

In 1899 (Proceedings A. N. S. P.) Stone reviewed the types of birds in the Academy's collection and, when dealing with *C. melanurus*, completely ignored its wholly black tail and relegated it, without comment, to the synonymy of *Cassicus cela flavicrissus* Selater. That it should be a synonym of that bird is impossible for all forms of *C. cela* have a bicolored tail, yellow on the basal part, black on the distal. Hellmayr, following Stone, also placed *melanurus* in the synonymy of *flavicrissus*, but in a footnote, remarked on the wholly black tail as a reason for doubting Stone's allocation (Field Mus. Nat. Hist., Zool. Ser., 13, pt. 10: 27, 1937).

Recently I became interested in this type and, when I found it could not be matched by any known species, had it relaxed. It was quickly apparent that the "wide band immediately above the under tail coverts, yellow" had been ingeniously glued in. Without the yellow on the under parts, the specimen is a perfectly good example of *Archiplanus l. leucoramphus* (Bonaparte), known from Colombia and eastern Ecuador. It should of course, be placed in the synonymy of that bird, which was described in 1845.

Zimmer's *A. l. peruvianus* is said to have the concealed white collar confined to the neck but in Cassin's type this collar is very much more extensive, showing "*melanurus*" definitely to be a synonym of the nominate form. Fortunately all this results in no nomenclatorial changes.—RODOLPHE MEYER DE SCHAUENSEE, *Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, Pa.*

Forster's Tern in North Carolina.—Regarding the Forster's Tern (*Sterna forsteri*), the revised (1942) edition of 'Birds of North Carolina' (Pearson, Brimley, and Brimley) records only five instances of its occurrence in the state, all in the autumn. "The Forster's Tern," it states, ". . . is today apparently one of the rarest of our terns" and is "known to occur only as a rare autumn migrant." With this in mind, the following observation should be of interest.

The mainland of eastern North Carolina ends in a narrow coastal strip of marshes and sounds, through which runs the Inland Waterway on its course between New York and Jacksonville. Seaward from the Waterway, protecting it from the fury of the Atlantic Ocean, lie the offshore island beaches, a principal feature of the middle eastern seaboard. Wrightsville Beach, fifty miles northeast of the South Carolina border, and seven miles east of Wilmington, North Carolina, is a typical habitat of this sort.

On February 2, 1941, while crossing the bridge and causeway over Wrightsville Sound, I noticed two medium-sized terns with deeply forked tails, feeding in the marsh area. Their bills were mostly black and their eyes were surrounded by black areas on the sides of their heads. I noted them as Forster's Terns pending further confirmation. The next day, February 3, I visited Carolina Beach, ten miles farther south. Along a stretch of outer beach five miles long, I saw about twenty birds with the same characteristics. My next trip to the seacoast in the Wilmington area was on February 7, 1941, when I visited it in the vicinity of Fort Fisher near the mouth of the Cape Fear River. There I saw five or six birds, of which one, an immature female Forster's Tern, was collected. When I returned to Wrightsville Beach on February 10, there were five birds present. The specimen was added to the Fuertes Memorial collection at Cornell University where its identification was confirmed by Dr. Arthur A. Allen.—GERALD ROGERS, CAPT., A. C., *Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.*

Canada Jay in Connecticut.—On December 30, 1944, while hunting in the highlands of North Colebrook, Connecticut, less than a mile south of the Massachu-