

his desire to display himself, for at no time did he withdraw the white ruffs into concealment. Several times for an instant a second Bittern, presumably the female, appeared in view, but only to become hidden at once behind one of the clumps of bushes. On the other hand, the male bird made no use of the bushes to screen himself. The distance travelled by this male bird during our observation was but a few rods, for he moved first in one direction and then in the opposite, first towards us and then away from us, and was only slightly further removed from us when we proceeded on our way, than when we first saw him. Our position had been about a hundred yards distant.

Mr. William Brewster's very interesting detailed description¹ of the display of these white nuptial plumes as witnessed by him and friends in the Great Meadows in Concord in April, 1910, then for the first time observed by him, presents the exhibition quite as we ten years later were fortunate enough to observe it in this Westwood swamp.—HORACE W. WRIGHT, 107 Pinckney St., Boston, Mass.

The Knot in Montana.—On October 4, 1915, I found the mummified body of a Knot (*Tringa canutus*) on Woody Island in Lake Bowdoin, Montana (nine miles east of Malta), among remains of a large number of shorebirds and other species that had perished from disease. From the appearance of these bodies it appeared that the birds had died near the end of August or during the early part of September of that same year. All were lying on a muddy shore just above the water line, apparently where they had dragged themselves out of the water after becoming sick. Like the other specimens examined the Knot was not in suitable condition for preservation as a skin, and so was prepared as a skeleton. It is now in the osteological collections of the U. S. National Museum. This is apparently the first published record of the Knot in Montana.—ALEXANDER WETMORE, *Biological Survey, Washington, D. C.*

Tringa Auct. versus Calidris Anon.—It has been conclusively shown by Mr. G. M. Mathews (*Novit. Zool.*, XVIII, No. 1, June 17, 1911, pp. 5-6) that the generic name *Tringa* Linnaeus must be transferred to the group commonly called *Helodromas* Kaup. This leaves the Knot, *Tringa canutus* Linnaeus, without a generic name, and Mr. Mathews proposes the use of *Canutus* Brehm (*Naturg. Vög. Deutschl.*, 1831, p. 653; type, *Tringa canutus* Linnaeus). Dr. C. W. Richmond has called attention (*Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus.*, LIII, August 16, 1917, pp. 581-582) to a still earlier publication of this name by an anonymous reviewer of Bechstein's *Ornithologische Taschenbuch*. This name, however, must give way to *Calidris* of the same anonymous reviewer (*Allg. Lit.-Zeitung*, 1804, II, No. 168, June 8, 1804, col. 542), which has anteriority over *Canutus* and which was introduced as follows:

¹ 'Auk,' XXVIII, Jan. 1911. Pp. 90-100.