

casions in the vicinity of Albany, particularly at Watervleit reservoir and at Niskayuna on the Mohawk.—SHERMAN C. BISHOP, *New York State Museum, Albany, N. Y.*

**Diagnosis of a new genus of Buteonine Hawks (*Coryornis*, gen. nov).**—Small, round-winged Buteones (wing about 230–255 mm.), resembling *Rupornis* Kaup, but with young conspicuously different in color from the adults; middle toe less than half as long as tarsus (the latter half as long as tail) and with acrotarsium feathered on upper third; loreal region densely bristled; outer toe decidedly longer than inner toe; adults barred or transversely spotted below with gray or cinnamon-rufous and upper parts grayish brown (much as in *Rupornis*), but young with under parts striped with brown and upper parts more or less variegated with buff.

Type, *Rupornis ridgwayi* Cory (*Coryornis ridgwayi*. Named in honor of the late Charles B. Cory.—ROBERT RIDGWAY, *Olney, Ill.*

**Kingfisher and Cooper's Hawk.**—About three years ago I witnessed a little incident which seems worthy of a brief note. It was the case of a Kingfisher pursued by a Hawk, and the escape of the Kingfisher by sudden dives into the water. Doubtless similar performances have been observed by others, but I do not recall having seen any published account of such an instance.

The present incident occurred on August 26, 1922, in the wilds of north-eastern Minnesota. The morning of that day was still and foggy, and my wife and I were in our canoe on an expansion of the river on the banks of which our camp was situated, quietly engaged in an attempt to hook a mess of fish for our breakfast. Suddenly the loud and excited rattle of a Kingfisher broke the stillness, and in an instant the bird itself shot past within a few yards of us, in desperate flight, followed by a Cooper's Hawk. It was apparent at a glance that this was no playful act, but that the Hawk was in deadly earnest and the Kingfisher well aware of the fact. We sat motionless and watched.

The birds were flying low over the water, perhaps within five or six feet of the surface. The Kingfisher clearly was doing its best, but the Hawk gained rapidly. The next moment, just as the Hawk appeared about to strike, the Kingfisher executed a sudden dive into the water which it hit with a loud splash. Before the baffled Hawk could check its own headlong flight the Kingfisher rose and with a challenging rattle flew away in the opposite direction.

But the Hawk was not thus easily to be defeated in its purpose. Again it took up the pursuit and in a few moments again was close upon the clumsy bird it had marked for its prey. But the same thing happened as before. When the swift-winged Hawk was about to strike, the Kingfisher, as if with instinctive judgment of the right moment, made a sudden nose dive, sending the spray flying. The Hawk by its momentum was carried some yards beyond.