

TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS

Our members are urged to submit articles for publication in the **BULLETIN**. Short items are desired for the department of General Notes, as well as longer contributions, especially pertaining to life-history, migration, ecology, behavior, song, economic ornithology, field equipment and methods, etc. Local faunal lists are also desired, but they should be annotated, at least briefly, and should be based upon sufficient study to be reasonably complete. Authors are asked to include the common name, the scientific name (from the A. O. U. check-list), and annotations, and they should be arranged in this order. The annotations should include explicit data concerning unusual species. Omit serial numbering.

THE MANUSCRIPT. The manuscript, or copy, should be prepared with due regard for literary style, correct spelling and punctuation. Use sheets of paper of good quality and of letter size (8½x11 inches); write on one side only, and leave wide margins; if at all possible manuscript should be prepared with a typewriter, using double spacing and a reasonably fresh, black ribbon.

The title should be carefully constructed so as to indicate most clearly the nature of the subject matter of the contribution. Where the paper deals with a single species it is desirable to include in the title both the common and the scientific names, or, to include the scientific name in the introductory paragraph. Contributors are requested to mark at the top of the first page of the manuscript the number of words contained. This will save the editor's time and will be appreciated.

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“From these barren and musty records, the author of the present work has a thousand times turned with a delight bordering on adoration, to the magnificent repository of the woods and fields—the *Grand Aviary of Nature*. In this divine school he has studied from no vulgar copy; but from the works of the GREAT MASTER OF CREATION himself; and has read with rapture the lessons of his wisdom, his goodness and his love, in the conformation, the habitudes, melody and migrations of this beautiful portion of the work of his hands. To communicate as correct ideas of these as his feeble powers were capable of, and thus, from objects, that, in our rural walks, almost everywhere present themselves, to deduce not only amusement and instruction, but the highest incitements to virtue and piety, have been the author’s most anxious and ardent wish. On many of his subjects, indeed, it has not been in his power to say much. The recent discovery of some, and the solitary and secluded habits of others, have opposed great obstacles to his endeavours in this respect. But a time is approaching when these obstacles will no longer exist. When the population of this immense western Republic will have diffused itself over every acre of ground fit for the comfortable habitation of man—when farms, villages, towns and glittering cities, thick as the stars in a winter’s evening, overspread the face of our beloved country, and every hill, valley and stream has its favourite name, its native flocks and rural inhabitants; then, not a warbler shall flit through our thickets, but its name, its notes and habits will be familiar to all; repeated in their saying, and celebrated in their village songs. At that happy period, should any vestige or memory of the present publication exist, be it known to our more enlightened posterity, as some apology for the deficiencies of its author, that in the period in which he wrote, three-fourths of our feathered tribes were altogether unknown even to the proprietors of the woods which they frequented—that without patron, fortune or recompense, he brought the greater part of these from the obscurity of ages, gave to each ‘a local habitation and a name’—collected from personal observation whatever of their characters and manners seemed deserving of attention; and delineated their forms and features, in their native colours, as faithfully as he could, as records, at least, of their existence.”—Alexander Wilson, in the preface of the fifth volume of *American Ornithology*—these lines being quoted from George Ord’s *Sketch of the Life of Alexander Wilson, Author of American Ornithology*, Philadelphia, 1828.
