

1829, p. 84; type by monotypy, *Falco lagopus* Brünnich); and *Buteoetes* Lesson (Traité d'Ornith., May 8, 1830, p. 83; type, by monotypy, *Falco lagopus* Gmelin). The first of these becomes, therefore, the tenable name for the Rough-legged Hawks, since it is not preoccupied by *Triorches* Leach (Syst. Cat. Indig. Mamm. and Birds Brit. Mus., 1816, p. 10; type, by monotypy, *Pandion fluvialis* Savigny = *Falco haliaetus* Linnaeus), for the latter must be regarded as a different word from a nomenclatural standpoint because of its different classical ending. By reason of this the two forms of the Rough-legged Hawk will stand as follows:

Triorches lagopus lagopus (Brünnich).

Triorches lagopus sanctijohannis (Gmelin).

HARRY C. OBERHOLSER, *Washington, D. C.*

Harris's Hawk (*Parabuteo unicinctus harrisi*) in Kansas.—A fine specimen of a female Harris's Hawk was killed seven and one half miles southwest of Lawrence, Kansas, December 25, 1918, by Fred Hastie and is now in the skin collection of the University of Kansas Museum.

So far as I know this Hawk has not been reported before from the state.—
C. D. BUNKER, *Lawrence, Kansas.*

The Proper Name for the Texas Barred Owl.—Some time ago ('The Auk,' XXV, No. 3, July, 1908, page 316) Mr. Outram Bangs renamed his *Syrnium nebulosum helveolum* (Proc. New Engl. Zool. Club, I, March 31, 1899, page 31) because, when transferred to the genus *Strix*, it was supposedly preoccupied by *Strix helvola* Lichtenstein (Verz. Samml. Säugeth. und Vögeln Kaffernlande, 1842, page 11). Since, however, both *helveola* and *helvola* are classical Latin adjectives differing in the possession of an additional syllable, they are to be regarded as different words, and therefore by neither the International Code of Nomenclature nor the A. O. U. Code would they conflict when employed in the same genus. It thus becomes necessary to return to the earlier name for the Texas Barred Owl, and it will consequently stand as *Strix varia helveola* (Bangs).—HARRY C. OBERHOLSER, *Washington, D. C.*

Concerning a Note of the Long-eared Owl (*Asio wilsonianus*).—I was interested in the note of Mr. G. Clyde Fisher in the last number of 'The Auk,' with similar heading to the above. I can furnish information which will help to verify the conclusions which Mr. Fisher reached as to the source of the sound he heard. On August 9, 1914, while camped near Red Eagle Lake, in the Glacier National Park, I heard a sound of some night bird, which was very similar to the sound described by Mr. Fisher, and for which I could give no better description than the phrase he uses, I tried to investigate the source of the sound, and soon found several owls, at least four being seen at once. It was moonlight at the time. The country consisted of a mountain meadow, dotted with clumps of fir trees, and the Owls were easily seen as they flew from one clump to another at

my approach. I followed, and soon got a good view of one silhouetted against the sky, as it sat in the top of a fir. The bird was evidently watching my approach, and its ear tufts could be plainly seen. From their position, rising from the center of the head, rather than the sides, as well as from the size of the bird, I felt sure that it was a Long-eared Owl. I believe that the birds were a family containing both adults and young, and that they had been attracted by the light of our camp fire. This is the third time that I have known these Owls to be attracted by the light of a camp fire in the mountains of Montana.—ARETAS A. SAUNDERS, *Norwalk, Conn.*

The Short-eared Owl Breeding on Nantucket.—In 'The Auk' for January, 1919, Mr. Francis H. Allen, reporting the occurrence of the Short-eared Owl (*Asio flammeus*) at Nantucket in August, 1918, speaks of the somewhat doubtful status of this Owl as a breeding bird in Massachusetts, and quotes the opinion of Mr. George H. Mackay that at one time it doubtless bred quite regularly on Nantucket and more rarely on Muskeget Island.

There is, I think, good reason to believe that this Owl has nested on Nantucket in recent years not less regularly than in the past. In the years 1908 to 1912 when, in the month of June, I explored the island intent on its plants, but always with a side eye to birds, the Short-eared Owl was frequently met with, this and the Marsh Hawk appearing to be the only raptorial birds of the island at that season. In 1912 it was more numerous than at any time before, or else chance made it so appear, and between June 27 and July 14 not less than twelve were observed. On June 10, 1908, a nest containing two eggs, evidently fresh, was found in Trot's swamp on the western side of the island. The locality was a dryish open part of the swamp less than an acre in extent hemmed about on all sides by thickets that were in many places swampy and impassable. The nest, a slight structure of grasses and other light material, was set in a cluster of hay-scented fern (*Dennstaedtia punctilobula*) whose delicate fronds rising around the margin of the nest gave less protection than concealment and, indeed, little concealment from above, for down within the encircling ferns the eggs were in open view. At this spot the ground was slightly raised above the level of the swamp, and the unrestrained growth of this fern attested that here, even in a wet season, the soil must be free from saturation. The sitting bird left the nest at my near approach, when its mate almost immediately appeared, both birds ranging widely about well in the air at no time coming very near and, at intervals, almost pausing in their flight directly overhead. One or both birds continually repeated a weak and expressionless guttural note — as memory now recalls it. The eggs, measured at the nest and replaced, were 1.37 and 1.44 inches in length — small for the species according to published measurements.

South of Nantucket the Short-eared Owl has not often been reported in its breeding season. There are several records of its having nested