

The Carolina Wren Breeding in Rhode Island.—On May 11, 1899, I found in Middletown, R. I., a male Carolina Wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) and three young ones just able to fly. As they were together when I found them they no doubt belonged to the same family and, from the age of the young, could not have been far from their nest. As the bird is rare here, the above may be of interest to the readers of 'The Auk.'—EDWARD STURTEVANT, *Newport, R. I.*

Food of the Robin.—On May 15, 1899, while collecting at Onondaga Valley, N. Y., I noticed a nest and young of the Robin (*Merula migratoria*). As I stood near watching the nest the mother bird appeared with a mouthful of larvæ of *Clisicocampa* (probably *C. americana*) which she fed to the young. After she had fed to her young the mouthful of larvæ she returned to a near-by apple tree and obtained more. The larvæ seemed to be nearly full grown, and it seems strange that the Robin should be feeding them these hairy caterpillars. This is the first instance I have known of any bird feeding on them except the Cuckoo.—A. W. PERRIOR, *Syracuse, N. Y.*

Two Rare Birds for Southern Ohio.—The extremely cold weather of this winter brought us two very rare visitors. One was the American Rough-legged Hawk (*Archibuteo lagopus sancti-johannis*), a pair of them being taken, one on Feb. 5, the other on Feb. 17. I could not secure either one for my collection. Dr. Wheaton states this Hawk to be rare in southern Ohio, mentioning but one specimen from Columbus and one from Cincinnati. But Waverly is 100 miles east of Cincinnati and 70 miles south of Columbus.

The other visitor was the Old-Squaw (*Harelda hyemalis*). Between Feb. 7 and 18 nine specimens, four males and five females, were taken by local hunters. I secured a fine pair for my cabinet. This is the southernmost record of this species for the State.—W. F. HENNINGER, *Waverly, O.*

Some Rare Occurrences in Yates County, N. Y.—*Larus marinus*, GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL.—On April 18, 1898, there was a great influx of American Herring Gulls at this place and with them were about fifteen individuals of *Larus marinus*. One specimen was shot and brought to me for identification. They remained here about one week.

Larus delawarensis, RING-BILLED GULL.—A rare migrant, one specimen taken during the spring of 1894.

Larus philadelphia, BONAPARTE'S GULL.—About 500 of these gracefully manœuvring Gulls appeared on April 21, 1898, and remained about ten days. Several specimens were taken in both the mottled and full plumage.

Sterna antillarum, LEAST TERN.—A rare migrant in the autumn. I

saw three specimens on Sept. 6, 1896, and secured one. They disappeared on Sept. 11.

Aythya vallisneria, CANVAS-BACK. — During the first week of December, 1897, Canvas-back Ducks began to appear in couples and small flocks and by the middle of January the local sportsmen estimated that there were about 200 flocked in this end of the lake (Kevka). However, a week's despicable night shooting soon drove them away. Old sportsmen inform me that these were the first Canvas-backs that they had seen in about fifteen years.

Phalaropus lobatus, NORTHERN PHALAROPE. — Rare migrant. I took one specimen on May 16, 1895.

Tringa fuscicollis, WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER. — On Sept. 29, 1898, I found a mortally wounded specimen along the lake shore and two more were seen. As near as I can find out this is the first record of the occurrence of the White-rumped Sandpiper in Yates County or adjoining counties.

Calidris arenaria, SANDERLING. — One specimen, taken in the autumn of 1893, and another on May 25, 1895.

Asio wilsonianus, AMERICAN LONG-EARED OWL. — The occurrence of this Owl is not common and it is a rare breeder. Several nests have been found—the last one on May 16, 1897. It contained four eggs almost hatched.

Icteria virens, YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT. — Of rare occurrence in this county. On May 30, 1898, I found a pair breeding in the edge of a swampy bush lot. The nest contained two eggs that were destroyed for some reason—probably because I disturbed the sitting female. — CLARENCE FREEDOM STONE, *Branchport, N. Y.*

Family and Subfamily Names Based on Subgenera. — The purpose of the present note is to raise the question of the tenability of family and subfamily names based on subgeneric terms. Current usage appears to favor the formation of the family or subfamily name from some valid generic term in the group, and Canon V of the A. O. U. Code has the following to say upon the subject: "Proper names of families and subfamilies take the tenable name of some genus, preferably the leading one, which these groups respectively contain, with change of termination into *idæ* or *inæ*. When a generic name becomes a synonym a current family or subfamily name based upon such generic name becomes untenable." So far as the literal interpretation of this canon is concerned, there seems to be no provision for the case in hand, since a subgeneric name, so long as employed in that capacity, can be strictly considered a synonym of a generic term, no more than can a subspecies be considered synonymous with its particular species; but the intent of the canon is evidently to consider subgeneric names ineligible for use as the basis of supergeneric terms, as is manifest in the 'Code' from the remarks which follow this canon. On the other hand, in the interest of the