SIXTH ANNUAL LIST OF PROPOSED CHANGES IN THE A. O. U. CHECK-LIST OF NORTH AMERICAN BIRDS.

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THIS is the Sixth Annual List of Proposed A. O. U. Check-List additions and changes in the names of North American birds. Like the five already published,[1] the present list comprises only ornithological cases—*i. e.*, such as require specimens or the identification of descriptions for their determination—and consists of additions, eliminations, rejections, and changes of names due to various causes. However, only changes known to be the result of revisionary work are included; therefore no mention is here made of changes involved in names in local lists or elsewhere, used without sufficient explanation or not known to be based on original research, of changes or additions queried or but tentatively made, or of the elimination of subspecies by authors who, on general principles, recognize no subspecies. No action by the A. O. U. Committee has yet been taken on any of the proposed changes here listed; nor is any opinion beyond that of compiler herein expressed.

This list is intended to include everything pertinent up to December 31, 1920, and nothing after that date has been taken. In view of the volume and widely scattered character of current ornithological literature, it is not at all unlikely that some names or changes have been overlooked, and the writer would be very thankful for reference to any omissions, in order that such may be duly given a place in next year's list.

ADDITIONS AND CHANGES IN NAMES.[2]

Colymbus holboellii (Reinhardt) becomes **Colymbus grisegena holboellii** (Reinhardt), because only subspecifically distinct from *Colymbus grisegena*. (*Cf.* Hartert, Vögel paläarkt. Fauna, Heft XI–XII [Band II, 5–6], August, 1920, p. 1449.)

[1] For these previous lists, see 'The Auk,' XXXIII, October, 1916, pp. 425–431; XXXIV, April, 1917, pp. 198–205; XXXV, April, 1918, pp. 200–217; XXXVI, April, 1919, pp. 266–273; XXXVII, April, 1920, pp. 274–285.

[2] Additions to the A. O. U. Check-List, the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Supplements, and the First to Fifth Annual Lists are marked with a dagger (†). Generic (and subgeneric) names so indicated have not hitherto stood in the lists in either generic or subgeneric sense.

†**Atalolestris** Mathews. New subgenus (of *Stercorarius*). Mathews, Birds Australia, II, pt. 5, January 31, 1913, p. 500; type by original designation and monotypy, *Stercorarius longicaudus* Vieillot.

Thalassarche culminata culminata (Gould) becomes **Thalassarche chrysostoma** (Forster), because both these specific names are considered to be applicable to the same bird, and the latter has priority. (*Cf.* Hartert, Vögel paläarkt. Fauna, Heft XI–XII [Band II, 5–6], August, 1920, p. 1442.)

Puffinus l'herminieri Lesson becomes **Puffinus assimilis l'herminieri** Lesson, because but a subspecies of **Puffinus assimilis.** (*Cf.* Hartert, Vögel paläarkt. Fauna, Heft XI–XII [Band II, 5–6], August, 1920, p. 1422.)

Anas platyrhyncha Linnaeus becomes **Anas boschas** Linnaeus, because the former name is not certainly identifiable. (*Cf.* Chernel von Chernelhazi, Nomencl. Avium Regni Hungariae, 1918, pp. 63, 69.

†**Anas novimexicana** Huber. New species. Huber, The Auk, XXXVII No. 2, April, 1920, p. 273 (Rio Grande, west of Las Cruces, Dona Ana County, New Mexico). Range: Rio Grande Valley in New Mexico.

Marila marila Linnaeus becomes, so far as North America is concerned, **Nyroca marila nearctica** (Stejneger) (*A[ythya]. marila nearctica* Stejneger, Bull. U. S. Nat. Mus., No. 29, 1885, p. 161; Nearctic Region: Arctic Coast to Guatemala), since the North American bird proves to be subspecifically distinct from that of the Old World. (*Cf.* Hartert, Vögel paläarkt. Fauna, Heft X [Band II, Heft 4], March, 1920, p. 1344).

Melanitta deglandi (Bonaparte) becomes **Melanitta fusca deglandi** (Bonaparte) because considered only subspecifically distinct from *Melanitta fusca.* (*Cf.* Hartert, Vögel paläarkt. Fauna, Heft XI–XII [Band II, 5–6], August, 1920, p. 1357.)

Melanitta deglandi dixoni (Brooks) becomes **Melanitta fusca dixoni** (Brooks) because considered only subspecifically distinct from *Melanitta fusca.* (*Cf.* Hartert, Vögel paläarkt. Fauna, Heft XI-XII [Band II, 5–6], August, 1920, p. 1357.)

Chen hyperboreus nivalis (Forster) becomes **Chen caerulescens nivalis** (Forster), because of the merging of **Chen hyperboreus** with **Chen caerulescens.** (*Cf.* Hartert, Vögel paläarkt. Fauna, Heft X [Band II, Heft 4], March, 1920, p. 1292.)

Branta nigricans (Lawrence) becomes **Branta bernicla nigricans,** since it is considered only subspecifically different. (*Cf.* Hartert, Vögel paläarkt. Fauna, Heft X [Band II, Heft 4], March, 1920, p. 1295.)

†**Rallus longirostris insularum** Brooks. New subspecies. Brooks, Proc. New England Zool. Club, VII, June 24, 1920, p. 53 (Big Pine Key, Florida). Range: Florida Keys, Florida.

†**Rallus longirostris helius** Oberholser. New subspecies. Oberholser, Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., XXXIII, July 24, 1920, p. 33 (sixth key in

the Newfound Harbor group, southwest of Big Pine Key, Florida). Range: Florida Keys.

Gallinago Koch becomes **Capella** Frenzel (Beschr. Vögel und Eyer Gegend Wittenberg. Naturg. Churkr., 1801, p. 58; type by monotypy, *Scolopax cœlestis* Frenzel) because of equal pertinence and earlier date. (*Cf.* Mathews and Iredale, Austral Avian Record, IV, Nos. 4–5, December 16, 1920, p. 131.) The North American forms of the genus *Gallinago* will therefore now become

Capella gallinago gallinago (Linnaeus).
Capella gallinago delicata (Ord).
Capella media (Latham).

†**Limnocryptes gallinula** (Linnaeus). **Scolopax gallinula** Linnaeus, Syst. Nat., ed. 12, I, 1766, p. 244 ("Europae paludibus"). Obtained on St. Paul Island, Pribilof Islands, Alaska. (*Cf.* Hanna, Condor, XXII, No. 5, September 24, 1920, p. 173.)

Canutus canutus (Linnaeus) becomes **Canutus canutus rufus** (Wilson) because the American bird is subspecifically separable from that of the Old World. (*Cf.* Hartert, Vögel paläarkt. Fauna, Heft XI–XII [Band II, 5–6], August, 1920, p. 1588.)

†**Squatarola squatarola hypomela** (Pallas). *Charadrius hypomelus* Pallas, Reise versch. Prov. Russ. Reichs, III, 1776, p. 699 ("paludes borealis orae"). (*Cf.* Hartert, Vögel paläarkt. Fauna, Heft XI–XII [Band II, 5–6], August, 1920, pp. 1554–1555.) Range: Breeds in northeastern Asia and Alaska; migrates to Ceylon, New Zealand, and Peru. .

†**Lagopus leucurus rainierensis** Taylor. New subspecies. Taylor, Condor, XXII, No. 4, August 10, 1920, p. 146 (Pinnacle Peak, 6200 feet altitude, Mount Rainier, Wash.). Range: Cascade Mountains of Washington.

Elanus leucurus (Vieillot) becomes **Elanus axillaris majusculus** Bangs and Penard, new subspecies (*Elanus leucurus majusculus* Bangs and Penard, Proc. New England Zoöl. Club, VII, February 19, 1920, p. 46; San Rafael, Calif.), because of this new race, and because *Elanus leucurus* is regarded as a subspecies of *Elanus axillaris* (Latham) (*cf.* Swann, Synopt. List Accipitres, III, 1920, p. 103.)

†**Buteo lineatus extimus** Bangs. New subspecies. Bangs, Proc. New England Zoöl. Club, VII, January 16, 1920, p. 35 (Cape Florida, Fla.). Range: Florida Keys, Florida.

†**Hierofalco rusticolus islandus** (Brünnich). Recorded from southern Greenland and northeastern North America (*cf.* Swann, Synopt. List Accipitres, III, 1920, p. 103), and thus reinstated as a North American bird.

Aeronautes melanoleucus Baird becomes **Aeronautes saxatalis** (Woodhouse) (*Acanthylis saxatalis* Woodhouse, in Sitgreaves' Report Exped. Zuni and Colo. Riv., 1853, p. 64; Inscription Rock, New Mexico), because the latter name is of equal pertinence and earlier date. (*Cf.* Oberholser, The Auk, XXXVII, No. 2, April, 1920, p. 294.)

Tyrannus dominicensis (Gmelin) becomes **Tyrannus curvirostris** (Hermann) (*Sitta curvirostris* Hermann, Tabula Affinit. Anim., 1783, p. 204; Jamaica), because the latter name is of equal pertinence and earlier date. (*Cf.* Stresemann, Novit. Zoöl., XXVII, No. 1, June 15, 1920, p. 329.)

†**Otocoris alpestris sierrae** Oberholser. New subspecies. Oberholser, Condor, XXII, No. 1, January 26, 1920, p. 34 (head of Pine Creek, Lassen County, California). Range: Breeds in the northern Sierra Nevada, California; winters also in the Sacramento Valley, California.

†**Perisoreus canadensis albescens** Peters. New subspecies. Peters, Proc. New England Zoöl. Club, VII, May 4, 1920, p. 51 (Red Deer, Alberta, Canada). Range: Southern Alberta.

†**Perisoreus barbouri** Brooks. New species. Brooks, Proc. New England Zoöl. Club, VII, March 11, 1920, p. 49 (Ellis Bay, Anticosti Island, Gulf of St. Lawrence, Quebec, Canada). Range: Anticosti Island, Quebec.

†**Euphagus cyanocephalus minusculus** Grinnell. New subspecies. Condor, XXII, No. 4, August 10, 1920, p. 153 (Palo Alto, Santa Clara County, California). Range: California.

†**Passerella iliaca annectens** Ridgway, The Auk, XVII, No. 1, January, 1900, p. 30 (Yakutat, Alaska). Revived as a subspecies for the breeding Fox Sparrows from Cross Sound to Prince William Sound, Alaska. (*Cf.* Swarth, Univ. Calif. Publ. Zool., XXI, No. 4, September 11, 1920, pp. 140–144.)

†**Passerella iliaca sinuosa** Grinnell, Univ. Calif. Publ. Zool., V, No. 12, March 5, 1910, p. 405 (Drier Bay, Knight Island, Prince William Sound, Alaska). Recognized as a subspecies for the breeding Fox Sparrows of the Prince William Sound region and the Kenai Peninsula, Alaska. (*Cf.* Swarth, Univ. Calif. Publ. Zool., XXI, No. 4, September 11, 1920, pp. 135-140.)

†**Petrochelidon albifrons hypopolia** Oberholser. New subspecies. Oberholser, Canadian Field Naturalist, XXXIII, No. 5, Nov., 1919 (Jan. 3, 1920), p. 95 (Fort Norman, Mackenzie, Canada). Range: Breeds from Montana to Alaska; migrates through Wyoming and California, probably to South America.

†**Lanius ludovicianus mearnsi** Ridgway, Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., XVI, Sept. 30, 1903, p. 108 (San Clemente Island, Calif.). Revived as a subspecies. (*Cf.* Oberholser, Wilson Bulletin, XXXI, No. 3, Sept., 1919, p. 89.) Range: San Clemente Island, California.

†**Thryomanes bewickii cerroensis** (Anthony). *Thryothorus cerroensis* Anthony, The Auk, XIV, No. 2, April, 1897, p. 166 (Cerros Island, Lower California). Revived as a subspecies to include the breeding Bewick Wrens from middle Lower California. (*Cf.* Oberholser, Wilson Bulletin, XXXII, No. 1, March 27, 1920, p. 21.)

†**Thryomanes bewickii ariborius** Oberholser. New subspecies. Oberholser, Wilson Bulletin, XXXII, No. 1, March 27, 1920, p. 25 (Agassiz, British Columbia). Range: southwestern British Columbia and northwestern Washington.

Cyanosylvia Brehm becomes **Luscinia** Forster (Synopt. Cat. Brit. Birds, 1817, p. 14; type by monotypy and tautonymy, *Motacilla luscinia* Linnaeus), because not generically separable. (*Cf.* Hartert, Pract. Handb. Brit. Birds, pts. 7–8, April 8, 1920, p. 467.)

REJECTIONS AND ELIMINATIONS.[1]

***Puffinus griseus stricklandi** Ridgway = **Puffinus griseus** (Gmelin). (*Cf.* Hartert, Vögel paläarkt. Fauna, Heft XI–XII [Band II, 5–6], August, 1920, p. 1426.)

***Puffinus griseus chilensis** (Bonaparte) = **Puffinus griseus** (Gmelin). (*Cf.* Hartert, Vögel paläarkt. Fauna, Heft XI–XII [Band II, 5–6], August, 1920, p. 1426.)

***Phalacrocorax carbo americanus** Reichenbach = **Phalacrocorax carbo carbo** (Linnaeus), because not subspecifically distinct. (*Cf.* Hartert, Vögel paläarkt. Fauna, Heft XI–XII [Band II, 5–6], August, 1920, pp. 1387–1388.)

***Phalacrocorax pelagicus robustus** Ridgway = **Phalacrocorax pelagicus pelagicus** Pallas, because not subspecifically different. (*Cf.* Hartert, Vögel paläarkt. Fauna, Heft XI–XII [Band II, 5–6], August, 1920, p. 1393.)

***Querquedula discors albinucha** Kennard = **Querquedula discors** (*Linnaeus*). Eliminated, because considered a difference of age or a color phase. (*Cf.* Arthur, The Auk, XXXVII, No. 1, January, 1920, pp. 126–127.)

***Somateria mollissima islandica** Brehm = **Somateria mollissima mollissima** (Linnaeus), as considered not separable. (*Cf.* Hartert, Vögel paläarkt. Fauna, Heft XI–XII [Band II, 5–6], August, 1920, pp. 1367–1368.)

***Chen hyperboreus hyperboreus** (Pallas) = **Chen caerulescens caerulescens** (Linnaeus), because only a color phase. (*Cf.* Hesse, Journ. f. Ornith., LXIII, Heft 2, 1915, pp. 158–160; Hartert, Vögel paläarkt. Fauna, Heft X [Band II, Heft 4], March, 1920, p. 1291.)

Branta canadensis hutchinsii (Richardson) vs. **Branta canadensis** (Linnaeus). Proposed slimination as a subspecies (*cf.* Figgins, The Auk, XXXVII, No. 1, January, 1920, pp. 94–102) rejected. (*Cf.* Swarth, The Auk, XXXVII, No. 2, April, 1920, pp. 268–272).

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[1] Eliminations from the A. O. U. Check-List, the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Supplements, and the First to Fifth Annual Lists, are designated by an asterisk (*). Generic (and subgeneric) names so marked are merely discontinued in both generic and subgeneric sense, while the species included under them remain in the lists.

Branta canadensis occidentalis (Baird) vs. **Branta canadensis** (Linnaeus). Proposed elimination as a subspecies (*cf.* Figgins, THE AUK, XXXVII, No. 1, January, 1920, pp. 94–102) rejected. (*Cf.* Swarth, THE AUK, XXXVII, No. 2, April, 1920, pp. 268–272).

Branta canadensis minima Ridgway vs. **Branta minima** Ridgway. Proposed change in status (*cf.* Figgins, THE AUK, XXXVII, No. 1, January, 1920, pp. 94–102) rejected. (*Cf.* Swarth, THE AUK, XXXVII, No. 2, April, 1920, pp. 268–272).

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GENERAL NOTES

A Loon (Gavia immer) Caught on a Fishing Line.—Under this heading, Mr. Verdi Burtch in 'The Auk' for April, 1920, calls attention to the capture of a Loon, while trolling for bass. Though I have never taken any of our loons while trolling, I have caught a score or more while fishing with live bait, in the waters of San Diego Bay. There have been times, when live bait was not easily obtained, that the Loons were quite annoying and could have been taken almost as easily as the bass or sea trout, which were the real objective.

The Red-throated Loon was as often captured as its larger relation and either never failed to furnish a lively fight before being at last "brought to gaff."

In every case where I have hooked a Loon, the bait was taken near the bottom and with a run, that led me to think I had to deal with one of the several species of shark, that abound in these waters. The bird seldom, if ever came to the surface with the bait—usually a smelt—before it had been hooked and then only for air. They always furnished abundance of "fight" and usually taxed rod and reel to the limit. At times when an attempt was made to escape along the surface of the water, I found that the strain on the line was reduced at least 50%. From the fact that the hook was often well down in the throat, I think that fish are often swallowed without coming to the surface.—A. W. ANTHONY, *Natural History Museum, Balboa Park, San Diego, Calif.*

Dovekie (Alle alle) at Wallop's Island, Va.—An immature female Dovekie was taken on an oyster rock at low tide near Wallop's Island, about five miles from Chincoteague, Va., on February 2, 1921, and is now in my possession. A small flock of these birds had been reported previously several miles out in the ocean east of the town.—B. H. WARREN, *West Chester, Pa.*