

heretofore proposed for forms of *Collocalia* is appended with the status of each.—W. S.

Preble on the Woodcock.—Mr. E. A. Preble has published a most interesting and well written sketch¹ of the Woodcock and an earnest plea for saving the remnant of this once abundant bird from extinction.

Sportsmen may as well recognize the fact that certain species are bound to be exterminated if their hunting is continued and such birds should be placed on the protected list as soon as possible, while there is still a chance to save them.

With the adoption of the Migratory Bird Treaty in 1916 most of the shorebirds were placed on the closed list; last year the shooting of Black-breasted Plover was prohibited and this year the Yellow-legs receives complete protection. Why not add the Woodcock? Any objection that can possibly be made will come from those who are too selfish and greedy to give up their personal pleasure for the pleasure of a vastly larger proportion of the community who are interested in saving wild life from annihilation, and enjoying its presence.—W. S.

Miller on Structural Variations in Scoters.—Mr. Miller presents some important structural characters in this paper² which emphasize the difference between the two genera of Scoters, *Oidemia* and *Melanitta* now generally recognized. The most conspicuous of these are the great difference in the trachea and the remarkable abbreviation in the intestinal caeca of *Oidemia*, which resemble those of the Mergansers, while in most other ducks, including *Melanitta*, they are long and slender.

The Surf Scoter (*Pelionetta*) he still regards as close to *Melanitta* and best regarded as a subgenus. The paper is welcome as strengthening our present arrangement of these interesting Ducks.—W. S.

Recent Papers by Dwight and Griscom.—Mr. A. W. Anthony has been collecting birds in the mountains of northern Guatemala for Dr. Jonathan Dwight and among other interesting specimens has secured a remarkable Tyrant Flycatcher³ apparently belonging to a new genus and species which has recently been described by Dr. Dwight and Mr. Ludlow Griscom under the name *Xenotriccus callizonus* (p. 2) Lake Atitlan (5500 ft.). In color it is unique among Central American Flycatchers—brown above and yellow below, with a conspicuous rufous breast band—while in general appearance it suggests *Aphanotriccus* though it has an occipital crest and longer tail and tarsus.

¹ The Vanishing Woodcock. By Edward A. Preble. Nature Magazine, April, 1927. pp. 235-240.

² Structural Variations in the Scoters. By W. DeW. Miller. American Museum Novitates, No. 243, December 31, 1926. pp. 1-5.

³ A New and Remarkable Flycatcher from Guatemala. By Jonathan Dwight and Ludlow Griscom, American Museum Novitates, No. 254, March 8, 1927. pp. 1-2.