

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.

distribution of the species is given in tabular form at the end of the paper, from which it appears that 19 are peculiar to Cozumel, while 24 are North American, and the remaining 21 tropical American.

As already noticed (Auk, Vol. II, p. 294), a paper on the birds of this island was published by Mr. Salvin in 'The Ibis' for April, 1885, in which several of the species previously given as new by Mr. Ridgway were renamed by Mr. Salvin. The method of Mr. Ridgway's publication of his preliminary paper (in pamphlet form, in advance of the 'Proceedings' of which it formed a part) having been criticised by Mr. Salvin, Mr. Ridgway takes occasion to defend the system of an advance distribution of authors' editions, so often, and, as we believe, properly, resorted to, particularly, but not exclusively, in this country, in cases where otherwise a considerable interval would elapse between the printing and the distribution, or 'publication,' of the papers in the regular issuing of the publications of which they form a part.—J. A. A.

**Minor Ornithological Publications.**—'Random Notes on Natural History,' a very excellent and well edited monthly journal of natural history, published by Southwick and Jencks of Providence, R. I., contains (Vols. I-II, 1884-85), besides valuable articles on the Mammals, Reptiles, and Plants of Rhode Island, the following original notes and papers on ornithology (Nos. 1003-1036). The unsigned articles are, we are informed, mainly from the pen of Mr. F. T. Jencks, and are so entered in the following index to the ornithological papers.

1003. *Color of Birds' Eyes.* [F. T. Jencks.] *Random Notes on Natural History*, I, No. 1, Jan. 1884, p. 1, No. 2, p. 1,\* No. 4, p. 6, No. 6, p. 3, Vol. II, No. 7, p. 56, No. 8, p. 64, No. 10, p. 75.—Under this head is given the color of the iris of various species of birds, as noted from freshly killed specimens. The notes relate to a large number of species of Birds of Prey, Ducks, Gulls, Herons, Woodpeckers, etc., and in many cases include juvenile stages as well as the adult.

1004. *A Very Rare Bird in Rhode Island.* [By F. T. Jencks.] *Ibid.*, p. 6.—"A Young Gyrfalcon, *Hierofalco Gyrfalco*, var. *sacer*" was killed at Point Judith, Oct. 11, 1883, by E. S. Hopkins.

1005. *Brunnich's Guillemot in Rhode Island.* [By F. T. Jencks.] *Ibid.*, p. 6.—One was shot "between Warwick Neck Light and Patience Island, Dec. 26, 1883. The first specimens we have ever known taken in Narragansett Bay." Ten others are reported as taken later. (*Ibid.*, No. 2, p. 8).

1006. *Short-Eared Owl's Nest.* [By F. T. Jencks.] *Ibid.*, p. 8.

1007. *Among the Buff-breasted Sandpipers.* [By F. T. Jencks.] *Ibid.*, No. 2, p. 4.—The record of a day's collecting at Vermilion, Dak.

1008. [*Bird Notes.* By F. T. Jencks.] *Ibid.*, p. 9.—An adult male King Eider (*Somateria spectabilis*) shot at Nayatt Point, Bristol Co., R. I., about Jan. 1, 1884. Purple Finches reported wintering in abundance near Rangeley Lakes in Maine.

\* Each number of Volume I is separately paged.