

An examination of Gmelin's work shows that he used the name *Larus* for the Gulls systematically throughout his 'Reise' and only in one instance makes use of the name *Gavia*, and in this case merely as a quasi citation from Brisson, and having no reference whatever to *Gavia* Möhring. The passage in which *Gavia* is used, so far as it has any bearing on the case in point, is as follows: "*Gavia ridibunda phaenicopos*. Die Grosse Lach-Möve. Sie ist von Brisson schön beschrieben worden, und ich habe bey ihr nur zwey Anmerkungen zu machen. Die eine betrifft den Unterschied des Geschlechts, und diese besteht in Schnabel. . . ."

On referring to Brisson I find in Vol. VI of his 'Ornithologie,' page 196, that he describes a Gull to which he applies the name *Gavia ridibunda phaenicopos*, to which Gmelin here refers. Brisson, however, did not recognize a genus *Gavia*, but placed all the Gulls under *Larus*, beginning in every case his diagnoses "*Larus supernæ cinereus*," etc., as the case might require. Brisson's genus *Larus* is his genus "No. CII," under which he has 15 species, the technical name of 5 of which begins with the name *Larus* and the remaining 10 with the name *Gavia*, an eccentricity not confined to the genus *Larus*, and of no nomenclatural significance (see, for example, under Brisson's genus *Anser*, where *Cygnus* and *Bernicla* are employed in place of *Anser*).

The use of the name *Gavia* by Gmelin is merely in the sense of a reference to Brisson, he nowhere adopting *Gavia* in a generic sense for any Gull. It is evident, therefore that by no fair construction can *Gavia* be considered as established in a generic sense by S. G. Gmelin in 1770, and that it, "therefore, must be considered as a mere synonym of *Larus*."—J. A. ALLEN, *American Museum of Natural History, New York City*.

Occurrence of the Glossy Ibis at Washington, D. C.—A specimen of the Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis autumnalis*) was shot by a hunter near Washington, D. C., September, 1900, and brought to the taxidermist shop of Mr. A. E. Colburn, to be mounted, where I examined it while it was in the flesh and absolutely identified it.

So far as I can learn, this is the first instance of the occurrence of this species in the District of Columbia.—JOHN W. DANIEL, JR., *Lynchburg, Va.*

The Red Phalarope (*Crymophilus fulicarius*) on the Coast of South Carolina.—An adult male of this far northern species was captured alive near the town of Mount Pleasant, S. C., in an exhausted state, by Mr. W. D. Hamlin on December 4, 1900, and presented to the writer. Upon preparing the specimen I found it to be greatly emaciated, but the plumage was entirely unworn. As far as I am aware this is the most southerly record of this bird for the Atlantic coast.—ARTHUR T. WAYNE, *Mount Pleasant, S. C.*