of *Otocoris alpestris praticola*: "It is a regular migrant in many parts of the State, and it is not improbable that it may ultimately be found breeding within our State." Its first record of occurrence in the State was made by Mr. James Carroll Meade of North Bridgton (*cf.* Maine Sportsman, April, 1897, p. 6).

The members of the Maine Ornithological Society then naturally looked more carefully to their identifications of *Otocoris*, with the result, as stated by Mr. Knight in his list, as mentioned above.

In the January, 1900, number of the 'Journal of the Maine Ornithological Society,' page 2, Mr. Arthur H. Norton, of Westbrook, mentions seeing two specimens of *Otocoris* in Andover, Oxford Co., Maine, which he