

Zamelodia versus Hedymeles.—The generic name *Zamelodia* Coues has been, during recent years, in general use for our North American Rose-breasted and Black-headed Grosbeaks. This generic term was originally proposed by Dr. Elliott Coues (Bull. Nuttall Ornith. Club, V, No. 2, April, 1880, p. 98) for *Loxia ludoviciana* Linnæus and *Guiraca melanocephala* Swainson, because *Hedymeles* Cabanis (Mus. Hein., I, June, 1851, p. 152; type by subsequent designation [Gray, Cat. Gen. and Subgen. Birds Brit. Mus., 1855, p. 71], *Loxia ludoviciana* Linnæus) was supposedly invalidated by *Hedymela* Sundevall (Öfvers. Kongl. Vetensk.-Akad. Förhandl. Stockholm, 1846 (1847, p. 225) for a genus of *Muscicapidæ*. Although *Habia* Reichenbach nec Blyth was for a considerable period used by American ornithologists for this group, *Zamelodia* was restored by Dr. Coues (The Auk, XIV, No. 1, January, 1897, pp. 39–42) when *Habia* was found to be preoccupied. The generic name *Hedymeles* Cabanis is not, however, according to either the International Code or to Canon XXX of the revised American Ornithologists' Union Code of Nomenclature, to be rejected on account of *Hedymela*, since it is a word with a different classical termination other than grammatical gender. In fact, it is a case exactly parallel to that of *Hydrobata* and *Hydrobates* (cf. Hartert, Hand-List British Birds, 1912, p. 149). It should, therefore, displace *Zamelodia*, and the two species of the group stand as

Hedymeles ludovicianus (Linnæus).

Hedymeles melanocephalus (Swainson).

HARRY C. OBERHOLSER, *Washington, D. C.*

Rough-winged Swallow, Unusual Nesting Sites.—A number of years ago a concrete retaining wall was built along the bank of Grand River, midway between the top and bottom, to protect the street above from the annual spring slipping. Three-inch iron drainage pipes were placed at intervals of a few feet and these pipes projected some two or three feet out of the face of the wall. The Rough-winged Swallows used these pipes yearly as nesting sites, continuing the practice until the wall itself slipped into the river below.

At least half a dozen pipes were occupied each year by the birds, although a few hundred feet up the river was a long extent of high shale bank with many cracks and fissures, the natural site of the species, and which is used at the present time as a nesting community for a number of pairs. This is the only instance I have seen, nor have I yet found in print any record of the Rough-wing departing from its usual nesting custom.—E. A. DOOLITTLE, *Painesville, Ohio*.

Late Nesting of the Red-eyed Vireo in Detroit, Mich.—While hunting birds, with field glasses, on Belle Isle on the morning of September 25, I was startled by the appearance of a Red-eyed Vireo followed closely by a young bird. The youngster flipped its wings and begged persistently



Oberholser, Harry C. 1919. "Zamelodia versus Hedymeles." *The Auk* 36, 115–115. <https://doi.org/10.2307/4072808>.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/54107>

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.2307/4072808>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/85889>

Holding Institution

Smithsonian Libraries and Archives

Sponsored by

Smithsonian

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: Public domain. The BHL considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection.

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.