

ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS TO THE
HAND-LIST OF BRITISH BIRDS.

BY
THE AUTHORS.

As promised in the last issue of *British Birds* (Vol. VIII., p. 279) we now give a list of the corrections and additions to our *Hand-List* with short explanations and references. The names of the *Hand-List* thus revised will be used until further notice in *British Birds*. It should be mentioned that we intend so far as possible to adopt any necessary change of name only at the beginning of a volume of *British Birds* in order to avoid the confusion which might arise by the use of two different names for the same bird in one volume. As an additional safeguard a note referring to the nomenclature used will be found at the head of the Index of each volume.

24. *Carduelis hornemanni hornemanni*

25. *Carduelis hornemanni exilipes*

instead of *C. hornemannii*. The name is incorrectly quoted in the *Hand-List*, the original spelling being with only one "i."

54. *Emberiza palustris palustris*

instead of *E. pyrrhuloides palustris*. For full explanation see *Brit. B.*, VI., p. 153.

Add—

54A. *Emberiza palustris tschusii* Reiser and Almasy.—
THE EASTERN LARGE-BILLED REED-BUNTING.

See *Brit. B.*, VI., p. 154.

Add—

59A. *Calandrella brachydactyla longipennis* (Eversmann).—THE EASTERN SHORT-TOED LARK.

ALAUDA LONGIPENNIS Eversmann, Bull. Soc. Imp. Nat. Moscou, XXI, p. 219 (1848—Songaria).

Calandrella brachydactyla longipennis W. E. Clarke, Scot. Nat., 1915, p. 100.

In the *Hand-List* (p. 29) we stated that it was desirable that specimens of the Short-toed Lark should be examined as they might belong to the Eastern form. In the *Scottish Naturalist*, 1915, pp. 100-1, Mr. W. E. Clarke states that a recent comparison of the bird obtained at Fair Isle on November 11th, 1907, with the series at Tring shows it to be an example of *C. b. longipennis*. This form, which appears

to inhabit Transcaspia, Turkestan, Afghanistan, and Tibet, has been found on migration so far to the south-west as Algeria and the western Sahara. It is greyer on the upper-parts than the typical form, this distinction being especially noticeable on the crown, which is never reddish as in the typical form. The wing is also usually slightly longer and the bill often slightly more slender than in the typical form.

63. *Alauda arvensis cinerascens* Ehmcke.

ALAUDA CINERASCENS Ehmcke, Journ. f. Orn., 1904, p. 313.

instead of *A. a. cinerea* Ehmcke.

Ehmcke altered the name *cinerea* because it was preoccupied by *Alauda cinerea* Gmelin, Syst. Nat., I., 2, p. 798, 1789. According to Art. 36 of the "International Rules" a rejected homonym can never again be used, and therefore Ehmcke's alteration must be accepted.

72. *Anthus spinoletta petrosus* (Mont.).

ALAUDA PETROSA Montagu, Trans. Linn. Soc. London, IV, p. 41 (1798—Wales).

instead of *A. s. obscurus* (Lath.). Some months ago Mr. T. Iredale kindly pointed out to us that *obscurus* of Latham, 1790, could not be used owing to its prior use by Gmelin (*Alauda obscura* Gmelin, Syst. Nat., I., 2, p. 801, 1789). See under No. 63.

78. *Motacilla flava feldegg* Michahelles.

MOTACILLA FELDEGG Michahelles, Isis 1830, p. 812 (1830—Valleys of southern Dalmatia).

instead of *Motacilla melanocephala* Licht., which is preoccupied by *M. melanocephala* Gmelin 1789, and therefore the next oldest name, *M. feldegg*, must be used. See under No. 63.

80. *Motacilla cinerea cinerea* Tunst.

MOTACILLA CINEREA Tunstall, Orn. Brit., p. 2 (1771—New name for the "Grey Water Wagtail" and "Hoche-queuo ou Bergeronette jaune" of the Zool. Brit. and Brisson).

instead of *Motacilla b. boarula* L.

Mr. T. Iredale has pointed out to us that the earliest reference to *Motacilla boarula* is Scopoli, *Annus I Hist. Nat.*, p. 154, 1769, and this reference is given in the *B.O.U. List* (1915). It is clear, however, that Scopoli described (p. 153) the "Grey Wagtail" as *Motacilla flava*, and named the "Blue-headed Wagtail" *Motacilla boarula*! He says that his *M. flava* is not gregarious, non-migratory, and found along rivers, and that it has a grey back and yellow rump! Of his *M. boarula* he says only that it is smaller than his *flava*, gregarious, and not aquatic, follows the herds on the

meadows, and has a different note; his quotations refer with more or less certainty to *M. flava flava* or some of its races.

Under the circumstances, Linnæus's later name of 1771 (Scopoli is 1769) cannot be accepted, and we must revert to the name *cinerea* of Tunstall.

113. Bombycilla garrulus (L.)

instead of *Ampelis garrulus* (L.). In the "latest Rules" *i.e.* the revised edition in the *Proc. IX. Intern. Congress of Zoology* (Monaco), 1914, p. 895, etc. in Article 30 (p. 902) the methods of the designation of type-species of genera are enumerated, and "elimination" is there entirely eliminated! As *Ampelis* could only be used by the process of elimination we must now adopt *Bombycilla* as the generic name of the Waxwing.

Add—

128A. Phylloscopus fuscatus (Blyth).—THE DUSKY WARBLER.

See *Brit. B.*, VII., p. 223.

Add—

148A. Sylvia rüppelli Temm.—RÜPPELL'S WARBLER.

See *Brit. B.*, VIII., p. 96.

Add—

158A. Turdus philomelus hebridensis Clarke.—THE HEBRIDEAN SONG-THRUSH.

See *Scot. Nat.*, 1913, pp. 53-5, also *Brit. B.*, VI., p. 341.

Add—

182A. Luscinia svecica svecica (L.).—THE LAPLAND BLUETHROAT.

See *Scot. Nat.*, 1912, p. 236, also *Brit. B.*, VI., p. 186.

184. Erithacus rubecula rubecula (L.).

185. Erithacus rubecula melophilus Hart.

instead of *Dandalus r. rubecula* and *Dandalus r. melophilus*. According to Opinion 39 of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, "the Latin names in the systematic tables in Cuvier's *Leçons d'Anatomie*, 1800, are available in so far as they are identifiable through the bibliographic references given on page xix. of the Introduction." This is the case in this instance. The opinion that "*Motacilla erithacus*," *i.e.* the Redstart, is the genotype of *Erithacus*

cannot be upheld, because Cuvier called it "Rouge-gorge," which is the name used by Daubenton, Buffon, etc., for the Robin!

221. *Ægolius funereus funereus* (L.)

STRIX FUNEREA Linnæus, Syst. Nat. Ed. X, I, p. 93 (1758—"Europa").

instead of *Ægolius tengmalmi tengmalmi* (Gm.). In the *Hand-List* (p. 105, footnote) Hartert wrote: "We cannot accept *funerea* L. (which was principally based on a figure of Billberg* representing Tengmalm's Owl), for its author says that it has the size of a Crow, while Tengmalm's Owl is about half that size. Moreover, Linnæus quoted as a doubtful synonym a figure of the Short-eared Owl." Recently, however, Prof. E. Lönnberg has shown (*Ibis*, 1913, pp. 398-400) that *Strix funerea*, Syst. Nat., 1758, is described as No. 51 of the *Fauna Svecica* 1746, which is based upon coloured plates which Prof. Olaf Rudbeck of Upsala had prepared. Prof. Lönnberg has examined these plates and finds that there are two which clearly represent Tengmalm's Owl, but in one, upon which is written "magnitudo corvi," the bird is much larger than in the other, upon which is written "magnitudo cuculi." In the *Fauna Svecica* Linnæus quotes these two plates under two different numbers, but in the *Systema Natura* 1758 he gives only one of them a name, viz., *Strix funerea*. The words "magnitudo corvi" are still to be read on the plate which Prof. Lönnberg states, "very distinctly displays a coloured figure of Tengmalm's Owl." This being so, we must accept the name *funerea*.

236. *Falco columbarius æsalon* Tunstall

FALCO ÆSALON Tunstall, Orn. Brit., p. 1 (1771—Typical locality: France).

instead of *Falco regulus regulus* Pall. *Falco æsalon* of Tunstall was rejected by us as a *nomen nudum* (*Hand-List*, p. 112, footnote), but opinion 38 of the International Commission decides that Tunstall's names are available under certain conditions, one of which being when they are identifiable through the French names quoted from Brisson, 1760. This being so, *æsalon*, referring to "l'Emerillon" of Brisson, must be accepted.

The American form of the Merlin differs from the European one in being altogether darker on the upper-parts, having more distinctly white-barred quills and in having the rectrices *always* distinctly and widely barred with black. These

* "Billberg" was of course a *lapsus calami* for Rudbeck!

differences, though obvious, are merely degrees of coloration and therefore the two forms must be considered as subspecies. *F. columbarius* L. 1758 being the oldest name, our British form must be called as above.

241. *Aquila clanga* Pall.

AQUILA CLANGA Pallas, Zoogr. Rosso-Asiat., I., p. 351 (1827—Russia).

instead of *Aquila maculata* (Gm.). It has been shown (*B.O.U. List*, p. 379) that *Falco maculatus* Gmelin 1788 is antedated by *Falco maculatus* Tunstall 1771 which = *Pernis apivorus*. Therefore the next oldest name *Aquila fusca* Brehm 1823 is used in the *B.O.U. List*. But Mr. T. Iredale has shown (*Ibis*, 1915, p. 388) that this name must also be discarded because of its prior use by Dumont (*Dict. Sci. Nat.*, I., p. 344, 1804) for a bird which appears to be a Golden Eagle. We must therefore fall back upon the next oldest available name *Aquila clanga* of Pallas.

251. *Milvus migrans migrans* (Boddaert)

FALCO MIGRANS Boddaert, Tables Planches Encl., No. 472, p. 28 (1783)—Based on Daubenton's pl. 472, several countries of Europe mentioned, typical locality: France (Hartert 1914)).

instead of *M. k. korschun* (Gm.) which must be abandoned as the description of *Accipiter korschun* S. G. Gmelin does not agree with that of any *Milvus*, in fact it appears to refer to a young *Circus ceruginosus*, with the description of which the author seems to have mixed his notes referring to a *Milvus*.

259. *Plegadis falcinellus falcinellus* (L.)

instead of *Egatheus f. falcinellus* (L.). Dr. C. W. Richmond and Mr. G. M. Mathews have shown (*Auk*, 1913, pp. 92-5) that *Egatheus* Billberg 1828 was undoubtedly introduced merely as a substitute for *Ibis* Lacepède. *Plegadis* Kaup 1829 must therefore be used as the generic name of the Glossy Ibis.

269. *Botaurus lentiginosus* (Mont.).

instead of *B. stellaris lentiginosus*. This Bittern is so widely different from *B. stellaris* that it should be looked upon as a species. The reference to allied subspecies under No. 268 must be altered accordingly.

270. *Phœnicopterus ruber antiquorum* Temm.

PHœNICOPTERUS ANTIQUORUM Temminck, Man. d'Orn., 2nd ed., II., p. 587 (1820—Europe).

It is pointed out in the *B.O.U. List*, 1915, pp. 385-6, that *Phœnicopterus roseus* Pallas 1827 is antedated by *Ph. anti-*

quorum Temminck 1820, and we must in consequence use the latter name for the Flamingo.

The West Indian and the European Flamingos can only be treated as subspecies, as they agree in all essential characters and differ only in degree of coloration. Therefore the trinomial as above.

276. *Anser erythropus* (L.)

instead of *Anser finmarchicus* Gunner. In the *Hand-List erythropus* was rejected because it could not be decided to which species of White-fronted Goose it referred. Prof. E. Lönnberg has since (*Ibis*, 1913, pp. 400-2) brought forward evidence from Linnæan manuscripts to show that the bird described by Linnæus under this name was the White-fronted Goose which *breeds* in northern Sweden, *i.e.* the Lesser White-fronted Goose.

284. It is very doubtful if the Pale-breasted Brent Goose is really different from *B. bernicla bernicla*, as in the Old World both dark and pale-breasted Brents nest together, and appear to be merely individual varieties. In no case can the name *glaucogastra* be used for the *pale*-breasted form, as under this name Brehm described the *dark*-bellied form!

296. *Anas acuta* L.

instead of *Dafila acuta* (L.). It is not possible to uphold the genus *Dafila*.

297. *Netta rufina* (Pall.)

instead of *Nyroca rufina* (Pall.). The Red-crested Pochard should be separated generically.

302. *Bucephala clangula clangula* (L.).

303. *Bucephala albeola* (L.)

instead of *Nyroca c. clangula* (L.) and *Nyroca albeola* (L.). The Goldeneyes differ too strikingly from true *Nyroca* and must therefore be separated generically. The oldest name of the genus is *Bucephala* rejected by some because of the prior *Bucephalus*, but valid according to the Rules of Nomenclature.

324. *Puffinus assimilis godmani* Allen

instead of *Puffinus obscurus godmani* Allen. See *Brit. B.*, VIII., p. 283.

358. Dr. P. R. Lowe contends (*Ibis*, 1914, pp. 395-99) that the Ringed Plover breeding in the British Islands should be separated from the typical form under the name *Charadrius hiaticula major* Seebohm, and we agree that there are evidently two forms. An examination, however, of the material at Tring as well as that at the British Museum, shows that the distribution of the two forms and therefore their nomenclature is not clear, and we must await further investigation before we can finally decide this point

359. *Charadrius dubius curonicus* Gm.

Ein Regenpfeifer Beseke, *Schriften d. Ges. naturf. Freunde Berlin*, VII, p. 463 (1786—Kurland = "Courland"; the description is reproduced in Beseke, *Vögel Kurlands*, p. 66, 1792).

CHARADRIUS CURONICUS Gmelin, *Syst. Nat.* I, 2, p. 692 (1789—"Habitat in Curonia." Ex Beseke, *l.c.*).

instead of *Charadrius dubius* Scop. The Palæarctic form is clearly separable from *Charadrius dubius dubius* (Philippine Islands, Hawaii, Formosa, etc.) by its smaller and less powerful bill. A third form, *Ch. d. jerdoni* from India, is probably also separable. Further details regarding the races of these birds will appear shortly in an article in the *Ibis* by Miss A. C. Jackson and E. Hartert.

372. *Calidris alba* (Pallas)

instead of *Calidris leucophæa* (Pall.). It has been pointed out by Mr. Witmer Stone (*Auk*, 1912, p. 208) that the name *leucophæa* occurs in that part of Vroeg's *Catalogue* which is not binomial and cannot therefore be used. The *Adumbratiunculæ* attached to the *Catalogue* have been conclusively shown to have been written by Pallas and the names used in this portion only of the *Catalogue* are available, while the author of the non-binomial first part is unknown. The name *Trynqa alba* is proposed in the *Adumbratiunculæ* for the Sanderling and must accordingly be used.

378. *Erolia maculata* (Vieill.)

instead of *Erolia maculata maculata* (Vieill.).

379. *Erolia acuminata* (Horsf.)

instead of *Erolia maculata acuminata* (Horsf.). Mr. G. M. Mathews first pointed out (*Birds Australia*, III., pp. 258-263) that there are really important differences between the American and the Siberian Pectoral Sandpipers, especially in the shape of the tail, but also in coloration, if birds in

the same stage of plumage are compared; this is especially noticeable in the summer plumage. It is therefore correct to consider Nos. 378 and 379 as species, and their names should be altered as above. Mr. Mathews also says that the correct name of *Erolia maculata* should be *E. pectoralis* because *Tringa maculata* of Vieillot had been anticipated by Linnæus's *Tringa maculata* of 1766; this, however, is a slip, as Linné called his bird *Tringa macularia*, and not *maculata*.

385. *Limicola falcinellus falcinellus* (Pontoppidan)

SCOLOPAX FALCINELLUS Pontoppidan, Danske Atlas, I., p. 623, and figure on pl. XXVI. (1763—Denmark).

instead of *Limicola p. platyrhyncha* (Temm.). Mr. G. M. Mathews has shown (*Austr. Av. Rec.*, I., 1912, pp. 31-2) that the Broad-billed Sandpiper was named by Pontoppidan and this antedates Temminck's *platyrhyncha* of 1815. The quotation, however, is as above, not "*Naturhist. Danmark*, p. 170, 1763," as Mr. Mathews quoted. The *Danske Atlas I.*, appeared in 1763, while the *Kurzgef. Nachr. die Naturhistorie in Danmark betr.* was a translation of the Natural History part of the *Danske Atlas*, and appeared in 1765.* Mr. Mathews (*l.c.*) also pointed out that Brünnich, in 1764, gave an excellent description of the Broad-billed Sandpiper, with the quotation of Pontoppidan, 1763.

Add—

386A. *Terekia cinerea* (Güldenst.)—TEREK SANDPIPER.

See *Brit. B.*, VI., pp. 74-78.

390. *Tringa ochropus* L.

instead of *T. ocropus* (L.). It is true that Linnæus quoted "*Ocropus sive Rhodophus*" of Gesner, Aldrovandus, and others, but in these works the name is spelt *ochropus*. We might, therefore, accept that Linné wrote *ocropus* as a *lapsus calami* for *ochropus*.

421. *Sterna albifrons albifrons* Pallas

STERNA ALBIFRONS Pallas, Vroeg's Cat. Verzam. Vogelen, etc., Adumbratiunculae, p. 6 (1764—Europe).

instead of *Sterna m. minuta*. Mr. G. M. Mathews has pointed out (*Birds Austr.*, II., p. 377) that this name has priority over *minuta* of Linnaeus 1766. In reply to the same author's

* We find that Mr. Mathews has already made this correction (see *Austral Av. Rec.*, I., p. 84).

criticism of the "Distribution Abroad" given in the *Hand-List*, this is certainly wrong, and should read:—

"Breeds in Europe from the shores of southern Sweden to the Mediterranean, along the coasts of northern Africa, in the Canaries and on Madeira, and in north-west Asia as far as Turkestan. It winters in Africa and in Asia as far north as India, Burmah, Malacca and Java. Replaced by allied forms in Syria, Egypt, the Malay Archipelago, the China Seas and Japan, Australia, America, and perhaps parts of Africa."

422. *Sterna fuscata* L.

STERNA FUSCATA Linnæus, Syst. Nat., Ed. XII, I., p. 228 (1766—San Domingo. Ex Brisson, Orn. VI., p. 220, pl. xxi., fig. 1).

instead of *Sterna fuliginosa* Gm. "I queried *S. fuscata* because the tail in Brisson's figure is merely slightly emarginated, and even our youngest specimens show the deep fork in the tail. Mr. Iredale's suggestion (*Ibis*, 1914, p. 437) that 'I imagined without investigation' (*sic*) that the young of *Sterna anæstheta* and of the present species must be alike, is groundless, as young of both species are represented in the Tring Museum. Nevertheless, I now agree that there is not sufficient reason to query the name of Linnæus, which has also been adopted in the *American O.U. Check-List*."—E. H.

Add—

433A. *Larus fuscus affinis* Reinhardt. — THE BRITISH LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL.

See *Brit. B.*, VI., pp. 2-7 and p. 360.

The distribution of 433 *Larus f. fuscus* as given in the *Hand-List* must of course be altered. So far there are only a few definite records of its occurrence in Great Britain, and 433A is of course the form which breeds in the British Isles.

452. *Chlamydotis undulata macqueenii* (Gray and Hardw.)

instead of *Houbara u. macqueenii* (Gray and Hardw.). It is stated in the *B.O.U. List* (1915, p. 388) that *Houbara Bonaparte* is a *nomen nudum* and therefore cannot be used.

463. *Lyrurus tetrrix britannicus* Witherby and Lönnberg. — THE BRITISH BLACK GROUSE

instead of *Lyrurus tetrrix tetrrix* (L.). See *British Birds*, VI., p. 270.