

for that same quality of stability have fluctuated like the tides without their regularity. They have been bandied about by the breath of every dusty book worm that has happened upon an author who happened to have put a name in the first chapter instead of the second of his miss-gotten book. Technicality after technicality has been made use of, often directly against the evident wishes of the original author, and to-day one hesitates to use a name for fear that before the paper passes through the printer's hands it will be antiquated in its phraseology.

In conclusion let us ask, Has not the law of Priority been reduced to a fetish? and is a name really applied to a species for convenience in handling or to the end that a man's name may go down to posterity attached in an abbreviated form to an already too long bi- or trinomial? In brief, is the scientist made for the name or the name for the scientist? Which wags, the tail or the dog?

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### THREE HITHERTO UNKNOWN PELICAN RECORDS FOR OHIO.

While in Port Clinton, Ohio, in July, 1903, I found out that a jeweler by the name of Dewit had shot a Pelican the preceding fall on Lake Erie. The specimen was taken along to New York City by a friend of his and mounted in that city.

About twenty years ago a Pelican was shot  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles south of Tiffin on Sandusky River and stood mounted for years in a local cigar store. In November, 1901, another Pelican was shot by some local hunters in the Bloomville marshes in Seneca Co. I do not know what became of the specimen. They were all *Pelicanus erythrorhynchos*.

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### AN ADDITION TO THE BIRDS OF MIDDLE SOUTH- ERN OHIO.

The fact that Dr. Jones and Rev. Dawson found the Black Terns along the Ohio River in August, 1902, and also

that a bird answering this description was shot in the fall of 1904 near Waverly, O., and so reported to me by Attorney J. A. Douglass, a careful observer of birds in that region, make it advisable to add this bird to my list of Birds of Middle Southern Ohio at least ex hypothesi.

W. F. HENNINGER.

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SPECIAL INVESTIGATION FOR 1906.

Believing that the time has come when we can venture upon a line of investigation not hitherto attempted seriously, your President announces that for the coming year, and longer if necessary to accomplish the ends sought, our line of special investigation will be the breeding habits of some of our birds. This announcement is made at this time and in this general way in preparation for a fuller announcement later, and in preparation for the work of the coming year which we may not have definitely planned yet. It is hoped that every reader of this notice will definitely plan to give as much time as possible to the study of all phases of the breeding of our birds, or as many phases as he or she may be able to, in the coming year. Schedules will be mailed to all who are willing to do even a little toward making a final report upon this work valuable. With everybody contributing a little a great work will be done. If you do not receive one of these schedules before the middle of January, 1906, let the lack be known. For a hint concerning what information is desired consult Bulletin No. 51, page 61.