

has only 10, and in *Callipepla* proper, which has 14. *Lophortyx* has 12, like all the rest of the genera, excepting the two just named, and in my judgment should never have been united with *Callipepla* by the A. O. U. I propose that we restore it to full generic rank, on the ground of the difference from *Callipepla* in the number of rectrices, together with the remarkable peculiarity of the crest, and also the decided difference in the plumage of opposite sexes, as compared with the great similarity between the sexes of *Callipepla*. *Lophortyx* seems to me to be, in fact, one of the best characterized genera of Odontophorinæ; and *Callipepla* is unique in this subfamily in the number of its rectrices. — ELLIOTT COUES, *Washington, D. C.*

Notes on the Mexican Ground Dove. — Desiring to do what I can to free the A. O. U. Check-List of even the slightest blemishes, I may correct two errors which appear under *Columbigallina passerina pallascens*, No. 320a, where “C 374, part” and “C 547, part” appears. The facts are otherwise. I believe I am the only author who has persisted in recognizing this subspecies ever since it was described by Baird in 1859; it is ignored in the A. O. U. List of 1886, and first given a place in the List of 1895. But it has stood unchallenged in the ‘Key’ since 1872; it is “C 374a” of my first Check-List, 1873, and “C 548” of my second Check-List, 1882, with the same separate number in all the eds. of the ‘Key’ since 1884.

No doubt many ornithologists share my regret, that *Chamæpelis* must give way, under our rules, to such a monstrous name as *Columbigallina*; but the peculiar atrocity of *Columbigallina* may not yet have dawned upon all of them. It is traceable back to the “Colombi-Galline” of the mendacious Levaillant, Oiseaux d’Afrique, VI, 1808, p. 98, pl. 278, the same being a fictitious bird of Africa, made up of the skin of a tame pigeon with artificial wattles: see Sund., Kön. Svensk. Vet.-Ak. Handl., 1857, p. 55, and Tent., 1873, p. 98; also, Salvad., Cat. B. Brit. Mus., XXI, 1893, p. 647. This miserable artefact became promptly the *Columba carunculata* of M. Temminck and Mme. Knip, and in due term spawned three bastard genera: *Verrulia* Fleming, 1822; *Creogenys* Gloger, 1842; and *Alectryopelia* Van der Hoeven, 1855. Such is the pity that our innocent little Ground-doves should expiate the original sin by bearing the stigma of such a name; and more’s the pity that it is saddled on the patient ass of ornithological nomenclature. — ELLIOTT COUES, *Washington, D. C.*

Another Golden Eagle in Connecticut. — An adult male Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*), weighing eight pounds and a half, alar extent seven feet five inches, now in my possession, was taken Jan. 19, at Salem, twelve miles west of this place towards the Connecticut River. It was trapped while feeding on the carcasses of sheep killed by dogs. Its tracks were seen the day before, and foot-prints similar to these were seen last winter