

LETTER.

SUPPOSED RUFIOUS WARBLER IN HERTFORDSHIRE.

To the Editors of BRITISH BIRDS.

SIRS,—On February 11th, 1915, I flushed a strange bird by the river Ought at West Mill, near Hitchin. Its rufous colour, spread-eagled tail, and prominent white edges to same, puzzled me. The species remained in doubt until the publication of Mr. Thorburn's first volume of *British Birds*. On looking casually at his coloured plates, my eye suddenly fell upon his remarkable illustration of this species, and through the kindness of Dr. Hartert I have also before me two specimens of *Agrobates galactotes galactotes* from Algeria. I have no hesitation in pronouncing the bird I saw as belonging to this species, as I watched it for several minutes and as it flew and alighted I had a splendid view of it through my glass, and was particularly struck with the features above recorded. W. PERCIVAL WESTELL.