

intend to limit it to a consideration of Maine taken species because he added to the first portion of the title 'and about the Islands of the Bay of Fundy.' In many of Mr. Boardman's writings exact localities where specimens were taken, such as Grand Menan, Indian Island, St. Stephen, were given; but in spite of this subsequent writers have called such records Maine records, and cited the specimens recorded as being taken in Maine.

In 1896-97, when preparing the manuscript of 'A List of the Birds of Maine' for publication, Mr. Boardman and I desired to have his records straightened out, as he realized he had been *persistently misquoted* by many ornithologists of note. Accordingly Mr. Boardman went carefully over all his records, and all entitled to be cited as birds of Maine are given *completely and correctly*, as I was assured by Mr. Boardman, in 'A List of the Birds of Maine,' while in the hypothetical list at the end of this work reason for excluding many of the species previously accredited to Maine, owing to the misquoting of Mr. Boardman, is given.

Writers in the future should be careful not to accredit any species to Maine upon the authority of quotations from Mr. Boardman's lists, or on other authority directly or indirectly derived therefrom, unless such species is given in the publication above referred to, or unless other positive information of more recent date is at hand. It is perhaps well at this stage to call the attention of ornithologists to the fact that Mr. Boardman published a list entitled 'St. Croix Birds' and other scientific lists in the Calais 'Weekly Times' between November 23, 1899, and February 5, 1900. I wish to especially emphasize the fact that this St. Croix List is not confined in its enumerations to Maine specimens, and that it does not purport to be anything other than what the title taken in its very broadest sense would indicate, and that consequently many species recorded there were taken or seen in New Brunswick.

Though, as stated in the beginning, the attention of ornithological writers has been called to the facts herein stated more or less frequently, yet the erroneous citation of Mr. Boardman's records by two writers within the past month would indicate that many are still in ignorance of the facts in the case. — O. W. KNIGHT, *Bangor, Maine*.

Swainson and Audubon. — The letter of Swainson to Audubon in 'The Auk' for January, 1905 (XXII, p. 31-34) solved a problem that perplexed me in 1900 while writing a biography of Swainson. I assumed that Swainson's letter of "2d October 1830" (see Auk, Jan., 1898, p. 11-13) might have been an answer to Audubon's of "22 Aug. 1830," inasmuch as no subsequent letter from Audubon earlier than "6 June 1831" was in the Linnæan collection (see Osprey, V, 24). The letter of Swainson published by Mr. Ruthven Deane, however, shows that such was not the case. It is now clear that Audubon made his proposition for limited partnership while in Manchester, in his letter dated "22 Aug. 1830"; to this Swainson responded in his letter dated "Thursday." (Thursday of August in 1830

fell on the 26th.) To this Audubon must have replied, but his letter is missing from the Linnæan collection. To that lost letter Swainson's letter of "2d October 1830" undoubtedly is an answer. The letters are published in the following Journals:

1830, Aug. 22 (Manchester). Audubon's letter proposing coöperation, etc. (Synopsis in Proc. Linn. Soc., London, May 22, 1900, p. 26; republished in Osprey, IV, p. 24)

1830, Aug. 26. Swainson's letter (undated) published in Auk, XXII, pp. 32-34.

1830, Aug. 29. Audubon's letter in reply to last: apparently lost.

1830, Oct. 2. Swainson's letter in answer to last, published in Auk, XV, 1898, pp. 11-13; republished in Osprey, IV, p. 171, V, pp. 8, 9.

Let us hope that the editor of 'The Auk' will procure a copy of Audubon's letter of Aug. 22 and publish it. — THEO. GILL, *Washington, D. C.*

RECENT LITERATURE.

Ridgway's 'The Birds of North and Middle America,' Part III.¹—The first 500 pages—rather more than half—of the present volume, we are told in the preface, "were printed during the year 1903," when it became necessary to suspend the printing until July, 1904; its publication was

¹ The Birds | of | North and Middle America : | A Descriptive Catalogue | of the | Higher Groups, Genera, Species, and Subspecies of Birds | known to occur in North America, from the | Arctic Lands to the Isthmus of Panama | the West Indies and Other Islands | of the Caribbean Sea, and the Galapagos Archipelago. | By | Robert Ridgway, | Curator, Division of Birds. | — | Part III. |

Family Motacilladæ — The Wagtails and Pipits.

Family Hirundinidæ — The Swallows.

Family Ampelidæ — The Waxwings.

Family Ptilogonatidæ — The Silky Flycatchers.

Family Dulidæ — The Palm Chats.

Family Vireonidæ — The Vireos.

Family Laniidæ — The Shrikes.

Family Corvidæ — The Crows and Jays. |

Family Paridæ — The Titmice. |

Family Sittidæ — The Nuthatches. |

Family Certhiidæ — The Creepers. |

Family Troglodytidæ — The Wrens.

Family Cinclidæ — The Dippers. |

Family Chamæidæ — The Wren-Tits. |

Family Sylviidæ — The Warblers | —

| Washington : | Government Printing Office, | 1904. = Bulletin of the United States National Museum, No. 50, Part III. 8vo, pp. i-xx + 1-801, pll. i-xix.