

phus' (Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., VII. 1884, pp. 210-229) he would have found all the doubts expressed by him on pp. 390-391 in regard to the distribution of *Cepphus mindtii* in the Pacifico-glacial waters cleared up, and he would not have urged a reopening of the question.

Whether *Anser gambeli* really differs *sufficiently* to be recognized as a separate race of *A. albifrons*, is to my mind rather doubtful, as the Old World material at my command is very scanty, and I am afraid that the Old World ornithologists are in about the same difficulty with respect to *A. gambeli*. However, Mr. Ridgway and I, going over our material conjointly, found that the length of the exposed culmen in typical *A. albifrons* varies between 40 and 45 mm., while in *A. gambeli* the range is between 46 and 60 mm. The 'Vega' expedition skin with a bill of 47 mm. consequently falls within the limits of *A. gambeli*, and confirms my conjecture that all the birds of the Asiatic Pacific coast belong to this form.

Palmén, on p. 442, charges that authors have overlooked Kittlitz's statement in regard to the supposed occurrence of *Philacte canagica* (*Anser pictus* Pall.) in Kamschatka, but on p. 318 of my 'Results, etc.' he will find that I have referred to Kittlitz's bird, and identified it as probably belonging to *Branta hutchinsii*, a reference which is no doubt entirely correct.—L. STEJNEGER.

A Catalogue of the Birds of North Carolina.*—The author is induced to present this work in its "present imperfect form" in "the hope that the publication now of the records of the work, so far as it has progressed, may stimulate a desire in resident North Carolinians in different parts of the State to collect material and record observations of the birds to be found within our State limits." Two hundred and fifty-five "species and subspecies" are enumerated, of which "about 120 species have been observed and absolutely identified" by the author, who acknowledges his indebtedness, for notes on the occurrence of the major portion of the remaining one hundred and thirty-five, to Charles F. Batchelder, William Brewster, H. H. and C. S. Brimley, and John S. Cairnes, but has evidently overlooked Coles's 'Birds observed at Fort Macon, N. C.,'† and also Sennett's 'Observations in Western North Carolina Mountains in 1886,'‡ which contain twenty species not included in the present 'Catalogue,' while a re-examination of Cairnes's list will add one more. Being largely based on the printed works of the authors mentioned, it contains comparatively little original matter requiring comment, but notices of the capture of *Chon cærulescens* ("taken on Bogue Beach, one mile from Fort Macon in spring of 1884") and *Spizella pallida* ("Chapel Hill, March 8, 1886") are apparently here recorded for the first time. An appendix,

* Preliminary Catalogue of the Birds of North Carolina, with notes on some of the species. [By] George F. Atkinson. Contributed from the Biological Laboratory of the Univ. of N. C., No. VI. Journal of Elisha Mitchell Scientific Society, 1887, Part 2.

† Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila., 1871, pp. 18-47; 1878, pp. 22-24.

‡ Auk, Vol. IV., July, 1887, pp. 240-245.

"Containing a List of [St] Birds we may reasonably expect to take in the State." is given in conclusion. Several of the species here mentioned hold a rather doubtful place, and others might obviously be included, while two have before been given in the body of the work. The list is well printed, with but few typographical errors, and its author is to be congratulated on having inaugurated a movement to thoroughly investigate the avifauna of this most interesting State.—F. M. C.

Minor Ornithological Publications.—The 'American Field,' Vols. XXIII to XXVIII, 1885-1887, contains, in addition to articles from the 'American Naturalist,' 'The Auk,' 'Popular Science Monthly,' etc., the following (Nos. 1200-1286):—

1200. *The Genus Helminthophaga.* By Dr. Morris Gibbs. *American Field*, Vol. XXIII, No. 1, Jan. 3, 1885, p. 8.—A review of the four species of this genus which have been recorded from Kalamazoo County, Mich.

1201. *The Crow.* By F. L. Paine. *Ibid.*, No. 1, Jan. 3, p. 9. On its destructiveness to crops.

1202. *Migration in the Mississippi Valley.* By W. W. Cooke. *Ibid.*, No. 2, Jan. 10, p. 32.—A call for observers of the migration in the region mentioned.

1203. *Caging Quails.* By A. Scherer. *Ibid.*, No. 2, Jan. 10, p. 32.

1204. *Arrival of Chinese Game Birds.* From the 'Portland Oregonian.' *Ibid.*, No. 3, Jan. 17, p. 57.

1205. *How to Identify Birds.* By Everett Smith. *Ibid.*, No. 6, Feb. 7, p. 127.—An offer to name specimens forwarded for examination.

1206. *The Loggerhead Shrike in Virginia.* By Plover [John S. Wise]. *Ibid.*, No. 7, Feb. 14, p. 152.

1207. *The Genus Vireo in Michigan.* By Dr. Morris Gibbs. *Ibid.*, No. 9, Feb. 28, p. 200.—A review of the six species which occur in the State.

1208. *What the Crow Eats.* By E. S. Stark. *Ibid.*, No. 11, March 14, p. 248. (See also note under same heading by N. Ferguson.)

1209. *Inheritance in Birds.* By E. Haugh. *Ibid.*, No. 12, March 21, p. 272.—A Canary imitates the call of a young chicken.

1210. *The European Sparrow.* *Ibid.*, No. 13, March 28, p. 295.—A letter from Robert Ridgway to Captain W. McK. Heath, condemnatory of *Passer domesticus* and approving of its complete extermination.

1211. *What the Crow Eats.* By Frank Felkman. *Ibid.*, No. 16, April 18, p. 367.

1212. *A Hybrid Duck.* By G. Fream Morcom. *Ibid.*, No. 16, April 18, p. 368.—*Anas boschas* + *Anas obscura*.

1213. *The Family Picidae in Michigan.* By Dr. Morris Gibbs. *Ibid.*, No. 18, May 2, p. 415.—A review of the nine species recorded from the State. (See also No. 19, May 9, p. 438.)

1214. *The Merciless War upon the Birds.* By Charles Aldrich. *Ibid.*, No. 20, May 16, p. 463.—On the destruction of birds for millinery purposes and the necessity of passing stringent laws for their protection.

1215. *Quail, Partridge, Grouse.* By Julius P. de Conine. *Ibid.*, No. 23, June 6, p. 536.—On their correct vernacular names.