

Wood, Norman A. Observations on the Birds of Berrien County, Michigan (Occus. Papers. Mus. of Zool., Univ. of Mich., No. 119, pp. 1-35.)

Myers, J. G. The Present Position of the Endemic Birds of New Zealand, (N. Z. Jour. of Sci. and Tech., VI, pp. 65-99.)

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CORRESPONDENCE

The Naming of 'The Auk.'

Berkeley, California, Feb. 15, 1924.

Editor of 'The Auk:'

Inasmuch as forty years have passed since the founding of 'The Auk,' a journal whose eventful and useful career every American ornithologist regards with proud satisfaction, one may recall the mild family tempest that raged over the choice of its name. It has been said that several of those who stood about the baptismal font would have sponsored very willingly quite a different title. For this reason the following skit, that appeared in the 'Boston Transcript,' January 23, 1884, and copied from one of the late J. A. Allen's scrap-books, now in the writer's possession, may prove interesting to those who have not read it.

CASEY A. WOOD.

"A SONNET.

(Respectfully dedicated to the American Ornithologists' Union, by one of the Associate members, and *not* by John Milton.)

A book came out of late yeleped the Auk;
Well printed was it all, and nobly writ;
On which some wights did spend their wit—
Some callow wights, I ween, who love to talk,
Yet scarcely knew a handsaw from a hawk
Unless the wind be right. They reckoned it
An ugly name, most hideous and unfit,
And some unsavory puns they did uncork.
Mayhap the title should have been The Hen,
Or else The Duck—both birds of mighty use;
But most, I think, it would have pleased these men—
Who pour upon The Auk such foul abuse—
If after *them* it had been called; and then,
Why then, 'tis plain, the name had been—The Goose."