

The confinement or the food provided for it did not prove congenial and the bird was again liberated. It was still present at the end of January although it had been wing-clipped in the meantime. It was a bird of the year with a black head and bill and constitutes the first record, so far as I know, for the county.—WITMER STONE, *Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, Pa.*

Golden Eagle in Louisiana: A Correction and a Reaffirmation of a Positive Record.—When Mr. E. A. McIlhenny, in the October, 1933, 'Auk,' p. 431, took exception to a second-hand record of the Golden Eagle, that I had published in the previous issue of the same journal, p. 355, I immediately wrote to Mr. Alfred M. Bailey for the facts in the case, in order to publish any correction or explanation that might seem necessary. Unfortunately, more urgent affairs intervened, and my subsequent removal to Wisconsin and preoccupation with new duties drove the matter out of mind. It might well have remained so but for a note that Mr. John S. Campbell has published almost simultaneously in the June, 1934, 'Wilson Bulletin,' p. 116, and in the July, 1934, 'Auk,' p. 370.

It is patent that Mr. Campbell read both Mr. McIlhenny's note and my own too casually to observe that the particular record called in question is but one of several cited. The possibility that other readers may do the same thing leads me, even at this late date, to make an explanation.

In the first place, I want to apologize to my colleagues for lapsing into a fault which I have not hesitated to criticize in others, namely, the publication of unverified records. My only excuse is that they were given to me by an old friend in whom I had entire confidence—the late Edward Stiles Hopkins, of New Orleans. He was a good bird man, and he certainly knew the difference between the Bald and Golden Eagles as well as anyone in the state. The fact remains, however, that the two specimens in the Louisiana State Museum (which, by the way, is an institution entirely distinct from the one next to be mentioned) have been declared by Mr. Bailey, who collected them, to be actually immature Bald Eagles. Hopkins was a very sick man for many months before he died, and it must be that his illness affected his memory to some extent.

Be that as it may, the error in connection with those specimens in nowise invalidates the third paragraph of my note in the July, 1933, 'Auk.' The mounted bird in the Museum of the Louisiana Department of Conservation is still a Golden Eagle—provided, of course, that no one has singed the feathers off its legs since I last saw it! In view of Mr. McIlhenny's admission that it was he who edited the Conservation Department's 'Birds of Louisiana,' 1931, it seems even stranger that this specimen in the Department's own museum should have been ignored.—ERNEST G. HOLT, *Box 863, LaCrosse, Wisconsin.*

A Sparrow Hawk Gynandromorph.—A Desert Sparrow Hawk (*Falco sparverius phalaena*) in the University of Michigan Museum of Zoology is of interest in that it shows evidences of gynandromorphism. The bird in question, No. 62319, was taken at Grafton, North Dakota, on April 27, 1925, by H. V. Williams.

The feathers of the left side are male, as is one posterior left flank feather. The left half of the breast is colored as in a young male, and there are a few male feathers on the right side of the breast. Above the bird is partly male on the left wing; i. e., the proximal lesser, middle, and greater coverts have the ground color blue, some of the feathers being slightly tipped or spotted with cinnamonaceous, and some of the longer secondaries are washed or spotted with bluish. There are a few male scapulars on the left side.

The under wing-coverts on both sides, remiges (except as noted above), tail, head, and remainder of body are normally female in appearance. The bird was sexed as a female and is of female size. The plumage is exceedingly worn for the season, and I do not find any trace of molt.

Although at least eighteen instances of gynandromorphism are on record for cage birds and domestic fowls, I am not aware of more than one published occurrence among wild birds.¹ There are, however, several cases of false hermaphroditism in wild birds, of the type in which complete male plumage is combined with female sex organs.—PIERCE BRODKORB, *Museum of Zoology, Ann Arbor, Mich.*

Albino Ring-Neck Pheasant.—On November 17, 1934, an albino, adult male, Ring-neck Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus torquatus*) was shot in Logan County, Ohio, by Mr. Victor Snyder, of Jefferson, Ohio. He possesses the mounted specimen.

The eye color was pinkish. The feathers were white throughout. The bill and feet were light. The bird was equal in size to other Pheasants. The featherless tract upon each cheek was light red.—JOHN M. VASICEK, *10605 Lamontier Ave., Cleveland, Ohio.*

The Ruff (*Philomachus pugnax*) near Boston, Massachusetts, with Remarks on its Recognition in Winter Plumage.—On the afternoon of August 23, 1932, Mr. John H. Conkey, secretary of the Nuttall Club, and I proceeded to Squantum, where there were some flats and certain pools, which at high tide, were full of shore-birds. We found a marvellous gathering of no less than seventeen species. One great flock contained nearly all the larger species, and over an hour was devoted to the careful scrutiny of this flock. Finally one bird, a stranger, was picked out among the adjacent Greater and Lesser Yellow-legs and Willets. The body was just a tick shorter than that of the Greater Yellow-legs, the bill and legs noticeably shorter; in these respects, however, distinctly larger than the Lesser Yellow-legs. The general color was a sandy or pale brownish gray above, and appeared absolutely uniform at a distance, very different from the dark grey speckled with white of the Yellow-legs. In the uniform unmarked appearance, it resembled adjacent Willets, but the *sandy* shade was quite different from the stone or ash grey shade of the latter. At closer range it was apparent that the bird was not quite uniform above; the feathers of the back, scapulars and tertials were faintly but obviously margined with paler. The underparts were practically uniform white, with no markings on flanks and sides. Very striking were the *olive green* legs and the bill, *yellow for the basal half and black terminally*. At the time I supposed I was looking at a Ruff, and an examination of specimens later in the evening at the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy confirmed this opinion.

The observation was not reported at the time, as I was not previously acquainted with the Ruff in life, and as my field experience increases, I attach less and less importance to sight records of accidental visitants, including my own. I now, however, venture to report the bird on the following grounds (1) no less than 11 specimens have already been collected in New England, so that the occasional occurrence of the species is amply validated (2) I have just returned from a week-end on the coast of Norfolk, England, where Mr. B. W. Tucker of the University Museum at Oxford and I were, among other things, looking for early shore-birds. One of these was a female Ruff in winter plumage, and the moment I laid eyes on the bird, it was obvious that it was the exact duplicate of the bird I saw very much better and closer at Squantum. It remains only to add that other winter plumages of the Ruff have

¹C. H. Townsend, *Bull. Nuttall Orn. Club*, VII, no. 3, July, 1882, p. 181.