

XVII.—REPORT of the Sub-committee, consisting of Dr. E. HARTERT, Messrs. T. IREDALE and W. L. SCLATER, on Amendments and proposed Alterations to the Names in the B. O. U. List of British Birds, as accepted by the Committee of the B. O. U. on the British Birds List.

THE following recommendations were made :—

1. That the *nomina conservanda* in the B. O. U. List should not be used any longer, but the correct names under the rules should now be universally adopted.

There are thirteen of these *nomina conservanda*, and a list of them with their equivalent under the Rules of Nomenclature is given on p. 355 of the B. O. U. List, in Appendix II.

2. That in future, when a species has been divided into two or more subspecies, the typical subspecies should always be named trinominally. For example, the typical race of the Starling should be called *Sturnus vulgaris vulgaris* and not *Sturnus vulgaris*, as the use of the binomial form of the name causes confusion between the typical subspecies and the species as a whole, including all the races.

3. That the names in Vroeg's Catalogue be accepted. The following changes will result :

- p. 69. For *Sylvia subalpina* substitute
Sylvia cantillans (*Motacilla cantillans* [Pallas] in Vroeg's Cat. Verzam. Vogelen Adumbraticula, p. 4, 1764 : Italy.)
- p. 108. For *Muscicapa grisola* substitute
Muscicapa striata (*Motacilla striata* [Pallas], t. c. p. 3, 1764 : Holland).

- p. 109. For *Muscicapa atricapilla* substitute
Muscicapa hypoleuca (*Motacilla hypoleuca* [Pallas],
t. c. p. 3, 1764 : Holland).
- p. 167. For *Tadorna casarca* substitute
Casarca ferruginea (*Anas ferruginea* [Pallas], t. c.
p. 5, 1764 : Tartary).
- p. 224. For *Calidris arenaria* substitute
Crocethia alba (*Tryngra alba* [Pallas], t. c. p. 7,
1764 : Coasts of Holland) *.
- p. 228. For *Totanus fuscus* substitute
Tringa erythropus (*Scolopax erythropus* [Pallas],
t. c. p. 6, 1764 : Holland) *.
- p. 299. For *Podiceps fluviatilis* substitute
Podiceps ruficollis (*Colymbus ruficollis* [Pallas], t. c.
p. 6, 1764 : Holland).

4. The following generic alterations were agreed to :—

- p. 7. Genus **Pyrrhocorax** Tunstall, Ornith. Brit. 1771, p. 2.
This name dates from 1771 instead of from 1816.
The type is the Cornish Chough (*Upupa pyrrhocorax*)
by monotypy and tautonymy, not the Alpine Chough
(*Pyrrhocorax graculus*) as stated on p. 356 of the
B. O. U. List (see Mathews and Iredale, Austr. Av.
Rec. iii. p. 119).
- p. 45. Genus **Anthus** Bechstein, Gemein. Naturg. Deutschl.
2nd ed. 1805, ii. pp. 247, 302, and 465. Type by
subsequent designation (Mathews, Austr. Av. Rec.
ii. p. 123, 1915), *Alauda campestris* Linn.
- p. 78. For Genus *Luscinia* substitute
Herbivocula Swinhoe, Proc. Zool. Soc. London, 1871,
p. 353. Type by monotypy *H. flemingi* = *Sylvia*
schwarzi Radde.
Luscinia melanopogon, lately added to the B. O. U.
List, will of course remain in the genus *Luscinia*, of
which it is the type.

* For generic changes, see below on pp. 312, 313.

- p. 78. For Genus *Hypolais* Brehm substitute
Hippolais Baldenstein, Neue Alpina, ii. p. 27, 1827.
 Type by monotypy *H. italica* Bald. = *H. polyglotta*
 (Vieill.).

The generic names of the Icterine, Melodious, and Olivaceous Warblers must also be changed to *Hippolais* (*vide* Mathews and Iredale, Austr. Av. Rec. iii. p. 122).

- p. 127. For *Flammea* substitute
Tyto Billberg, Synops. Faun. Scand. i. pt. 2, 1828,
 tab. A. Type *Strix alba* Scop. (*cf.* Mathews, Nov.
 Zool. xvii. 1910, p. 500, and Auk, 1920, p. 444).

- p. 216. The type of the genus *Tringa* is not *T. canutus*
 but *T. ochropus*, as was first pointed out by Mathews
 (Nov. Zool. xviii. 1911, p. 5). This and Richmond's
 discovery of the Anonymous reviewer in the Allg.
 Lit. Zeit. (*cf.* P. U. S. Nat. Mus. liii. p. 581) will
 involve considerable changes in the genera of the
 Stints and Sandpipers as follows:—

Genus **Calidris** Anon. Allg. Lit. Zeitung, 1804,
 vol. ii. col. 542. Type by tautonymy *Tringa calidris*
 Linn. = *Tringa canutus* Linn.

Genus **Erolia** Vieillot, Analyse, 1816, p. 55. Type
 by monotypy *E. variegata* Vieill. = *Tringa feruginea*
 Brün.; and the following species will stand as:

Erolia minuta, *E. minutilla*, *E. temmincki*, *E. macu-*
lata, *E. acuminata*, *E. bairdi*, *E. fuscicollis*, *E. mari-*
tima, *E. alpina*, and *E. ferruginea*.

For *Totanus* substitute
Tringa, type by tautonymy *T. ochropus* Linn., and
 the following species will stand as:

Tringa totanus, *T. erythropus*, *T. melanoleuca*,
T. flavipes, *T. stagnatilis*, *T. nebularia*, *T. hypo-*
leuca, *T. macularia*, *T. ochropus*, *T. giareola*, and
T. solitaria.

- p. 224. For Genus *Calidris* substitute

Crocethia Billberg, Synop. Faun. Scand. i. pt. 2, 1828, tab. A, p. 132. Type by monotypy *Tringa arenaria* Linn., since *Calidris* is preoccupied (cf. Richmond, P. U. S. Nat. Mus. liii. p. 581, and Auk. 1920, p. 443).

The only species is *Crocethia alba* (Pallas) (see above).

- p. 225. For Genus *Machetes* substitute

Philomachus Anonymous, Allg. Lit. Zeit. 1804, vol. ii. col. 542. Type by monotypy *Tringa pugnae* Linn. (cf. Richmond *supra*).

- p. 241. **Charadrius**. The type of this genus by Linnean tautonymy is *C. hiaticula* Linn. not *C. apricarius*, and the species listed under *Aegialitis* must become *Charadrius*.

For Genus *Charadrius* substitute

Pluvialis Brisson, Ornith. v. p. 42, 1760. Type by tautonymy *P. aurea* Brisson = *Charadrius apricarius* Linn.

- p. 243. Genus **Squatarola** Cuvier, Règne Anim. i. 1816, p. 467. Type by monotypy and tautonymy *Tringa squatarola* Linn.

The reference to Leach in the B. O. U. List is to an unpublished name, as Leach's work, though printed, was never published.

- p. 290. For Genus *Æstrelata* substitute

Pterodroma Bonaparte, Comptes Rend. xlii. 1856, p. 768. Type by subsequent designation (Coues, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philad. 1866, p. 137) *Procellaria macroptera* Smith.

- p. 312. For Genus *Caccabis* substitute

Alectoris Kaup, Skiz. Entw.-Geschichte u. Nat. Syst. Eur. Thierw. p. 180, 1829. Type by monotypy *Perdix petrosa* Gmel. = *P. barbara* Bonn. (cf. Hartert, Nov. Zool. xxiv. p. 275).

5. The following specific alterations were also agreed to :—

p. 44. For *Motacilla feldegg* read *M. feldegg* as printed in the original description.

p. 74. *Cettia cetti*, references to be altered as follows :—

Cettia Bonaparte, Icon. Faun. Ital. i. 1834, text to pl. 29.

Sylvia cetti Temminck, Man. Orn. 2nd ed., Oct. 1820, p. 194.

p. 101. *Enanthe stapazina* and *Æ. occidentalis*. These birds, the Black-throated and Black-eared Wheatears, appear to be undoubtedly phases of one specific form and must be called :

***Enanthe hispanica*.**

Motacilla hispanica Linnæus, Syst. Nat. 10th ed. 1758, p. 186 : Gibraltar.

The name of the eastern race, *Enanthe amphileuca* of the B. O. U. List, must be changed to :

***Enanthe hispanica melanoleuca*.**

Muscicapa melanoleuca Gùldenstädt, Nov. Com. Petrop. xix. 1775, p. 468, pl. 15 : Georgia, Caucasus (cf. Practical Handbook Brit. Bds. p. 435).

p. 110. *Muscicapa parva*. Original reference should be *Muscicapa parva* Bechstein, Getreue Abbild. part 2, p. 26, 1793.

p. 147. For *Hierofalco gyrfalco* substitute

***Hierofalco rusticolus*.**

Falco rusticolus Linnæus, Syst. Nat. 10th ed. 1758, p. 88 : Sweden.

This name has three pages priority over *F. gyrfalco*.

6. Suggested alterations and amendments not accepted:—

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52. Genus *Regulus* v. *Rex* or *Regillus* (cf. Mathews & Iredale, Austr. Av. Rec. iii. p. 119; Auk, 1920, p. 448; and Practical Handbook, p. 250).
Regulus confirmed.
93. Genus *Erithacus* v. *Dandalus* (cf. B. O. U. List, p. 366, and Practical Handbook, p. 481).
Erithacus confirmed.
95. Genus *Luscinia* v. *Daulias* Zimmermann (cf. Mathews, Austr. Av. Rec. iii. p. 117).
Zimmermann's name not accepted.
Luscinia confirmed.
111. *Hirundo* v. *Chelidon* and *Delichon* v. *Hirundo*.
Hirundo and *Delichon* now accepted by Hartert (vide Practical Handbook, p. 502).
Hirundo and *Delichon* confirmed.
200. *Plegadis* v. *Egatheus* of Hand-list.
Plegadis is retained (cf. Auk, 1913, p. 92; Hartert, V. p. F. p. 1220).
Plegadis confirmed.
205. *Chlamydotis* v. *Houbara* of Hand-list.
Chlamydotis confirmed.
294. *Colymbus* v. *Podiceps* for the Grebes (cf. B. O. U. List, p. 390; Auk, 1920, p. 445).
Note on the type of *Colymbus*:—

The genus *Colymbus* as used by Linnæus in 1758 contained four species: *arcticus* (Black-throated Diver), *cristatus* (Great Crested Grebe), *auritus* (Slavonian Grebe), and *podiceps* (American Pied-billed Grebe). Latham introduced *Podiceps* for the Grebes and retained *Colymbus* for the Divers, and his usage was followed by practically every other author until the year 1882, when Dr. Stejneger proposed to use *Colymbus* for the Grebes.

George Gray was the first author who recognized the necessity of fixing a type-species to each genus, and in the first two lists published in 1840 and 1841, working with the 12th edition of Linnæus, he fixed the type of *Colymbus* as *C. glacialis*. Later in 1855 (Cat. Gen. Subgen. Bds. p. 125), finding that *C. glacialis* did not occur in the earlier editions of Linnæus, he substituted *arcticus*, which name is found in all the early editions of Linnæus's Syst. Nat. from 1735 to 1758; but as he had already in his previous lists suggested *glacialis* for *Colymbus* of the 12th edition, he wrote: "Linn. 1735 nec 1766." Gray's intention was perfectly obvious and reasonable, and we fear, if his action in this case is rejected (as it is in the Supplement just published in the 'Auk,' 1920, p. 445), it will open a loophole for upsetting a large number of other type-designations by the same author.

The A. O. U. Check-list Committee have now abandoned the ground they took up in the earlier editions of the Check-list, and merely quote "type by subsequent designation of the A. O. U. Check-list Committee," although that action has been shown (B. O. U. List Brit. Birds, p. 399) to be based on a fallacy.

Podiceps is confirmed for the Grebes.

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| 133. | <i>Nyctala funerea</i> v. <i>tengmalmi</i> (vide B. O. U. List, p. 378; also Auk, 1919, p. 447).
<i>N. funerea</i> accepted and confirmed. |
| 145. | <i>Milvus migrans</i> v. <i>M. korschun</i> .
<i>M. migrans</i> accepted and confirmed. |
| 150. | <i>Falco æsalon</i> v. <i>F. regulus</i> .
<i>F. æsalon</i> accepted. |
| 159. | <i>Anser erythropus</i> v. <i>A. finmarchicus</i> .
<i>A. erythropus</i> accepted (vide Lönnberg, Ibis, 1913, p. 400, and Hartert, V. p. F. p. 1282). |



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