

out in the back yard, not fifteen rods from the house, that I was escorted to an open shed, some dozen feet square, with roof of rough slabs laid double and supported by four corner posts, and with three open sides and one, the east, a rock. It was occupied by a small portable forge and anvil and the usual tools of a smithy, evidently long out of use. The end of one of the slabs of the roof, by the forces of decay, had fallen away from its support several inches, and on the shelf so formed between it and the slab above was the nest I had come to see; chiefly composed of decayed leaves, weed stems, fine rootlets, and rubbish, outwardly, and nearly filling the space, lined with stems of maple seed, horse-hair, and pieces of snake-skin. There was no tenant and neither welcome nor remonstrance greeted our intrusion, and the only bird note the cheery song of a Red-eyed Vireo in the tree that spread its shading arms over our heads. Finding seats we waited quietly and patiently the greeting and salutation anticipated as unwelcome guests intruding upon the family affairs of a stranger. Ten minutes of quiet and a little bird flitted from the thicket near, to a branch some fifteen feet away; for five minutes she remained quiet, motionless as a statue, and watched the invaders of her domain; she then descended to the water pool near, took a drink and began chasing the insects around the pool a few moments; then by short flights and leaps she drew near to her visitors till she reached a perch on a small stone not three feet away from us and watched us and our every motion, first with one eye and then with the other, till some slight motion on our part sent her scurrying into the thicket. It was a fine typical specimen of the Great Carolina Wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*), and her nest contained five eggs typical of the species, as found in the usual Carolina haunts. Mr. Watrous tells me that he has observed the birds in that vicinity for several years; that he saw the nest and young reared near the same place in a brush heap last year, and he has heard their inimitable song ringing out every month and every week of the year! The birds were perfectly quiet throughout our interview, no song of transport and no note of displeasure once met our ears. This is the first proof I have ever received that this bird was a permanent resident of Connecticut, and I believe this to be the first record of its nidification in the State. — JOHN N. CLARK, *Saybrook, Conn.*

The Blue-gray Gnatcatcher in New York City.—A Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (*Poliioptila carulea*) was seen in Central Park, New York City, and positively identified, on May 22, 1901. — C. B. ISHAM, *New York City.*

Various Massachusetts Notes of Interest.—*Sterna caspia*—A young female was shot out of a flock of five on September 6, 1901, by Mr. B. C. Tower at Ipswich. These birds seem to appear on our coast very irregularly, but often in fair numbers.

Lanius ludovicianus migrans. — On September 19, 1901, at Yarmouthport on Cape Cod I observed a single bird of this species, which from its wariness I was unable to secure. In the house where I boarded there was another specimen of the Migrant Shrike, taken near Lowell a number of autumns ago. These two records make the tenth and eleventh for the State.

Hylocichla fuscescens fuliginosa. — In this same house I discovered a specimen of the Newfoundland Thrush, taken also near Lowell, a number of autumns ago. This is the second record for the State. — REGINALD HEBER HOWE, Jr., *Longwood, Mass.*

Necessary Generic Changes in Nomenclature. — *Helotarsus* Smith (S. African Quart. Journ., I, No. II, Jan.-Apr., 1830, 110), the commonly accepted generic name for the *Bateleur*, is slightly antedated by *Terathopius*, of Lesson (Traité, livr. i, Feb., 1830), whose name should be used.

Polyboroides Smith (S. Afr. Journ., I, Apr. 1830, 106), is a similar case, and should give way to *Gymnogenys* Lesson (Traité, livr. i, Feb. 1830, 64).

Cyphorhinus Cabanis (Archiv f. Naturgesch. X, i, 1844, 282), for a genus of Wrens, is preoccupied by *Cyphorhina* Lesson (Écho du monde savant, sér. 2, VII, June 15, 1843, 1068 — type, *Podargus papuensis* (Q. & G.). *Leucolepia* Reichenbach should supersede *Cyphorhinus*.

Perissornis Oberholser (Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phil., 1899, 216), a new name for *Dilophus* Vieillot, preoccupied, was long ago called *Creatophora* by Lesson (Compl. Œuvres Buffon, ed. Lévêque, XX, 1847, 308), whose name should be accepted for *Gracula carunculata* Gmelin.

Lessonia Swainson (Fauna Boreali-Americana, II, Feb. 1832, 490), should be used in place of *Centrites*, which was proposed by Cabanis (Archiv f. Naturgesch., 1847, I, 256), on the ground that *Lessonia* was preoccupied in botany.

Dendrophila Swainson (Classif. Birds, II, July, 1837, 318), is preoccupied by *Dendrophila* Hodgson (Madras Journ., V, No. 15, April, 1837, 432). *Calisitta* Reichenbach is available for the small group of Nuthatches to which Swainson applied the above name.

Docimastes Gould (Monogr. Trochil., IV, 1849, pl. 233), is antedated by *Ensifera* Lesson (Écho du monde savant, sér. 2, VIII, Oct. 19, 1843, 734). The Sword-billed Hummingbird should therefore be known as *Ensifera ensifera*.

Metallura Gould (P. Z. S., 1847, 94), was earlier named *Laticauda* by Lesson (Écho du monde savant, sér. 2, VIII, Oct. 22, 1843, 758 — type, *Trochilus tyrianthinus* Loddiges), whose name should be used. — CHAS. W. RICHMOND, *Washington, D. C.*

Northern Visitants to Oregon. — Mr. B. J. Bretherton has recently sent me some birds from Lincoln County, Oregon, three of which are of particular interest.