

as tending to give more stability to our nomenclature."<sup>1</sup> This is certainly a new departure in type designation, it generally being held that in the case of speciesless genera the type must be some species described before the founding of the genus on which the genus was obviously based. If *Penguinus* was founded on an indeterminable species, the genus itself must necessarily share the fate of the species on which it was founded. Such action is antagonistic, in spirit if not in letter, to Article XXX of the International Code of Nomenclature, which provides that the type selected must be one of the originally included species. Although the characters of *Penguinus* might fit several then undescribed species none of them, when later described, can be properly available as its type.—J. A. A.

**Abbott's 'The Home-Life of the Osprey'.**—In a little volume<sup>2</sup> of 53 pages of text and 45 photographic illustrations, Mr. Abbott is able to give an account of the home-life of the Osprey, or Fish Hawk, in minute detail, from long study of the species at various points on the coast of New Jersey, at Gardiner's Island, New York, and at Great Lake, North Carolina, beginning with its arrival in the waters near New York about the end of March and ending with its departure early in October. Although the subject is not a new one, Mr. Abbott has made excellent use of his opportunities and, aided by the camera, has given us a thoroughly complete history of the 'home-life' of this interesting species, as studied particularly at Gardiner's Island and along the coast of New Jersey. Every feature is beautifully illustrated in the accompanying photographs, mostly taken by himself. The varied character of its nesting-sites and nests, its manner of fishing, the care of its young, their development and behavior while in the nest, the devotion of the parent birds to their young and to their homes, its manner of fishing and carrying its prey, are all sympathetically told in the text and effectively illustrated in the excellent plates. The work is a worthy successor of the similar monographic studies that have preceded it in the 'Bird-Lovers' Home-Life Series' of its enterprising publishers, Witherby and Co. of London. In concluding his excellent monograph Mr. Abbott says: "There is a nobility and dignity about this bird, an industry and inoffensiveness of life, a tender affection for its mate and young, that can only bring increasing admiration with acquaintance."—J. A. A.

**Publications Received.**—**Abbott, Clinton G.** The Home-Life of the Osprey. Crown 4to, pp. 44, 32 photographic plates. London, Witherby & Co. 6s. net; special ed., 10s. 6d. net. New York, Brentano, \$2 post-paid.

<sup>1</sup> Not italicised in the original.

<sup>2</sup> The Home-Life of the Osprey | Photographed and Described. | By | Clinton G. Abbott, B. A. | Associate of the American Ornithologists' Union | With some Photographs by Howard H. Cleaves, Associate of | the American Ornithologists' Union | With Thirty-two mounted plates | London | Witherby & Co., 326 High Holborn, W. C. | MCMXI.— pp. 54, 32 photographic pl. Cloth, 6s. net; special edition, 10s. 6d. net. For sale also at Brentano's, 229 Fifth Avenue, New York. \$2 post-paid.

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