mens pertinent data were lacking, such as sex and date, but the locality was always correctly stated. The birds, which were among many sent by Mr. Brower, are:

Kittlitz Murrelet (*Brachyramphus brevirostris*), Barrow, Alaska; collected September 27, 1929. (S. D. S. N. H. no. 13,271.)

Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaëtos*), Barrow, Alaska; no date. (S. D. S. N. H. no. 13,303, received February, 1930.)

Gambel Sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys gambelii*), female; Barrow, Alaska; collected June 4, 1928. (S. D. S. N. H. no. 13,449.)—LAURENCE M. HUEY, *San Diego Society of Natural History, Balboa Park, San Diego, California, September 22, 1930.*

The Type Locality of the California Quail.—George Shaw and Francis P. Nodder were the first formally to name the California Quail. This they did in the Naturalist's Miscellany, volume 9, 1797 [1798], plate 345 and accompanying text, calling the bird *Tetrao californicus*. They state that "This curious bird is a native of California, and was brought over [to England] by Mr. Archibald Menzies, who accompanied Captain Vancouver in his late expedition. The specimen from which the present figure was taken is in the British Museum." This type specimen is not now there—probably long ago destroyed (see Sharpe, *in* Hist. Colls. Nat. Hist. Depts. British Mus., vol. 2, 1906, pp. 79 ff).

As to the subspecific application of the name *californicus*, the plate referred to is inaccurate in so many respects—color tones, patterns, proportions—as to have no significance. The accompanying text says, selecting only those phrases which might help in subspecific determination: "Lead-coloured Quail, with upright vertical crest; the throat (of the male) black edged with white, the abdomen yellowish-brown with black crescents. . . . Its general tinge is blueish-cinereous or dove-coloured . . .; the wings are of an earthy or dull brown . . .". There is nothing here to clinch the application of the name as between the brown backed humid-coast race and the grayish backed interior race unless, but only by a slight margin, to exclude the former.

The reading of Vancouver's Voyage of Discovery (1798, 3 vols.) leaves us with the conclusion that the type in question was obtained at either San Francisco or Monterey, though with no guidance as to which should be chosen as *the* type locality. But fortunately Menzies' journal, recently published (Eastwood, Calif. Hist. Soc. Quart., vol. 2, 1924, pp. 265-340), provides the deciding evidence. Under date December 5, 1792, Menzies records (*loc. cit.*, p. 286) strolling out from the Presidio (of Monterey) "towards Punta de Pinos" and seeing, besides many plants of interest to him, a "great variety of the feathered Tribe, many of which were also new, among these" being a "species of Quail of a dark lead colour", etc. Farther down on the same page Menzies says: "The two following days I remained on board [the ship Discovery] examining drawing & describing my little collection & such other objects of natural history as were brought me by the different parties [from the ship] who traversed the Country . . .".

The type locality of the California Quail can thus now be stated positively as Monterey, California. But, the quail of the neighborhood of Monterey are not of the humid coast-belt race, as has generally been supposed until now; they are definitely of the interior race. The name *vallicola* of Ridgway thus falls as a synonym of *californica*, using the latter name now in the subspecific sense. Indeed, I am unable to see any material differences between fresh-plumaged Monterey birds and similarly plumaged birds from the upper Sacramento Valley. Shaw and Nodder's name must thus henceforth apply to what we have been calling *vallicola*.

As for the brown-backed race of the narrow humid-coastal strip from Santa Cruz County northward, an available name is *Lophortyx californicus brunnescens* of Ridgway (Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., vol. 2, 1884, p. 94). The type specimen here concerned is in the United States National Museum and, through the courtesy of Dr. Alexander Wetmore, I have just had the opportunity of studying it. While supposed to have been taken by J. K. Townsend at Santa Barbara, the label having probably been inscribed by Baird in accordance with the statement made by Audubon (Birds Amer., vol. 5, 1842, p. 67), this type could not, because of the subspecific characters it shows, have come from Santa Barbara. Nor could it have come from the Columbia River, as suggested by Ridgway (*loc. cit.*); nor, indeed, could it have been collected by J. K. Townsend at all, as I shall set forth in another connection.

Briefly, the type of Ridgway's *brunnescens* falls in accurately with skins from the San Francisco Bay region; and for various reasons its locality can now safely be fixed as San Francisco. By this decision the quail of this group as represented in California may now be listed as follows.

1. *Lophortyx californica californica* (Shaw and Nodder). Valley California Quail.
2. *Lophortyx californica brunnescens* Ridgway. Coastal California Quail.
3. *Lophortyx californica catalinensis* Grinnell. Santa Catalina Island California Quail.

—J. GRINNELL, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, Berkeley, November 29, 1930.*

Nevada Savannah Sparrow Breeds in Yellowstone.—There has been considerable difference of opinion regarding the subspecies of Savannah sparrow which breeds in Yellowstone National Park. In order definitely to settle this question, the writer on June 17, 1930, collected a brooding female, together with her nest and four eggs, near Junction Butte in the lower Lamar River Valley. The plant association at this locality consists for the most part of true sage (*Artemisia tridentata*), with a sprinkling of lodgepole pines on the ridges and isolated clumps of aspens and willows in the moist meadows. The nest was placed on the ground in a dense growth of fine grass which formed a narrow belt along the shore of a small lake. The specimen, together with the nest and eggs, has been deposited in the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology at the University of California and has been identified by Dr. Joseph Grinnell as typical *Passerculus sandwichensis nevadensis*.—JOSEPH DIXON, *405 American Trust Building, Berkeley, California, September 18, 1930.*

Four Hundred Black-necked Stilts.—As my experience with the Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*) as a migrant has been only casual, and with few birds at a time, I was interested to learn from E. H. Glidden, Deputy United States Game Warden and Deputy State Fish and Game Commissioner, whose home is in San Diego, that on August 29, 1930, he saw a flock of Black-necked Stilts which he estimated to contain not less than 400 individuals. The locality was nine miles northeast of Calexico, Imperial County, California, and the stilts were "feeding on insects" in a recently irrigated field. Mr. Glidden was patrolling at the time, with Deputy State Fish and Game Commissioner R. J. Little, of Banning. The flock of stilts was the largest either of the men had ever seen.—CLINTON G. ABBOTT, *San Diego Society of Natural History, Balboa Park, San Diego, California, October 11, 1930.*

Further Occurrences of Emperor Geese in California.—Fragments of an Emperor Goose (*Philacte canagica*) are contained in the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology under no. 52036, by gift from Mr. Franklin J. Smith of Eureka, from a bird found dead on the beach south of Buhnes Point, Humboldt Bay, March 1, 1925. This find was witnessed by both Mr. Smith and Mr. Bertram O. Betterley; the bird, however it met its death, had been partly destroyed by seagulls. Mr. Smith stated that this is the first record of the species known to him for Humboldt Bay since 1884, when the bird recorded by Townsend (Auk, 3, 1886, p. 491) was taken.

Fragments of another Emperor Goose are in this Museum (no. 54483) that were saved from a bird that was killed on Pit River near McArthur, Shasta County, January 20, 1930. This goose was sent by Mr. F. L. Fleming, of the Fall River Joint Union High School, who stated that the bird was found by boys on the river with other geese that "became very poor while their feed was covered. From time to time some were found stuck to the ice by the tips of their wings." This last record station is farthest interiorwards, that is, away from the sea-coast (some 140 miles), of all the records of the Emperor Goose to date.—J. GRINNELL, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, Berkeley, December 7, 1930.*