

On the morning of January 11, 1923, the conditions described above prevailed, but there was an extraordinary depth of snow for our section. A succession of storms had left us with some fifteen inches of snow on the ground and all the trees and bushes heavily smothered in snow. Before 6.30, while it was still decidedly dusky without, Sparrows of several species, Juncos, etc., began dropping in at the feeding station until there were twenty or more on the ground below the shelf. As a light still glowed within the room, the birds were a little shy of the shelf itself. Suddenly, about 6.45, to our amazement, something large (for the space) plumped noiselessly down upon the top of the cage beneath the overhanging roof, close against the window. It was an Owl, rather a small Owl, with large round head, and he was peering over at the group of small birds beneath him, about four feet away. He swooped down upon them (not greatly to their alarm, it seemed to us), failed to capture any, and returned to the shelf. He perched with his back toward us again, but turned his face squarely around our way this time, owl-fashion. He seemed in some degree aware of our light and of our excited interest, but apparently could not really see my husband's face inside the glass, within five inches of his own! He plunged into the evergreens at the end of the shelf, and then for some reason fluttered against the adjoining window for several seconds—wings spread and lifted, feet dangling, before flying away across the yard toward a group of tall pines in a nearby woodland.

This unexcelled opportunity for studying the Owl from all points and in great detail at close range left no possible doubt that it was Richardson's Owl (*Cryptoglaux funerea richardsoni*) brought here presumably by the recent unusual weather conditions. While we have no mind to let him feed on the smaller regular visitors to our feeding station, we shall look with interest for his possible further appearance.

The notable blindness of this Owl, both in respect to the small birds and to ourselves, we credited to the increasing daylight and to our indoor light. It is especially characteristic of Richardson's Owl, as other observers have stated.—HELEN GRANGER WHITTLE, *Cohasset, Mass.*

**Richardson's Owl in Michigan.**—On December 20, 1922, a specimen of Richardson's Owl (*Cryptoglaux funerea richardsoni*) was brought to Dr. K. Christofferson and myself by a boy who had shot it the day before, in an old cemetery within the city limits. This is one of our rarest Owls. Two specimens are in our High School Museum, both collected about 20 years ago. We sent the bird to Prof. Barrows of our State Agricultural College.—M. J. MAGEE, *Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.*

**Note on the Generic Name *Pteroptochos Kittlitz*.**—The status of the generic name *Pteroptochos Kittlitz* (Mém. Acad. Imper. Sci. St. Petersb. Savans Etrangers, I, October, 1831, p. 178), is just like that of *Euscarthmus* Wied. elsewhere explained. It was originally proposed for the three species *Pteroptochos rubecula* Kittlitz, *Pteroptochos albicollis*

Kittlitz, and *Pteroptochos megapodius* Kittlitz, the last now known as *Hylactes megapodius*. It has been used for the group including *Pteroptochos rubecula* Kittlitz, which has been considered the type, evidently from Gray (List Gen. Birds, 1841, p. 25). The latter author, however, one year earlier (List Gen. Birds, 1840, p. 19) designated *Pteroptochos megapodius* Kittlitz as the type. Since this is apparently the earliest designation, the generic name *Pteroptochos* becomes a synonym of *Hylactes* King, and the group including *Pteroptochos rubecula* is without a name. It may, therefore, be called *Scelorchilus* (σκέλος, crus ὄρχιλος, regulus), with *Pteroptochos rubecula* Kittlitz as type. Its two species will consequently stand as *Scelorchilus rubecula* (Kittlitz), and *Scelorchilus albicollis* Kittlitz.—HARRY C. OBERHOLSER, *U. S. Biological Survey, Washington, D. C.*

**The Generic Name *Euscarthmus* Wied.**—In looking up the status of some South American genera of birds a year or two ago, the writer noticed that the generic name *Euscarthmus* Wied (Beiträge Naturg. Bras., III, Abt. 2, 1831, p. 945) was apparently misapplied. Further investigation confirmed this impression, and it seems now worth while to put the facts into print. The genus *Euscarthmus* was originally instituted for the following five species:

*Euscarthmus meloryphus* Wied=*Hapalocercus meloryphus* (Wied).

*Euscarthmus nidipendulus* Wied.

*Euscarthmus superciliaris* Wied=*Habrura pectoralis* (Vieillot).

*Euscarthmus cinereicollis* Wied—*Notorchilus auricularis* (Vieillot).

*Euscarthmus orbitatus* Wied.

The name has commonly been used for the group of which *Euscarthmus nidipendulus* Wied is the type; but Gray (List Gen. Birds, 1840, p. 32), who seems to have been the first author to designate its type, selected *Euscarthmus meloryphus* Wied, which is the currently accepted type of *Hapalocercus* Cabanis (Archiv. f. Naturg., XIII, pt. 1, Heft 2, 1847, p. 254). According to this the generic name *Euscarthmus* must be transferred to the group now called *Hapalocercus*, to displace the latter term as it is many years prior, and its type species known as *Euscarthmus meloryphus* Wied; while the group that has heretofore passed as *Euscarthmus*, being thus bereft of its only name, may be known as *Euscarthmornis* (εὐσκαρθμός, celeriter saliens; ὄρνις; avis), and the type species, *Euscarthmus nidipendulus* Wied, as *Euscarthmornis nidipendulus* (Wied).—HARRY C. OBERHOLSER, *U. S. Biological Survey, Washington, D. C.*

**Crows Building in Low Willows.**—We found a Crow's nest in a willow thicket about ten feet from the ground, on May 28, 1922. The situation surprised us, as the Crow usually builds very high, and there were high trees within a few hundred yards. We thought that the presence of an abundant food supply, in the shape of a dead cow, within twenty-