

“*Knüssel, Calidris.*

Schnabel walzenförmig, gegen die Spitze hin dicker, glatt. Mittlere und äussere Zehe etwas verbunden.

Tringa calidris, arenaria u. a.”

The *Tringa calidris* here mentioned should by tautonymy be considered the type of *Calidris* [Anonymous], although the other species mentioned, [*Tringa*] *arenaria*, has as a synonym the same specific name *calidris* (= *Charadrius calidris* Linnaeus, Syst. Nat., ed. 12, I, 1766, p. 255). In such cases of tautonymy it seems by all means more logical to consider as the type the species the cited name of which is the same as the generic name proposed, rather than the species having the same name as a synonym.

The type of *Calidris* Anonymous being thus settled as *Tringa calidris*, it remains to determine the identity of this *Tringa calidris*. It is, of course, the *Tringa calidris* of Bechstein (Ornith. Taschenb. Deutschl., 1803, p. 308), which is in turn the *Tringa calidris* of Linnaeus, (*i. e.*, Gmelin) since Bechstein quotes “*T[ringa] calidris* Linn.” and “Linné, l. c., p. 681, N. 19,” which latter, of course, refers only to Gmelin. But *Tringa calidris* Linnaeus (Syst. Nat., ed. 12, I, 1766, p. 252) and *Tringa calidris* Gmelin (Syst. Nat. I, ii, 1789, p. 681) are, anyway, one and the same; and as is unmistakably shown by the diagnoses of both and by the descriptions given by the authors on which both are based, they both clearly refer to the Knot, *Tringa canutus* Linnaeus; not to the Redshank, *Totanus totanus* (Linnaeus), as intimated by Mathews and Iredale (Austral Avian Record, III, No. 5, December 26, 1917, p. 114). This unexpected development makes it necessary to use the generic name *Calidris* Anonymous for the Knot, which will, therefore, now stand as

***Calidris canutus* (Linnaeus.)**

This use of the generic name *Calidris*, of course, precludes its employment for the Sanderling just as effectively as though it were to be employed for the Red-shank. Consequently the substitution of the generic name *Crocethia* Billberg for the Sanderling, made by Messrs. Mathews and Iredale (Austral Avian Record, III, No. 5, December 26, 1917, p. 114), remains valid, even though they misidentified the *Tringa calidris* on which *Calidris* Anonymous is based.—HARRY C. OBERHOLSER, Washington, D. C.

Early Virginia Rail in New York.—On March 13, 1920, Mr. William Gee, of Stony Point, N. Y., picked up a Virginia Rail at Bear Mountain, near Stony Point. The bird evidently had been killed by flying into telegraph wires. It was sent to me for identification by Mr. Fred E. Sleight, Principal of the Stony Point High School, and the record seems unusual enough to be reported to ‘The Auk.’—LEE S. CRANDALL, N. Y. Zoological Park.