

trochlea. Specimen heavily fossilized, light grayish white in color. Breadth of middle trochlea 7.6 mm., breadth of inner trochlea 6.9 mm. Other pertinent measurements cannot be made due to crushing.

The supposition that *Bathornis* might possibly have a first toe or hallux is not borne out in this second specimen and on examination of the two specimens of *veredus* now available it appears to be definitely established that the first toe was missing.

Re-examination of the characters of *Bathornis* in light of this second specimen, with certain additional comparative material in modern birds not previously available, leads me to the conclusion that I was in error in placing the subfamily *Bathornithinae* in the *Oediconemidae* since it appears that it should be grouped in the *Cariamidae*. The superficial resemblance in the lower end of the metatarsus in *Cariama* and the different genera of *Oediconemidae* is remarkably close due to convergence in development from similarities in habits and mode of life. In the relative position of the trochlea *Bathornis* is closest to the thick-knees, and it was this that led me formerly to allocate it in that family. The form and structure of separate trochlea and of the inferior foramen as well as of the shaft are distinctly those of *Cariama*.

The genus *Bathornis* has the inner trochlea projecting less posteriorly than the outer, while *Cariama* has the two on about the same level. *Bathornis veredus* was slightly larger than the modern *Cariama cristata*. Its allocation with that group introduces a new element into the avifauna of North America, as *Cariama* and *Chunga* the two living genera of the *Cariamidae* are confined to the central portions of South America.—ALEXANDER WETMORE, *U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C.*

Sight Records of the Eskimo Curlew.—There is one certain way to identify the Eskimo Curlew in the field and that is not mentioned in Dr. Murphy's careful note in the January 'Auk.' All the points he gives are, it seems to me, too indefinite for a positive identification, or even for "a probable record" of a bird that many consider extinct. Young male Hudsonian Curlews may have shorter bills than some Eskimo Curlews. One in my collection has a bill 2.25 inches long, and the bills of the Eskimo Curlew are stated to vary between 2.00 and 2.58 inches. Tameness is suggestive of the Eskimo Curlew, but young Hudsonian Curlews may be very tame. I entirely agree with Forbush in his 'Birds of Massachusetts,' when he states under "Field Marks" of the Eskimo Curlew, "None that can be depended upon to distinguish the bird from the Hudsonian Curlew, unless the unbarred primaries can be seen distinctly when spread." I have seen the barred underside of the primaries of the Hudsonian Curlew in flight and as they occasionally raise their wings on alighting. It is not a difficult field mark to make out if one looks for it, and in the same way the plain buffy underside of the primaries in the Eskimo Curlew is a means of positive identification.—CHARLES W. TOWNSEND, *Ipswich, Mass.*