

As both names are derived from the same roots, have the same meaning, and are practically identical, it is questionable whether the difference in the connecting vowel is sufficient ground for considering them distinct. In case *Campylorhynchus* Spix is rejected its first synonym, *Heleodytes* Cabanis,¹ seems to be the earliest name available for the genus of birds commonly known as the Cactus Wrens.—T. S. PALMER, *Washington, D.C.*

Salpinctes obsoletus in Washington and Oregon.—In his 'Notes on some Birds of Gray's Harbor, Washington' (*Auk*, IX, 310) Mr. Palmer quotes R. H. Lawrence as giving the Rock Wren a place in his list of the birds of Gray's Harbor, and considers its occurrence west of the Cascades as somewhat doubtful. In 'The Auk' for October, 1892 (p. 357), Mr. Lawrence repeats his statement that *Salpinctes obsoletus* was the species observed at Gray's Harbor and adds that it was also met with at Seattle. It certainly seems rather out of place to meet with this species in the heavy fir forests of the Northwest, but that it occurs cannot be questioned. I took a specimen on May 21, 1885, at the edge of a clearing in the heavy fir timber, a few miles west of Portland, Oregon, a country very similar to that about Gray's Harbor, where Mr. Lawrence met with the species.—A. W. ANTHONY, *Denver, Colorado.*

The Carolina Wren in the Lower Hudson Valley.—The occurrence of the Carolina Wren on the eastern slope of the Palisades furnishes a marked illustration of the influence exerted by river valleys in extending the range of species. While as abundant during the summer in this locality as in any part of its range, it is as yet a comparatively rare bird on the eastern shore of the river, and on the western shore is seldom found far from the cliffs of the Palisades. I have observed it at Fort Lee, New Jersey, and just below Piermont, New York, but for the most part my observations have been confined to the 'Under Cliff' road at Englewood. Here on July 3 a nest containing young was found. It was placed in a small pocket-like opening in the face of a perpendicular cliff fifteen feet from the crest of the Palisades and an equal distance from a ledge below. On the same day within a distance of a mile no less than ten Carolina Wrens were seen, and on returning to the place a week later six birds were seen. But, as before remarked, although so abundant here, the birds are comparatively rare in the adjoining country. My friend Mr. Evan Evans, who lives less than a mile west of the spot where the nest was found, tells me that he rarely sees this species except in the immediate vicinity of the cliffs. At West Englewood, distant three and a half miles, I have found one or two individuals each spring and fall, and it has seemed to me that the species was slowly becoming more regular. During 1892 I noted single individuals at West Englewood on May 20 and October 23, and also

¹ Mus. Hein. I, 1850, p. 80.