

the females and young males of *P. subis* is doubtless responsible for its having been so long overlooked.

It may be well to note that there is also in the collection an immature male *P. subis* taken at the same time and place and by the same collector as the female *chalybea*.— W. DEW. MILLER, *Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist., New York City*.

Swainson's Warbler in Nebraska.— Among a lot of bird skins from Kearney, Nebraska, sent to me for identification a few days ago, I found a fine adult specimen of Swainson's Warbler (*Helinaia swainsonii*), labeled "♂ Kearney, Neb., Apr. 9, 1905. C. A. Black." I at once wrote my friend Mr. Black, for any particulars regarding its capture, and he replied as follows: "The [Swainson's] Warbler was taken by myself, on a cloudy afternoon in my dooryard. It was hopping around on the ground under some cedar and maple trees." This I believe to be the first record of this species being taken in Nebraska, and I believe it is farther north and west than it has ever been recorded before.— CHAS. K. WORTHEN, *Warsaw, Ills.*

The Date of Discovery of Swainson's Warbler (*Helinaia swainsonii*).— In Audubon's 'Birds of America,' Vol. II, p. 84, he states concerning this species: "The bird represented in the plate before you was discovered by my friend John Bachman, near Charleston in South Carolina, while I was in another part of our continent, searching for the knowledge necessary to render my ornithological biographies as interesting as possible to you:— it was in the spring of 1832, when I was rambling over the rugged country of Labrador, that my southern friend found the first specimen of this bird, near the banks of the Edista river."

In referring to Bachman's Warbler (*Helminthophila bachmani*), Vol. II, p. 93, Audubon says: "The first obtained was found by him [Bachman] a few miles from Charleston, in South Carolina, in July 1833, while I was rambling over the crags of Labrador."

As Audubon unquestionably visited Labrador in 1833, it will be clearly seen that Swainson's Warbler was taken the same year, and *not* in 1832 as stated by him. Dr. Bachman therefore discovered two Warblers new to science in 1833, which were afterwards lost to science for more than half a century.— ARTHUR T. WAYNE, *Mount Pleasant, S. C.*

The Maryland Yellowthroat and Bachman's Finch near Camden, South Carolina, in Winter.— On January 8, 1906, I took a male Maryland Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas*) in a little patch of briars and reeds at the side of a road, not far from a small swamp, near Camden, Kershaw County, South Carolina. The bird attracted my attention by frequently uttering its familiar call note. I will not in the field express an opinion upon its varietal status. It has been sent to the United States National Museum where it will no doubt be permanently in evidence.¹ This is the

¹ Since writing the above Mr. Ridgway has informed me that the specimen is "a typical example of *G. t. ignota*."

only Maryland Yellowthroat I have found near Camden during three winters of field work there. In 1904 the first of the season was seen on March 14. In 1905 the first was seen on March 20.

On January 25, 1906, I flushed a male Bachman's Finch (*Peuceea æstivalis bachmanii*) in a small grassy field, about thirty yards from a mixed wood of pine and oak, near Camden, and secured it. This also is the first winter example of its kind which I have found near Camden, and it has also been sent to the United States National Museum. On February 23, 1906, I secured another male specimen in a briar thicket bordering a ditch in an open field, my attention having been attracted to it by its call note. It is possible that this February bird should be considered a spring arrival, since spring begins in South Carolina in February.—NATHAN CLIFFORD BROWN, *Portland, Maine.*

The Proper Generic Name for the Nightingale.— Since the propriety of our change of the generic name of the Nightingale from *Aëdon* to *Luscinia* (Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus. XXVIII, 1905, p. 895) has been recently questioned (Sclater, Bull. Brit. Ornith. Club, XVI, December, 1905, pp. 39-41), it may be well to set forth in more detail than before was thought necessary the reason for this action. The generic names *Aëdon* Forster (Synopt. Cat. Brit. Birds, 1817, p. 53) and *Luscinia* Forster (*ibid.*, p. 14) are of identical applicability, both being without diagnosis, and having for type the same species — *Luscinia megarhynchos* Brehm. As *Luscinia* occurs thus some 39 pages anterior to *Aëdon* it should be adopted. Whether or not Forster intended to credit the name *Luscinia* to Leach makes no difference at all in the necessity for its acceptance, provided it is a valid name, that it is the earliest name for the genus, and that this 'Catalogue' is its first place of publication. Forster, however, did intend it for a new name of his own, as may easily be seen by a careful examination of his introduction and text. In the former he makes the following remarks, italics ours: "That [arrangement] of Latham, and others, founded on the Linnæan system, seems preferable, if we consider the infinite approximations of the genera to each other; and the wholly artificial nature of generic arrangement: while the catalogue of Dr. Leach is certainly more conformable to the differences of the character of Birds, and also to the notions of the Antients. In those few instances where he has appeared to me to have mistaken the old name, *I have ventured to substitute one which I believe to belong antiently to the bird.* So that in the following Catalogue, the large capitals will designate the Linnæan name according to the arrangement now adopted. The small Roman letter will mark the names of the old writers brought to light by Dr. Leach. *Where I have altered them, I have put a ?.*"

The Nightingale is introduced into the succeeding Catalogue (page 14) as follows:

101 SYLVIA LVSCINIA.

Luscinia Aëdon?

*Nightingale, Le Rosignol, Nachtigall, or
Philomela.*