

as the four forms of *Puffinus* involved in these remarks,* may suit the peculiar views of those who would, for some reason best known to themselves, ignore distinctions which Nature has made; but will Dr. Cooper please explain in what matter this method of subversion of facts," or, as he expresses it, "similar combinations of species," would be "advantageous to the study of the water-birds,"—or any other birds, for that matter?—ROBERT RIDGWAY.

Beckham's Birds of Nelson County, Kentucky.—Mr. Beckham's 'List' † "is based almost entirely" upon his former 'List of the Birds of Bardstowntown, Nelson County, Ky.,' published in July, 1883, and noticed in the 'Bulletin of the Nuttall Ornithological Club' for October, 1883 (Vol. VIII, pp. 227, 228). Four species only are now added, raising the total number to 171. The present list is essentially a reprint of the earlier one, with some revision of the text, and many changes in the nomenclature. It is quite sumptuously printed, and, the introduction states, was prepared "to accompany Mr. Linny's report on the geology of Nelson County." It is without date, and there is no clue given in the 'separates' to its exact place of publication.—J. A. A.

Beckham on the plumage of *Regulus calendula*. †—Respecting the presence or absence of the brightly colored crown-patch in different individuals of this species, Mr. Beckham, after an examination of much material, reaches the following conclusions: "(1) that the female does not have this brightly-colored crown, and (2) that some young autumnal males (very likely a large majority of them) do possess this ornament."—J. A. A.

Lawrence on New Species of Birds from Yucatan.—Mr. Gaumer's exploration: in Yucatan continue to supply Mr. Lawrence with ornithological material still yielding novelties. In the first § of the two papers now noticed a new Pigeon is described (*Engyptila vinaceifulva*) from Temax, Yucatan. It is very unlike any other species of the genus, and its light tints give at first sight a suggestion of partial albinism. There are also in this paper further notes on *Engyptila fulviventris* (originally described as *Leptoptila fulviventris*), and on *Chatura gaumeri*.

* The only one in the least doubtful being *P. stricklandi*, which by good authority is considered to be the same species as *P. griseus*—a view of its relationships which, it may perhaps be needless to say, I have reasons for not accepting.

† List of the Birds of Nelson County. By Charles Wickliffe Beckham. 4to., pp. 58. Kentucky Geological Survey. No date. [Sept. 1885.]

‡ Remarks on the Plumage of *Regulus calendula*. By Charles Wickliffe Beckham, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., Vol. VIII, No. 40, pp. 625-628, Dec. 7, 1885.

§ Description of a New Species of Bird of the Genus *Engyptila*, with Notes on two Yucatan Birds. By George N. Lawrence. Ann. N. Y. Acad. Sci., Vol. IV, No. 8, 271-273.

The second paper* contains descriptions of a new Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila albiventris*) and a new Swift (*Chetura peregrinator*). The former finds its nearest ally in *P. nigriceps*, and the latter in *C. gaumeri*.—J. A. A.

Lawrence on Birds new to the Fauna of Gaudeloupe, West Indies. †—Ten species are added to those previously recorded from the Island of Gaudeloupe, from specimens transmitted by Dr. St. F. Colardeau, with notes respecting their occurrence. Five of them are North American species of Mniotiltidæ; two others are also North American, the other three being West Indian. The large Kingfisher from this island, previously referred to *Ceryle torquata*, is separated specifically as *C. stictipennis*. It differs from *C. torquata* slightly in various points of coloration, to which, however, it is closely allied.—J. A. A.

Stejneger on preoccupied Generic Names of North American Birds. ‡—Dr. Stejneger finds that the generic names hitherto applied to the Golden-eye Ducks are all preoccupied, and he therefore proposes for the group the new generic name *Glaucionetta*, with the following species: *Glaucionetta clangula*, *G. clangula americana*, and *G. islandica*.

The generic name *Canace*, applied to the Spruce Partridge, also proves to have previously used for a genus of insects. Elliot's name *Dendragapus* given to the Dusky Grouse, becomes tenable for the Spruce Partridge, if we consider the two species congeneric; and for the subgeneric name *Canace* Dr. Stejneger proposes the new name *Canachites*.—J. A. A.

Ridgway on the Birds of Cozumel Island, Yucatan. §—In Mr. Ridgway's description of 'Some new Species of Birds from Cozumel Island, Yucatan,' published February 26, 1885 (see Auk, II, p. 294), he promised later a full report upon the collection, and this report forms the paper now under notice. After some preliminary remarks upon the collection, numbering 429 specimens, and upon previous papers relating to the birds of this island, he proceeds to give an annotated list of the species, which number 57. Those previously briefly described as new are here redescribed at length, and a new subspecies (*Centurus rubriventris pygmaeus*) is added. Seven species, not represented in the collection, are given on the authority of Mr. Salvin, thus raising the total number of species enumerated to 64. The

* Characters of two New Species of Birds from Yucatan. Ann. N. Y. Acad. Sci., Vol. IV, No. 8, pp. 273, 274.

† List of a few species of Birds new to the Fauna of Gaudeloupe, West Indies, with a Description of a New Species of Ceryle. By George N. Lawrence. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., Vol. VIII, No. 39, pp. 621-625, Nov. 3, 1885.

‡ Notes on some apparently preoccupied Ornithological Generic Names. By Leonhard Stejneger. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus. Vol. VIII, No. 26, pp. 409, 410. Sept. 14, 1885.

§ Catalogue of a collection of Birds made on the Island of Cozumel, Yucatan, by the Naturalists of the U. S. Fish Commission Steamer Albatross, Capt. Z. L. Tanner, Commander. By Robert Ridgway. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus. Vol. VIII, Nos. 35-37, pp. 560-583, Sept. 30-Oct. 19, 1885.