

as the type of *Ornismya anna* described by Lesson in the same volume as *sasin* and which also was in the Rivoli collection. This place and time, as worked out most carefully by Dr. T. S. Palmer (Condor, 19, 1917, pp. 159-161), was San Francisco, February, 1827.

More might be said along this line, but enough is presented for the purpose of establishing the application of Lesson's name. This action, however, is not at all new, as the gist of my demonstration was set forth clearly by Hartert, 36 years ago (Novitates Zoologicae, 1, 1894, pp. 63-64); also the situation is apparent in the synonymy given by Salvin (Cat. Birds British Mus., 16, 1892, p. 394), and there may be other foreign references to the same effect that I do not know about. The curious thing is that Americans have either overlooked Lesson's description (save for Ridgway's inclusion of the name with a question mark in the synonymy under *Selasphorus alleni*) or ignored it. In all the nomenclatural hubbub raised by Elliot when Henshaw named *alleni* I find no adequate mention of Lesson!

Unless the case as here set forth be reversed by evidence that I do not know about, the hummingbirds in question should hereafter be called

1. *Selasphorus sasin sasin* (Lesson). Migratory Allen Hummingbird.

2. *Selasphorus sasin sedentarius* Grinnell. Non-migratory Allen Hummingbird.

—J. GRINNELL, Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, Berkeley, December 13, 1930.

White-tailed Kites in Sonoma County.—North American White-tailed Kites (*Elanus leucurus majusculus*) have been observed as residents of Alexander Valley, about five miles north of Healdsburg, for a number of years. During the falls of 1924, 1925 and 1926, while hunting quail along the Russian River, I have on many occasions seen from one to five kites. It is believed they nested there until at least 1928. I have never seen a nest but think that is due to the fact that I did not try to locate one at that time.

Of a group of five kites seen in 1925, two appeared to be mature and three young. A resident of the valley states they bred there until 1928 after which date no mated pair was seen in his vicinity. They occupied the valley between the Russian River and the foothills about a mile and a half distant. Much of the valley is in prune orchards and the remainder is pasture land in which are many large valley oaks. The kites were often seen in trees or flying along the river.

During the past year only one has been seen. It still occupies the same territory and is observed on almost every visit to this locality. Whether the other kites have permanently migrated to another region or have fallen victims of gunners or other misfortunes is not known. Unlike other species of the hawk family, they were rather tame and allowed close approach. Some gunners shoot hawks without distinguishing between those that are beneficial and those that are harmful. There are a few hunters who, simply for practice, will shoot any large bird in flight. As quail are found in the territory of the kites I am afraid these rare, beautiful, and beneficial birds have been reduced in this section to a solitary survivor.—C. W. EDGE, Healdsburg, California, December 9, 1930.

Specimens from Point Barrow, Alaska.—Among the specimens collected the past season by Charles D. Brower at Barrow, Alaska, for the Chicago Academy of Sciences, were two forms new to our collection of birds from this northern point. A female Mountain Bluebird (*Sialia currucoides*) was secured at the village, June 5, 1930, and several Slender-billed Shearwaters (*Puffinus tenuirostris*) were collected on the sea ice during November and December, 1929. Three males of the latter species were sent to the Academy, taken November 9 and December 10. Mr. Brower writes that there were many bands off-shore during the late fall months, but that they were too wild to be approached. The specimens collected were caught in the ice, some frozen solidly, and others still alive, too weak to rise. The birds were, according to Mr. Brower, very thin.—ALFRED M. BAILEY, Chicago Academy of Sciences, Chicago, January 1, 1931.