

Status of the Genus *Geranoaëtus*.—With the discovery during recent years of remains of eagles in fossil deposits ranging from the Miocene to the Pleistocene several of the larger species have been described in the genus *Geranoaëtus*, three having been thus named by the present writer. General resemblance of these fossil bones in form to living *G. melanoleucus* is close and this current genus has been accepted without particular question as to its validity. During recent studies of another fossil species of this group I took occasion to compare the metatarsi of *Geranoaëtus melanoleucus* and those of several species of *Buteo* to find that no character except that of size separated them. This same condition held for other skeletal elements. Externally *Geranoaëtus* has been separated from *Buteo* on larger size and proportionally shorter tail as compared to the wing. In the various species of *Buteo* there is considerable difference in the relative length of the tail, grading down to *Buteo jakal* where it is less in relation to the wing than in *Geranoaëtus melanoleucus*, thus eliminating that character of difference. As size alone cannot be considered of generic value *Geranoaëtus* becomes a synonym of *Buteo*. The various species, fossil and living, formerly placed in *Geranoaëtus* will therefore stand as follows:

- Buteo dananus* (Marsh). Miocene.
- Buteo ales* (Wetmore). Miocene.
- Buteo contortus* (Wetmore). Upper Miocene.
- Buteo conterminus* (Wetmore). Lower Pliocene.
- Buteo grinnelli* (Miller). Pleistocene.
- Buteo fragilis* (Miller). Pleistocene.
- Buteo melanoleucus* (Vieillot). Modern.

There may be mentioned as of the same assemblage the fossil *Buteo typhoivus* Wetmore from the Upper Miocene of the Snake Creek beds in Nebraska.—ALEXANDER WETMORE, *U. S. National Museum*.

A Black Gyrfalcon (*Falco rusticolus obsoletus*) from New Hampshire.—A bird of this form was shot "about twenty miles this side, (i. e. southeastward) of Colebrook, New Hampshire," October 22, 1915, and was brought to a taxidermist in Portland, Maine. It remained uncalled for and I purchased it. It is now deposited in the collection of the Portland Society of Natural History.—ARTHUR H. NORTON, *Museum Natural History, Portland, Maine*.

Turkey Vulture at Ludlow, Mass.—On September 17, 1932, a little party of bird-lovers was picnicking on the shores of the big Springfield Reservoir in Ludlow. We saw what we at first took for an Osprey, but as it came nearer we all saw that its underparts were not white but black, the wings not bent much at the midway point, and their tips up-tilted, wide, each feather deeply separated. Approaching us up-wind, lightly and airily but slowly, it passed between us and the sun, which shone through its wings and gave their under surface the appearance of an elaborate pattern in light and dark grays. A puff turned it northward and for a second we