as that may help, but that it is likely to suffer less than hardy ground-feeding birds, because it obtains its food from the berries of shrubs and vines and the frozen fruit on trees, especially apples, which are within its reach even in the time of deepest snows; that the many records of winter resident birds, far outnumbering those of spring, summer, and fall, indicate that there are probably many nestings which do not come under observation, in which young are raised, not a few, it may be, to remain as permanent residents and increase the northern representation; that these frequent fall and winter appearances of birds not observed during the summer are due probably to their seeking shelter and food in park and village shrubbery, where they readily come under observation; that they leave these wintering places for more retired haunts when the severity of winter has passed and conditions favor their release; that this movement may be greater or less in extent, amounting even to limited migration, but more likely northward than southward in comformity with the general trend of bird movement in the spring; and that thus they appear and disappear and sometimes re-appear, not remaining throughout the year within our observation and knowledge, except in the rare case of the celibate Arnold Arboretum Mockingbird.

THE NAME OF THE EASTERN HERMIT THRUSH.

BY OUTRAM BANGS AND THOMAS E. PENARD.

FROM the earliest times there has always been much confusion in the nomenclature of our American thrushes. It is, therefore, not strange to discover, even at this late date, some slight errors which have escaped notice and have persisted through so many years. But we should hardly have expected to find a serious error in the name of our common eastern Hermit Thrush which has received so much attention from investigators. This, however, is unfortunately the case.

In Tschudi's 'Fauna Peruana',Orn., 1845-1846, p. 187, Cabanis used the name *Turdus guttatus* for the Hermit Thrush. This was

not an independent name, but merely a new combination with *Turdus*, based on *Muscicapa guttata* Pallas. Cabanis, having examined Pallas' type, which he said was in the Berlin Museum, states very explicitly, "Ich habe desshalb den Pallas' schen Speciesnamen fur diese Art beibehalten, sowohl da er älter als der von Wilson gegebene 'solitarius,' als auch weil letzterer Name schon mehrfach anderweitig in demselben Genus vergeben ist."

Later Cabanis (Archiv fur Naturg., Jahrg. 13, Bd. 1, 1847, p. 205), considering the combination *Turdus guttatus* preoccupied, substituted *Turdus pallasii*, which is thus a pure synonym of *Muscicapa guttata* Pallas, and accordingly applies to the Alaskan, not the eastern, form of the Hermit Thrush. The latter should, therefore, have a new name.

The late Doctor Walter Faxon, who sometime ago called our attention to this error in nomenclature, had intended to make the correction. It is, therefore, very appropriate that we should name the eastern form of the Hermit Thrush—

Hylocichla guttata faxoni subsp. nov.

Type.—Mus. Comp. Zool., 209370 adult ♂; Shelburne, N Hampshire; 19 July, 1884; William Brewster.

Characters.—Differs from *Hylocihlac guttata guttata* (Pallas), and all other western forms, in having the sides and flanks buffy brown instead of grayish or olivaceous; the upper parts browner—more isabelline or cinnamomeous; bill relatively larger; tail relatively shorter.

Measurements.—Type, adult ♂: wing, 95 mm; tail, 67; tarsus, 30; exposed culmen, 14.

M. C. Z., 209371, topotype, adult ♀: wing, 89; tail, 62; tarsus, 29; exposed culmen, 13.

(For measurements, descriptions and details, concerning all the races of the species, see Ridgway, 'Birds of North and Middle America,' Pt. 4, 1907, pp. 39–48.)

Remarks. In the synonymy of this form we find two original names, both untenable,—*Turdus solitarius solitarius* Wilson (Amer. Orn., Vol. 5, 1812, p. 95) and *Turdus brunneus* "Gmel." Brewer (Journ. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist., Vol. 6, No. 3, 1852, p. 304),. We have considered it better to accompany our new name with a diagnosis rather than to propose it as a substitute name for either of these as their history is so involved.

Turdus solitarius Wilson is preccupied by *Turdus solitarius*

Linne, (Syst. Nat., 1758, Vol .1, p. 170=*Monticola solitarius solitarius* (Linn.). Wilson's first reference after the name, is to plate 43, fig. 2, in the same work. This plate represents *Hylocichla ustulata swainsonii* (Cabanis), but the description which fol lows undoubtedly applied to the Hermit Thrush. Wilson also refers to a specimen from the Peale Museum, No. 3542. There is in the Museum of Comparative Zoology a specimen from that source (*cf.* Faxon, Bull. M. C. Z., Vol. 59, No. 3, 1915, p. 147). This may be the subject of Wilson's description, but the original label has been destroyed and there is now no way of confirming this, since the plate, with which it might otherwise be compared, represents another species.

Turdus brunneus Brewer is preoccupied by *Turdus brunneus* Boddaert (Tab. Pl. Enl., 1783, p. 33, Pl. 556, Fig. 2.=*Euphagus carolinus* (Muller). Ridgway (Birds of North and Middle America, Pt. 4, 1907, p. 51, footnote) says, "The two species, *Hylocichla guttata pallasii* and *H. ustulata swainsonii* are, however, so inextricably involved in Doctor Brewer's article that it is difficult to understand which he would designate as "*Turdus brunneus* "Gmel." Instead of including the name under *H. u. swainsonii*, however, Ridgway (*loc. cit.*, p. 67) places it under *H. fuscescens fuscescens* (Stephens).

Both names, *Turdus solitarius* Wilson and *Turdus trunneus* Brewer, are thus of composite nature. A subsitute name to replace either would possess the same infirmities and be open to serious objections. For this reason we have considered it best to propose an entirely independent name.

We are well aware that there is much feeling against apparently needless changes in the names of our common birds, especially of one so well known as our Hermit Thrush. It is not our purpose to discuss this phase of the question here, any more than to say that, in our opinion, the science of ornithology cannot lose, but must eventually gain, by any action, however trivial, that is founded on fundamentally sound principles.

We are indebted to Dr. Charles W. Richmond for his opinion in regard to the nomenclatural points involved.