

altitude but a little to the east of the position of the former group. After circling a few times they took a course toward the south.

I found the carcass of the hog by this time had been pretty well stripped of flesh. Although there were a number of Turkey Vultures sitting on the ground and trees near by, there were no Black Vultures among them. However, when I visited the vicinity the following day I saw two Black Vultures circling at close range accompanied by four Turkey Vultures.

As far as I am aware the eight Black Vultures seen by me on July 3 constitute the first record for the occurrence of this bird in Greenbrier County, and for that matter, in West Virginia. The point of occurrence is approximately ten miles west of the summit of the Alleghany Mountain range on the plateau 2,100 feet above sea level.

The Turkey Vulture is a common, permanent, resident in the region of Lewisburg, W. Va. On several occasions during my boyhood, I recall having seen bands of five hundred or more gather to feed on the carcass of some dead animal. My father told of having seen fully two hundred roosting in the sugar maple grove near the hog carcass at dusk on July 2, 1930.—CHAS. O. HANDLEY, *Ashland, Virginia*.

**The Black Vulture (*Coragyps urubu*) at Harpers Ferry, West Virginia.**—A Black Vulture was seen by the writer soaring overhead in a flock of forty Turkey Vultures (*Cathartes aura septentrionalis*), at the junction of the Potomac and Shenandoah Rivers, at Harpers Ferry, West Virginia, on the morning of April 12, 1931, at 6:30 A.M. The short, square tail and the gray patches at the end of the wings were easily discernible. The Rev. Earle A. Brooks informs the writer that there is but one other bona fide record for West Virginia.—W. HOWARD BALL, 1861 *Ingleside Terrace, N. W., Washington, D. C.*

**Marsh Hawk vs. Coyotes.**—On May 24, 1931, while driving between Los Banos and Dos Palos, California, at about 6:00 A.M., two coyotes crossed the road about one hundred feet in front of the car. Directly above them in the air was an adult male Marsh Hawk (*Circus hudsonicus*) which swooped down on them continually. Though the animals soon disappeared in the sage brush, my companion and I were able to trace their route through the brush by the actions of the bird which followed just above them attacking continually until out of our sight.

There were immature young Marsh Hawks already on the wing in the vicinity, and the adult bird was probably concerned about their safety, as no doubt the coyote would not hesitate to eat wild "poultry" of this kind.—EMERSON A. STONER, *Benicia, California*.

**Barn Owl nesting in Springfield, Mass.**—Another extremely interesting record for the Connecticut Valley in Massachusetts is that of a pair of Barn Owls (*Tyto alba pratincola*) found nesting this spring in the belfry of the North Congregational Church of Springfield. When the young birds were quite well grown some boys inadvertently climbing into the

steeple discovered the young Owls and attacked them with sticks, driving at least one of them out into the street below, where it was injured. Mr. Thornton Burgess investigated and sent the bird to Miss Coburn's bird hospital at Sixteen Acres, where it has convalesced and become a great pet. In comparatively recent years a Barn Owl has now and then been reported in or near Springfield, so that undoubtedly they have nested here for some time.

The outstanding bird of this year's spring migration was a male Prothonotary Warbler discovered by Samuel A. Eliot, Jr., of the Smith College faculty, in a swampy woodland on the southern edge of Northampton on May 27. We both visited the location next day and were rewarded by finding the bird still there, singing continuously.

On June 3 both of us visited the swamp land in that section of Old Deerfield, Franklin County, known as "The Bars." Along the eastern edge, well lined with undergrowth and thickets we had an unusual observation for the region in a male Yellow-breasted Chat, that gave us a number of his characteristic and inimitable calls and notes. Bobolinks we found thereabouts in goodly numbers.—AARON C. BAGG, 72 *Fairfield Ave., Holyoke, Mass.*

**The Generic Name Calao.**—Bonnaterre in his 'Tableau Encyclopédique,' Ornithologie I, 1792, p. 300-307, 399-402, lists the Hornbills under Linne's generic name *Buceros*, and calls them "Calao" as a French vernacular name. On the other hand, in his key to the genera (l. c., introduction, p. LXXXVIII) he calls the Hornbills by the generic name *Calao*, and the vernacular name "Buceros." I personally assume that an erroneous transposition of names has occurred in the latter place, but Dr. C. W. Richmond believes that the generic name *Calao* has thus been established according to the requirements of nomenclature. In the 'Nomenclator Animalium' (Berlin 1927, p. 489) Bonnaterre's generic name has also been accepted.

As the typical species for Bonnaterre's genus has not yet been fixed, I select *Buceros rhinoceros* Linn. as its type. *Calao* thereby becomes an absolute synonym of *Buceros* Linn. with the same type species.

In the year 1850, Bonaparte introduced the genus *Calao* for some of the East Indian Hornbills, but to the same group of birds Reichenbach (in 1849) had already given the name *Rhyticeros*. There is some doubt about the publication of Reichenbach's 'Avium Syst. Nat.' and some authors have assumed that the name *Rhyticeros* was not published before 1852 or 1853. But Dr. C. W. Richmond kindly informs me that the actual date of publication of plate L of the 'Av. Syst. Nat.' was December, 1849.

In consequence the nomenclature and synonymy of the two genera will be as follows:

#### GENUS *Buceros* LINNÆUS

*Buceros* LINNÆUS, 1758, Syst. Nat. ed. 10, v. I, p. 104. Type (by subsequent design.): *Buceros rhinoceros* LINNÆUS.