

CORRESPONDENCE.

'Concealing Coloration.'

EDITORS OF 'THE AUK,'

Dear Sirs: — In your most gratifying review of our book, 'Concealing Coloration,' there is only one thing that I could care to amend, and that is the share in the authorship allotted to my son Gerald H. Thayer.

Being more indebted to him for writing this book than I can ever repay, and he being a professional writer, I owe it to him to make it clearly understood that while with only secondary exceptions the book's *material* is mine, yet the whole book *as a book* — its scheme and every sentence in it (except, of course, the passages signed by me, which owe much to his revision) — is entirely his. But for him I could not only never have found time and energy to produce any book at all, but could not in any literary sense have at all equalled this one.

Sincerely yours,

ABBOTT H. THAYER.

Monadnock, N. H.,
May 20, 1910.

NOTES AND NEWS.

ALEXANDER O'DRISCOLL TAYLOR, an Associate of the American Ornithologists' Union since 1888, died at his home in Newport, Rhode Island, on April 10, 1910, in the seventy-ninth year of his age, after a short illness from pneumonia. He was born in Cork, Ireland, January 2, 1832, and came to this country in 1883. He soon after became disbursing agent of the survey for the Northern Pacific Railroad, and later was connected for a time with the United States Geological Survey. He engaged in the real estate business in Newport in 1885, and for twenty-five years was active in the business, municipal, and educational interests of the city of his adoption. He was deeply interested in natural history, being a well-informed amateur in various lines, especially in ornithology. He took a very active part in the work of the Newport Natural History Society, of which he was curator in 1885-1887, secretary in 1888, and president from 1889 till his decease. He was also the head of the Rhode Island Game Commission, a devoted champion of bird protection, and did much to popularize the study of natural history. He is survived by two sons and a daughter.