

bird occupies pp. 136-139 of the book named in the beginning of this note. The specimen which I have selected as the type of *cairnsi* is in Mr. Brewster's collection; it is a ♂, in full dress, and was collected by Mr. Cairns. — ELLIOTT COUES, *Washington, D. C.*

Dendroica cærulea vs. Dendroica rara. — *Sylvia cærulea* WILSON (Am. Orn. II, 1810, 141, etc.), the earliest name for the Cerulean Warbler, is unfortunately preoccupied by *Sylvia cærulea* LATHAM (Index Orn. II, 1790, 540), which is a synonym of *Polioptila cærulea* (LINN.); hence, No. 658, of the A. O. U. Check-List becomes *Dendroica rara* (WILSON) (*Sylvia rara*, WILSON, Am. Orn. III, 1811, 119, pl. 27, fig. 2). — ROBERT RIDGWAY, *Washington, D. C.*

Note on the Genus *Lucar* of Bartram.—The names given to many North American birds by William Bartram in his 'Travels,' orig. ed. 1791, are likely to raise nomenclatural questions until we come to some conclusion whether they are to be accepted or rejected. At present our usage wavers. The A. O. U. rejects most of his names, on the ground that he was not a strict binomialist; yet it accepts the term *Aphelocoma floridana* for the Jay named *Corvus floridanus* by Bartram, Trav., p. 291. Let us at least be consistent, if we cannot be just! With regard to generic names, if Bartram was not very orthodox in binomiality, neither was Brisson, whose heterodoxy in this particular does not prevent us from adopting his genera; and the jewel of consistency requires us to treat both these authors alike. On p. 290bis of this book Bartram names the genus *Lucar*, with formal indication of its type species, *L. lividus*. This brings the case distinctly within our rules regarding generic names, whether properly 'characterized' or not, and disposes of the apparent objection that it is a *nomen nudum*. For this bird is of course the well-known Catbird, Bartram's specific name of which is the obvious origin of *Turdus lividus*, Wilson, 1810. Bartram's *lividus* is antedated by *carolinensis* Linn., 1766; but his *Lucar* antedates *Galeoscoptes* Cab., 1850. As the Catbird is now removed from the genus *Mimus*, its only tenable name would appear to be *Lucar carolinensis* Coues, Pr. Phila. Acad., 1875, p. 349.—ELLIOTT COUES, *Washington, D. C.*

Breeding of the Carolina Wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) on Long Island, N. Y.—On the 20th of March, 1896, I heard a Carolina Wren in a swamp near my home in Roslyn, Queen's Co., N. Y. Knowing it to be rare on Long Island I decided to watch it as closely as possible, hoping it might have a mate.

The village of Roslyn is situated at the head of Hampstead Harbor, and is shut in by hills on three sides. There are three ponds in the village, a few hundred feet apart, with swamp land between, and being in a row, one above the other, they divide the village in two parts. Between the highest pond and the second one is a swamp three or four acres in