

358 [=258] *Anser ferruginea* = *Anser Tartaricus ferrugineus* p. 25  
 320 *Trynga alba* = *Tringa Leucophæa* p. 32

Unfortunately Dr. Richmond has adopted *Parus aureus* from the Catalogue, and the committee of the American Ornithologists' Union adopted *Tringa leucophæa*. If these names are rejected as I think they must be then *Euphonia aurea* (Pallas) p. 345 of Dr. Richmond's paper will revert to *Euphonia chlorotica* Linn. 1766; while the Sanderling will be known as *Calidris alba* Pallas as given by Dr. Richmond, p. 347.

I can see no excuse whatever for rejecting the names given in the *Adumbratiunculæ* and the changes in nomenclature suggested by Dr. Richmond should be adopted.

Moreover one more seems to be necessary. The Crested Guinea Fowl, *Guttera cristata* usually quoted from *Numida cristata* Pallas Spic. Zool. I, p. 15, 1767, is described in the *Adumbratiunculæ* 1764 as *Meleagris cristata*. This name however is invalidated by *Meleagris cristata* Linn., Syst. Nat. 1758, and I would therefore propose for *Meleagris cristata* Pallas 1764 (= *Numida cristata* Pallas 1767) the name ***Guttera pallasi***.



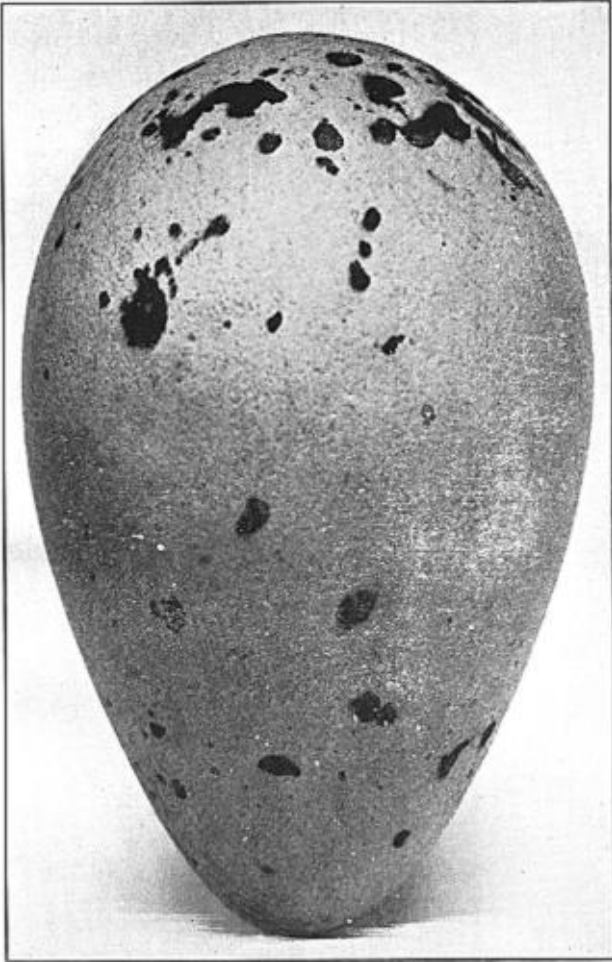
## GREAT AUK EGGS IN THE THAYER MUSEUM.

BY JOHN E. THAYER.

### *Plate XII.*

THERE is at the present time a series of eight eggs of the Great Auk, *Plautus impennis*, in my collection. Three of these were described in 'The Auk' for 1905. The others are those numbered XIV to XVIII in Thomas Parkin's Catalogue of mounted skins and eggs of the Great Auk sold at public auction in Great Britain 1806-1910, from which publication the following notes are taken.

Egg XIV was found in the shop of Mons. Perrot, Naturalist Prépareteur at the Museum of Natural History in Paris, by the late



EGG OF THE GREAT AUK IN THE THAYER MUSEUM.

Sir William Milner who purchased it November 23, 1847, for 200 francs. After his death the egg was purchased by Mr. T. G. Middlebrook, April 23, 1895, for £189.

Egg XV was originally obtained in Iceland about 1830 by a ship owner of St. Malo who bequeathed it to Comte Raoul de Baracé. Upon his death it was secured by Baron d'Hamonville in March, 1887. On June 25, 1895, it was offered at auction in London and was bought by Messrs. Jay & Co. for £173 5s and two years later July 27, 1897, was again sold to Mr. T. G. Middlebrook for £168. It was figured in the *Memoirs of the Société Zoologique de France* 1888, plate 6, fig. C.

Egg XVI from Iceland, was sold by Frederick Schultz of Dresden to Mr. Hugh Reid, May 23, 1841. The same year the latter sold it to Mr. J. H. Tuke for £2. 6s. and at the executors' sale April 20, 1896, it was purchased by Mr. Heattey Noble for Mr. Wm. Newell for £168. This egg is referred to in Hewitson's *Coloured Illustrations of British Birds* 1846, Vol. II, p. 413, and is shown in the accompanying plate. (Plate XII.)

Egg XVII one of three which were in the collection of the *Vicomte de Barde* for some thirty years prior to 1825 when they went with the rest of his collection to the *Boulogne Museum*. The curator of this institution exchanged them to Mr. James Gardner Jr. for an Ostrich skin. Mr. Gardner brought them to London and sold them to Mr. F. H. Potts, who after disposing of two of them at auction May 24, 1853, sailed to New Zealand taking the present egg with him. He died in 1888 and about 1891 the egg was purchased by Mr. Henry O. Forbes, curator of the *Canterbury Museum*, Christ Church, New Zealand. It was returned to England and was in the collection of Mr. Leopold Field from whom it was purchased by Mr. Rowland Ward. It was offered at auction April 13, 1897 and was bought by Mr. T. G. Middlebrook for £294. Probably no bird's egg has ever travelled so widely!

Egg XVIII has the same early history as No. XV and was figured by the Baron d'Hamonville, Plate 6, fig. B, of the paper already referred to. It was purchased, July 19, 1899, by Mr. T. G. Middlebrook for £315, but on the dispersal of the Middlebrook Museum January 30, 1908, it brought only £110, and was bought by Mr. Rowland Ward.