1904. Between August 28 and September 7, 1918, Mr. Robert Moorcroft obtained four, which had been killed or wounded by wires, at the same street corner. He saw many others, during the same few days, and says he has found dead or wounded Robins, at the same place, for some time past. The stomachs were empty in each case, so that the birds are evidently killed during the night or before feeding in the morning. A few high wires pass over a small wooded park at this corner but no definite reason can be given for high Robin mortality at this point.—H. L.

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SEVENTEENTH SUPPLEMENT TO THE AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGISTS’ UNION CHECK-LIST OF NORTH AMERICAN BIRDS.

The Sixteenth Supplement, the only one since the appearance of the Third (1910) Edition of the American Ornithologists' Union 'Check-List of North American Birds,' was published in July, 1912. Since that time it has for various reasons not been expedient to publish further decisions. The Committee on Nomenclature, since its reorganization at the A. O. U. meeting in November, 1919, has decided to begin the preparation of a new A. O. U. 'Check-List.' This is undertaken as part of the cooperation between the British Ornithologists' Union and the American Ornithologists' Union in the production of a series of lists of the birds of the several zoogeographical regions of the world, and will probably be issued as the Nearctic volume of the proposed 'Systema Avium.'

Since the publication of the last A. O. U. 'Check-List' the great activity among American ornithologists has resulted in an almost unbelievable number—several hundreds—of additions and changes most of which have been listed from time to time in 'The Auk' and will have the consideration of the A. O. U. Committee. As fast as these cases are disposed of, it is planned to publish the decisions in supplements to the 'Check-List,' in order that those who have occasion to use the names of North American birds may have the benefit of the opinions of the Committee.
The present supplement is made up almost wholly of purely nomenclatural changes and represents a considerable portion of such cases now pending. The number of additions and changes here treated is 32; of rejections, 35.

Witmer Stone, Chairman
Harry C. Oberholser, Secretary
Committee
Jonathan Dwight
T. S. Palmer
Charles W. Richmond

ADDITIONS AND CHANGES OF NOMENCLATURE.


Hydrochelidon Boie becomes Chlidonias Rafinesque (Kentucky Gaz., I, No. 8, Feb. 21, 1822, p. 3, col. 5; type by monotypy, Chlidonias melanops Rafinesque (= Sterna surinamensis Gmelin) (cf. Rhoads, 'The Auk,' XXIX, No. 2, April, 1912, pp. 197–198), because the latter name has priority. The North American forms of this genus are:

77. Chlidonias nigra surinamensis (Gmelin).
78. Chlidonias leucoptera leucoptera (Temminck).
**Thalassidroma** Vigors becomes **Hydrobates** Boie (Isis, 1822, col. 562; type, by subsequent designation [Gray, List Genera Birds, 1840, p. 78], *Procellaria pelagica* Linnaeus), because the latter name is of earlier date, and is not invalidated by *Hydrobata* Vieillot, a word with a different classical ending. (Cf. Hartert, Hand-List British Birds, 1912, p. 149.) The only North American species is:

104. **Hydrobates pelagicus** (Linnaeus).

**Aestrelata** Bonaparte becomes **Pterodroma** Bonaparte (Compt. Rend. Ac. Sci., XLII, May, 1856, p. 768; type by subsequent designation [Salvin, Cat. Birds Brit. Mus., XXV, 1896, p. 397], *Procellaria macroptera* Smith), because the earliest place of publication of both *Aestrelata* and *Pterodroma* proves to be Comptes Rendus, XLII, May, 1856, p. 768, and here *Pterodroma* has anteriority. (Cf. Mathews, Birds Australia, II, pt. 2, July 31, 1912, p. 131.)

**Sula cyanops** Sundevall becomes **Sula dactylatra** Lesson (Voyage Coquille, I, April, 1829, p. 494; Ascension Island). (Cf. Mathews, Novit. Zool., XVIII, No. 1, June 17, 1911, pp. 9–10.) While *Sula dactylatra* is not with certainty determinable at the original place of publication in the ‘Voyage of the Coquille,’ Lesson himself soon afterward (Traité d’Ornith., 1831, p. 601) made its identity certain. It should, however, date from its first introduction.


117. **Moris bassana** (Linnaeus).

**Ibididae** becomes **Threskiornithidae**, because the type of the genus *Ibis* proves to be a stork, *Tantalus ibis* Linnaeus; and the proper name for the genus *Ibis*, the type genus of the family, now becomes *Threskiornis* Gray. (Cf. Mathews, ‘The Auk,’ XXX, No. 1, January, 1913, p. 95; Richmond, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., LIII, August 16, 1917, pp. 580, 636.)

**Herodias** Boie becomes **Casmerodius** Gloger (Gemein. Hand-und Hilfsb. Naturg., 1842, p. 412; type by subsequent designation [Sharpe, Cat. Birds Brit. Mus., XXVI, 1898, p. 88], *Ardea egretta* Gmelin), because the type of *Herodias* Boie is, by subsequent designation (Gray, List Gen. Birds, ed. 2, 1841, p. 86) *Ardea garzetta* Gmelin
making *Herodias* thus a synonym of *Egretta* Forster. The earliest available name for the present genus is therefore *Casmerodius* Gloger. The only North American species is

196. **Casmerodius egretta** (Gmelin).

*Clangula* Oken becomes **Glaucionetta** Stejneger (Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., VIII, Oct. 9, 1884, p. 409; type by original designation, *Anas clangula* Linnaeus), since *Clangula* Oken proves to be a nomen nudum (cf. Committee British Ornithologists’ Union, List Brit. Birds, 1915, p. 384); *Glaucion* Kaup to be preoccupied by *Glaucion* Oken (Mollusca, 1816); and *Bucephala* Baird to be invalidated by *Bucephalus* Baer (Vermes, 1827). The North American forms are:

151. **Glaucionetta clangula americana** (Bonaparte).

152. **Glaucionetta islandica** (Gmelin).

*Harelda* Stephens becomes **Clangula** Leach (in Ross’ Voyage Disc., 1819, append., p. xlvi; type by monotypy, *Anas hyemalis* Linnaeus), as this is the oldest tenable name for the genus. (Cf. Hartert, Hand-List Brit. Birds, 1912, p. 142.) The employment of *Clangula* Leach in the above sense now proves necessary since it was based exclusively on the Old-squaw, and since *Clangula* Oken (Isis, I, 1817, col. 1183), along with the other Oken generic names published in the same connection, are considered nomina nuda because not definitely referring to Cuvier's groups. (Cf. Committee British Ornithologists’ Union, List Brit. Birds, 1915, p. 384.) The only species of this genus will now stand as

154. **Clangula hyemalis** (Linnaeus).

*Scolopacinae* is recognized as a subfamily of *Scolopacidae*, to include Nos. 227 to 230.1 of the A. O. U. Check-List. (Cf. Ridgway, Bull. U. S. Nat. Mus., No. 50, pt. VIII, 1919, pp. 145–146.)


231. **Limnodromus griseus griseus** (Gmelin).

232. **Limnodromus griseus scolopaceus** (Say).


*Pisobia aurita* (Latham) becomes **Pisobia acuminata** (Horsfield) (*Totanus acuminatus* Horsfield, Trans. Linn. Soc. Lond., XIII, May,
1821, p. 192; Java), because Tringa aurita Latham proves to have been based on a drawing of Actitis hypoleuca (Linnaeus). (Cf. Mathews, Novit. Zool., XVIII, No. 1, June 17, 1911, p. 7.)


Calidris leucophaea (Pallas) becomes Crocethia alba (Pallas) (Trynga alba Pallas, in Vroeg. Cat. Col. Oiseaux, Oct. 6, 1764, p. 7; coast of North Sea), by reason of the change of the generic name Calidris to Crocethia (cf. supra), and the rejection of Tringa leucophaea "Pallas" as non-binomial. (Cf. Stone, 'The Auk,' XXIX, No. 2, April, 1912, p. 208.)


Helodromas Kaup becomes Tringa Linnaeus, because the type of Tringa Linnaeus is, by tautonymy, Tringa ocropus Linnaeus. (Cf. Mathews, Novit. Zool., XVIII, No. 1, June 17, 1911, pp. 5-6.) The North American forms will therefore now stand as follows:

256. Tringa solitaria solitaria Wilson.
256a. Tringa solitaria cinnamomea (Brewster).
257. Tringa ocropus Linnaeus.

Heteractitis Stejneger becomes Heteroscelus Baird (Rep. Explor. and Surv. R. R. Pac., IX, 1858, p. 734; type by monotypy, Totanus breipes Vieillot); since Heteroscelus Baird 1858 is not invalidated by Heteroscelis Latreille 1825. (Cf. Mathews, Novit. Zool., XVIII, No. 1, June 17, 1911, p. 5; Oberholser, 'The Auk,' XXXVI, No. 2, April, 1919, pp. 278-279.) The North American species will therefore stand as

259. Heteroscelus incanus (Gmelin).

Charadrius Linnaeus becomes Pluvialis Brisson (Ornith., V, 1760, p. 42; type by tautonymy, Charadrius apricarius Linnaeus), because Charadrius Linnaeus proves to apply to the genus known as Aegialitis (cf. Mathews, Novit. Zool., XVIII, No. 1, June 17, 1911, pp. 5-6), and Pluvialis Brisson is the earliest tenable name for the Golden Plovers. The North American forms are:

271. Pluvialis apricaria (Linnaeus).
272. Pluvialis dominica dominica (Müller).
272a. Pluvialis dominica fulva (Gmelin).
Aegialitis Boie becomes Charadrius Linnaeus, because the type of Charadrius Linnaeus is, by tautonymy, Charadrius hiaticula Linnaeus. (Cf. Mathews, Novit. Zool., XVIII, No. 1, June 17, 1911, pp. 5–6.) The North American species are:

274. Charadrius semipalmatus Bonaparte.
275. Charadrius hiaticula Linnaeus.
276. Charadrius dubius Scopoli.
277. Charadrius melodus Ord.
278. Charadrius nivosus (Cassin).
279. Charadrius mongolus Pallas.

Chaemepelia passerina terrestris (Chapman) becomes Chaemepelia passerina passerina (Linnaeus) (Columba passerina Linnaeus, Syst. Nat., ed. 10, I, 1758, p. 165; “America inter tropicos”), because Bonaparte in 1855 was the first author to fix the type locality of Columba passerina Linnaeus, and he restricted it to North America. (Cf. Todd, Annals Carnegie Mus., VIII, 1913, p. 533.)

Catharista Vieillot becomes Coragyps Geoffroy (Le Maout, Hist. Nat. Oiseaux, 1853, p. 66; type, Vultur urubu Vieillot), because the type of the former proves to be Vultur aura Linnaeus, and Coragyps Geoffroy is therefore the earliest tenable generic name for the Black Vulture. (Cf. Stone, Princeton Patag. Exped., II, pt. IV, 1915, p. 540; Chubb, Birds Brit. Guiana, I, 1916, p. 208.) The only North American form is

326. Coragyps urubu urubu (Vieillot).

Aluco Fleming becomes Tyto Billberg (Synop. Faunae Scand., I, pars 2, 1828, tab. A; new name for Strix Savigny; type, Strix alba Scopoli), because Aluco Fleming 1822 is preoccupied by Aluco Link 1807; and because Tyto Billberg, not being invalidated by Tyta Billberg 1820, a word of different classical termination, is the earliest available name. (Cf. Mathews, Novit. Zool., XVII, No. 3, Dec. 15, 1910, p. 500.)

Oreospiza Ridgway becomes Oberholseria Richmond (Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., XXVIII, No. 29, 1915, p. 180; type by original designation, Fringilla chlorura Audubon), because Oreospiza Ridgway 1896 is preoccupied by Oreospiza Keitel 1857, and Oberholseria is proposed in its place. (Cf. Richmond, loc. cit.) The only species is

592. 1. Oberholseria chlorura (Audubon).

Mniotiltidae becomes Compsothlypidae, because Compsothlypis Cabanis, not Mniotilta Vieillot, is the type genus of the family. (Cf. Oberholser, Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., XXXII, April 11, 1919, p. 46.)

Helinaia Audubon becomes Limnothlypis Stone (Science, N. S., XL, No. 1018, July 3, 1914, p. 26; type by original designation and monotypy, Sylvia swainsonii Audubon), because the type of Helinaia Audubon is, by subsequent designation (Gray, List Gen. Birds, ed. 2, 1841, p. 33), Motacilla vermivora Gmelin, which makes Helinaia a synonym of Helmitheros Rafinesque. (Cf. Stone, loc. cit.; and Rich-
mond, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., LIII, Aug. 16, 1917, p. 598.) The only species is
638. Limnothlypis swainsonii (Audubon).

Vermivora rubricapilla (Wilson) becomes Vermivora ruficapilla (Wilson) (Sylvia ruficapilla Wilson, Amer. Ornith., III, 1811, p. 120, pl. XXVII, fig. 3; near Nashville, Tenn.), because the latter is not preoccupied by Sylvia ruficapilla Latham 1790, since this is merely a nomenclatural combination—i.e., not an original description. (Cf. Cooke, 'The Auk,' XXIX, No. 4, Oct., 1912, p. 545.) The races of this species therefore become
645. Vermivora ruficapilla ruficapilla (Wilson).
645a. Vermivora ruficapilla gutturalis (Ridgway).

Compsothlypis americana usneae Brewster becomes Compsothlypis americana pusilla (Wilson), because Sylvia pusilla Latham (Suppl. Ind. Orn., 1801, p. 56), which supposedly preoccupied Sylvia pusilla Wilson (Amer. Ornith., IV, 1811, p. 71, pl. 28, fig. 3; eastern Pennsylvania), is only a nomenclatural combination, not an original description, and thus does not invalidate Wilson's name; and the latter, therefore, becomes available for the bird later described as Compsothlypis americana usneae Brewster. (Cf. Brewster, 'The Auk,' XXXV, No. 2, April, 1918, p. 228.)

Saxicola Bechstein becomes Oenanthe Vieillot (Analyse Nouv. Syst. Orn. Élément., 1816, p. 43; type by tautonymy, Motacilla oenanthe Linnaeus), because the type of Saxicola is, by subsequent designation, Motacilla rubicola Linnaeus, a number of the genus Pratincola Koch. (Cf. Mathews, Novit. Zool., XVIII, No. 1, June 17, 1911, p. 20). The North American forms are:
765. Oenanthe oenanthe oenanthe (Linnaeus).
765a. Oenanthe oenanthe leucorhoa (Gmelin).

CHANGES OF NOMENCLATURE REJECTED.


earliest tenable designation (Committee American Ornithologists' Union, Check-List North Amer. Birds, 1886, p. 73) the type of Colymbus Linnaeus is determined as Colymbus cristatus Linnaeus, and consequently this generic name must be continued in use for the grebes. (Cf. Hartert, Brit. Birds, IX, 1915, p. 55.)

**Lunda** Pallas versus **Ahea** [lege Alea] Boddaert. (Cf. Mathews, Austral-Avian Record, III, No. 2, Nov. 19, 1915, p. 37.) Change not accepted, because Alea is to be regarded as clearly a typographical error for Ahea.


**Larus hyperboreus** Gunnerus versus **Larus glaucus** Brünnich. (Cf. Hartert, Hand-List British Birds, 1912, p. 202). Change rejected, because Larus glaucus Brünnich 1764 is rendered invalid by the prior Larus glaucus Pontoppidan 1763, which was applied to Larus canus Linnaeus.

**Sterna caspia** Pallas versus **Sterna tchegrawa** Lepechin. (Cf. Hartert, Hand-List British Birds, 1912, p. 192.) Change rejected, because, while Sterna tchegrawa is sufficiently described, and has anteriority over Sterna caspia Pallas, Lepechin is clearly non-binomial in the article (Nov. Com. Acad. Sci. Imp. Petrop., XIV, pt. 1, 1770, p. 500) in which Sterna tchegrawa is described.

**Daption Stephens** versus **Petrella Zimmermann**. (Cf. Mathews, 'The Auk,' XXXI, No. 1, Jan., 1914, pp. 90–91.) Change rejected, because Zimmermann is not binomial in the publication in question (Bartram, Reisen Nord- und Sud-Karolina, 1793, p. 293), nor is he a binary author accepted by the International Zoological Commission.

**Clangula Oken** versus **Bucephala Baird**. (Cf. Hartert, British Birds, IX, No. 1, June 1, 1915, p. 7.) Change rejected, because Bucephala Baird 1858 is preoccupied by Bucephalus Baeer 1827, a genus of Vermes. Furthermore, the proper name for the genus is Glauconetta Stejneger (cf. antea, p. 442).


**Erismatura Bonaparte** versus **Oxyura** Bonaparte. (Cf. Mathews, Novit. Zool., XVIII, No. 1, June 17, 1911, p. 9.) Change rejected, as Oxyura Bonaparte 1828 is considered preoccupied by Oxyurus Swainson 1827.

**Erismatura Bonaparte** versus **Cerconectes** Wagler. (Cf. Mathews, Novit. Zool., XVIII, No. 1, June 17, 1911, p. 9.) Change rejected,
because, while *Cerconectes* possibly appeared before *Erismatura*, the exact dates of publication are still too indefinitely determinable.


**Himantopus Brisson versus Hypsibates Nitzsch.** (Cf. Mathews, Novit. Zool., XVIII, No. 1, June 17, 1911, p. 7.) Change rejected, because Brisson's names are held to be valid.

**Pisobia maculata** (Vieillot) versus **Pisobia pectoralis** (Say). (Cf. Mathews, Birds Australia, III, pt. 3, Aug. 18, 1913, p. 261.) Change rejected, because *Tringa maculata* Vieillot is not preoccupied by "*Tringa maculata*" Linnaeus, since there is no such combination in the writings of Linnaeus. (Cf. Oberholser, 'The Auk,' XXXV, No. 1, January, 1918, p. 63.)

**Tringa ochrophus** Linnaeus versus **Tringa ochropus** Linnaeus. (Cf. Hartert, British Birds, IX, No. 1, June 1, 1915, p. 9.) Change rejected, on the ground that *Tringa ochrophus* cannot be considered a mere typographical error.


**Chaemepelia Swainson versus Columbina Spix.** (Cf. Allen, Science, N. S., XXXIII, 1911, pp. 336-337.) Change rejected, because the type of *Columbina* Spix was first designated (Gray, List Gen. Birds, 1841, p. 75) as *Columbina streptans* Spix, which is generically distinct from the species of the genus currently called *Chaemepelia*. (Cf. Todd, Annals Carnegie Mus., VIII, 1913, p. 515.)

**Falco aesalon** Tunstall versus **Falco regulus** Pallas. (Cf. Hartert, Hand-List British Birds, 1912, p. 112.) Change rejected, because *Falco aesalon* Tunstall is not a nomen nudum, but a valid name, based on the "Merlin" of Pennant's 'British Zoology' and "l’Emerillon" of Brisson's 'Ornithologie.'

**Aluco Fleming versus Flareinca Fournel.** (Cf. Mathews, Austral Avian Record, I, No. 4, Sept. 18, 1912, p. 104.) Change rejected, because the earlier *Tyto* Billberg is not preoccupied by *Tyto* Billberg, and is therefore the proper name for the Barn Owls.

**Cryptoglaux Richmond versus Aegolius Kaup.** (Cf. Hartert, Hand-List British Birds, 1912, p. 105.) Change rejected, on the ground that *Nyctala* Brehm, from whatever date taken, is preoccupied by *Nyctalus* Bowdich 1825; and that *Aegolius* Kaup 1829 is preoccupied by *Aegolius* Billberg 1820. The only tenable name for the genus is therefore *Cryptoglaux* Richmond.

**Cryptoglaux funerea richardsoni** (Bonaparte) versus **Cryptoglaux tengmalmi richardsoni** (Bonaparte). (Cf. Hartert, Hand-List British Birds, 1912, p. 105.) Change rejected, because *Strix funerea* Linnaeus refers undoubtedly to this species, notwithstanding the statement that it is of the size of a crow.
Dryobates Boie versus Dendrocopos Koch. (Cf. Hesse, Ornith. Monatsb., 1911, pp. 160–162.) Change rejected, because Dendrocopos Koch, July, 1816, is preoccupied by Dendrocopus Vieillot, April, 1816, and therefore the proper name for the present genus is Dryobates Boie.

Loxia Linnaeus versus Crucirostra Scopoli. (Cf. Mathews, Novit. Zool., XVII, No. 3, Dec. 15, 1910, pp. 501–502.) Change rejected, because the removal of Loxia curvirostra from Loxia as the monotypic type of Crucirostra Scopoli does not prevent the same species from later being designated as the type of Loxia. Furthermore, Loxia curvirostra is by tautonymy the type of Loxia Linnaeus.


Bombycilla Vieillot versus Ampelis Linnaeus. (Cf. Committee British Ornithologists’ Union, List Brit. Birds, ed. 2, 1915, p. 362.) Change rejected, because the type of Ampelis Linnaeus is not determinable by tautonymy, since, in the ‘Systema Naturae,’ ed. 12, I, 1766, p. 297, the supposed synonym “Ampelis” is not used in the proper sense of “the Ampelis.” Thus Gray’s designation (List Gen. Birds, 1840, p. 34) of Ampelis cotinga Linnaeus becomes the first fixation of the type of Ampelis. Consequently Bombycilla is left as the earliest tenable name for the Waxwings.


Avian Record, III, No. 5, 1917, p. 119.) Change rejected, because the authors of *Regulus* Bartram 1791 and *Regulus* Zimmermann 1793, which supposedly preoccupy *Regulus* Cuvier are neither binomial nor acceptedly binary.

**Sialia** Swainson versus **Rubecula** Zimmermann. (Cf. Mathews, ‘The Auk,’ XXXI, No. 1, Jan., 1914, pp. 89–90.) Change rejected, because Zimmermann is not binomial in the publication in question (Bartram, Reisen Nord- und Süd-Karolina, 1793, p. 287), nor is he a binary author accepted by the International Zoological Commission. Furthermore, *Rubecula* is not actually adopted as a generic name by Zimmermann, but simply cited as a polynomial synonym.

The list of “Nomina Conservanda” proposed by the Committee of the British Ornithologists’ Union (List Brit. Birds, ed. 2, 1915, p. 355) contains the following five names that affect the present status of the A. O. U. Check-List:

- **Turdus musicus** Linnaeus versus **Turdus iliacus** Linnaeus.
- **Asio flammeus** (Pontoppidan) versus **Asio accipitrinus** (Pallas).
- **Cryptoglaux** Richmond versus **Nyctala** Brehm.
- **Anas platyrhyncha** Linnaeus versus **Anas boschas** Linnaeus.
- **Pterodroma** Bonaparte versus **Oestrelata** Bonaparte.

These changes are not acceptable under the law of priority.

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**GENERAL NOTES.**

**Notes on the Black-crowned Night Heron in Western New York.**

According to all published accounts the Black-crowned Night Heron (*Nycticolas n. naevius*) seems to be rare in western New York. The ‘Auburn List’ 1874 records but a single specimen taken on Seneca River, no date given. Eaton, ‘Birds of New York,’ records it as a transient visitant, uncommon in the counties of Cayuga, Monroe and Ontario, occasional in Seneca, fairly common in Onondaga and with no record for Yates. And the only breeding record is for Erie County.

My first record for this bird was May 7, 1911, when I saw a single individual perched in a tree along the inlet of Keuka Lake at Branchport.

June 17, 1914, in company with Dr. G. S. Britten and Dr. George D. Lynch, of Syracuse, I visited a breeding colony of Black-crowned Night Herons in a small swamp at Lakeside, Onondaga Lake. There were about 75 nests in the herony, about 50 of the Night Heron and 25 of the Green Heron. They were all intermingled, with sometimes nests of both species in the same tree, and some nests were as low as six or eight feet from the water. At this time a few of the nests contained eggs and the others held young of various sizes from newly hatched to about one-half grown. This