



with occasional flurries of ruff shaking. Upon closing to about two feet distance, both birds stopped and faced each other for a few seconds, whereupon the uphill grouse (#5) folded his ruff and tail and slowly withdrew up the mountainside. Grouse #6 made no move to pursue his foe, but returned a few steps down the cut, still displaying, and withdrew by a different route. The period of observation lasted about two or three minutes. Although I believe that grouse #2 and #6 were males, and that #5 may have been, no individual bird was watched sufficiently to determine the sex.—DAVID A. ADAMS, *Chief Park Naturalist, North Carolina Division of State Parks, Raleigh, North Carolina.*

Errors Concerning the Date and Source of the Name *Melanotrochilus Eudes-Deslongchamps* (Trochilidae).—In the earlier nomenclators and in major reviews of the hummingbirds, including the latest standard checklist (Peters, J. L., *Check-list of Birds of the World*, 5: 22, 1945), the subgeneric (or generic) name *Melanotrochilus* Deslongchamps (Eugene Deslongchamps, surname more properly rendered Eudes-Deslongchamps; cf. *Catalogue of the Library of the British Museum of Natural History*, 2: 547, 1904, and other standard bibliographic sources) is cited from the *Guide du Naturaliste*, 2: 7, 1880. In that volume, according to Otto Taschenberg (*Bibliotheca Zoologica* II, 5: 4342, 1899), pp. 7-9 are devoted to an article entitled “Étude sur le groupe des Jacobines (Oiseaux-Mouches) et le nouveau sous-genre *Melanotrochilus*” (see also *The Zoological Record* for 1880).

However, as already correctly indicated by S. A. Neave (*Nomenclator Zoologicus*, 3: 90, 1940), the name was actually published earlier by the same author, in 1879. A diagnosis of the genus and a full account of its single species, *Melanotrochilus fuscus* (*Trochilus fuscus* Vieillot, *Nouv. Dict. Hist. Nat.*, 7: 348, 1817; Brazil), appear on pp. 314-316 of the first of two parts of Eudes-Deslongchamps'

"Catalogue descriptif des oiseaux du Musée de Caen appartenant à la famille des Trochilidés ou Oiseaux-Mouches" as originally published in the Bulletin de la Société Linnéenne de Normandie, ser. III, tom. III (for 1878-79, dated 1879 on title page), pp. 149-321, and ser. III, tom. IV (for 1879-80, dated 1880 on title page), pp. 8-325 (pp. 324-325 misnumbered 224-225, an error undetected in bibliographies consulted). The work in this form is not cited in The Zoological Record. Details are from a copy borrowed from the John Crerar Library of Chicago.

To add to the confusion, the same article was published twice more, with slight changes, first as pp. 59-534 of vol. I (all published) of the Annuaire du Musée d'Histoire Naturelle de Caen, in 1880 (see The Zoological Record for 1880, and Ibis, 4th ser., 5: 477, 1881), and again, with separate title page, at Paris, by Savy and Desrolles, in 1881. The text of the last, according to Zimmer (Field Mus. Nat. Hist., Zool. Ser., 16: 210, 1926), is paged 1-489. Zimmer attributed the first proposal of *Melanotrochilus* to that version, which he dated tentatively as "1880?," but 1881 was given by Taschenberg (*loc. cit.*), the British Museum (*loc. cit.*), and other sources. Finally, Dr. Alexander Wetmore has called to my attention that the diagnosis of *Melanotrochilus* was reprinted yet another time, in the Journal für Ornithologie, 1881, pp. 85-86, where it is attributed to "E. Deslongchamps, Guide de Naturaliste, no. 1, Jan., 1880, p. 8."

As correctly indicated by Neave, the name should appear as *Melanotrochilus Eudes-Deslongchamps*, Bull. Soc. Linn. Normandie, ser. 3, vol. 3, p. 314, 1879. Statement of this fact in the ornithological literature may help to avert further error.—ROBERT M. MENGEL, *Museum of Natural History, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas.*

The Skeleton and Systematic Position of *Gampsonyx*.—The little Neotropical hawk *Gampsonyx swainsonii* was placed with the kites in the family Accipitridae until Peters (Check-list of Birds of the World, 1: 281, 1931) and later Hellmayr and Conover (Field Mus. Nat. Hist., Zool. Ser., 13: pt. 1, no. 4, 288, 1949) transferred it to the Falconidae.

Recently Plotnik (Revista Invest. Agrícolas, 10: 313, 1956) pointed out that the external morphology of *Gampsonyx* resembles that of the kites, and Vesta Stresemann (Auk, 76: 360, 1959) reported that it has the accipitrid type of wing molt.

Thanks to the kindness of John Hamlet, of Birds of Prey, Ocala, Florida, and Dr. Charles H. Wharton, of Georgia State College, Atlanta, I have been able to study a skeleton of *Gampsonyx swainsonii leonae* from Barranquilla, Colombia.

The principal skeletal differences between the Accipitridae and the Falconidae are as follows (Cf. Friedmann, Bull. U.S. Nat. Mus., no. 50, pt. 11, p. 62, 1950; Brodtkorb, in Blair, *et al.*, Vertebrates of the United States, pp. 415, 426, 1957; Brodtkorb, Bull. Florida State Mus., vol. 4, p. 274, 1959):

Accipitridae:

1. Lacrimals free, with double superciliary plate;
2. Palate indirectly desmognathous, with vomer not expanded;
3. Mandible without foramen;
4. Thoracic vertebrae free;

Falconidae:

1. Lacrimals fused to frontals, without superciliary plate.
2. Directly desmognathous, with vomer expanded to meet maxillo-palatines.
3. Mandibular foramen present.
4. Thoracics ankylosed.