

question from Maine, owing to their failure to carefully read the title of Mr. Boardman's list, upon the authority of which they made their supposed records, and many other species as well as this one were cited upon the same grounds and their own ignorance of the exact boundary line between Maine and New Brunswick. Almost invariably Grand Menan birds have been given a place in New England bird lists, which shows the ignorance of geography exhibited by the authors.

I have in my possession a letter from Mr. Boardman in which he states that he has in his possession two specimens of the Wheatear, one taken at *Grand Menan, New Brunswick*, and the other taken on *Indian Island, New Brunswick*. This letter was written in 1896, and gives corrections of many other records made by geographical ignoramuses. Through Mr. Boardman's aid all these erroneous Maine records were straightened out and corrected and may be found in the 'List of the Birds of Maine.' — ORA W. KNIGHT, *Bangor, Me.*

**Bird Notes from Pueblo Co., Colorado.** — I recently spent a few weeks eighteen miles southwest of Pueblo, in which district I have passed ten winters. I was surprised to find the following birds which I have never known to winter there before: Jan. 7. A flock of Mourning Doves (*Zenaidura macroura*), about 40 in number, were seen feeding amongst some sunflowers. Jan. 8. A Western Meadowlark (*Sturnella m. neglecta*) was seen in company with some Mountain Bluebirds (*Sialia arctica*). Jan. 14. A pair of Sparrow Hawks (*Falco sparverius*) were observed. Jan. 12. Two Rock Wrens (*Salpinctes obsoletus*) were seen amongst some rocks not more than ten yards from where I was standing. — WILLOUGHBY P. LOWE, *Seward, Nebraska.*

**Corrections to Birds of Parry Sound and Muskoka.** — The following corrections should be made to my 'List of the Birds of the Districts of Parry Sound and Muskoka, Ontario,' published in the January number of the current volume of 'The Auk':

Page 35, No. 12, *Merganser serrator*. "Breeds in both districts" should read, Probably breeds in both districts.

" 35, " 13, *Lophodytes cucullatus*, requires the same correction.

" 44, " 180, *Harporhynchus rufus*. Mr. Kay informs me that Brown Thrashers are fairly common in Port Sydney.

" 45, " 188, *Regulus satrapa*. "An abundant winter resident" should read, Probably a winter resident.

" 45, " 189, *Regulus calendula*, "and winter" is a slip and should be struck out.

*Regulus satrapa* certainly occurs in Muskoka till late in December, but the testimony as to its being a winter resident is so conflicting that I have thought it best to qualify my reference to it.

I have been asked why the railroad lines on the map published with my paper should be so heavily shaded; I had hoped to be able to give some information about the influence of railroads on the migrations or settlement of birds in a new country, but found my data insufficient; however, I hope at some future time to have the aid of Mr. P. A. Tavernier, and be able to go into the matter more fully.—J. H. FLEMING, *Toronto, Can.*

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## RECENT LITERATURE.

**Norton on Birds from Labrador.**<sup>1</sup>—Although only 32 species are here recorded, Mr. Norton has given an interest to his paper aside from the mere records of the 95 specimens obtained by the Bowdoin College Expedition of 1891. Of especial interest is his discussion of the case of *Fratercula arctica* in reference to the changes of plumage and of the form and markings of the bill with age. Mr. Norton has compared the American bird with specimens from Spitzbergen, Norway, the Orkney Islands, and other European localities, and finds that there is a slight but constant difference in the size of the bill between the European and American birds. He adds that the type locality of *Alca arctica* is clearly the “northern oceans of Europe,” and that if the American bird be separated its proper name will be *Mormon glacialis* of Temminck. He also considers that the Spitzbergen form is separable from true *arctica*, and proposes for it the name *F. arctica naumanni*. The differences in the size and form of the bill are illustrated by a table of measurements and figures (pl. ii).

In reference to the Labrador Spruce Grouse, described by Bangs in 1899 as *Canachites canadensis labradorius*, Mr. Norton claims that it is the bird previously named *canace* by Linnæus in the 12th edition of the ‘Systema Naturæ.’ He concludes that the name *Canachites canadensis* (Linn.) must be restricted to the Spruce Grouse of Labrador and Hudson Bay, while “*Canachites canadensis canace* (Linn.) must be brought forward for the form inhabiting portions of Canada, the northern United States, and New Brunswick.”

The species are annotated with reference to the phases of plumage they present, and record is also made of the occurrence of *Otocoris alpestris praticola* at Chateau Bay, its first record for Labrador.—J. A. A.

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<sup>1</sup> Birds of the Bowdoin College Expedition to Labrador in 1891. By Arthur H. Norton. Proc. Portland Soc. Nat. Hist., Vol. II, pp. 139-158 and pl. ii. Published May 20, 1901.