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## CORRESPONDENCE.

### The Possessive Form for Personal Bird Names.

EDITORS OF 'THE AUK':

*Dear Sirs:*—Black, White, Brown, Green, Gray; Hill, Pond, Moor, Marsh, Wood, Lake, Beach; Fish, Bush, Crane, Stone; Little, Strong, Swift, King, Small;—these, and others of the same sort, are common surnames, and as likely to belong to naturalists as to anybody else.

Surely this is a sufficient rebuttal of the arguments in favor of dropping the possessive *s* and apostrophe from the common names of birds and beasts named after men.

Sincerely yours,

GERALD H. THAYER.

Monadnock, N. H.  
June 15, 1910.