

sin ornithology, as regards occurrence and abundance, up to date, and to present a carefully compiled list of all those species and subspecies which have positively been known to occur within the limits of the State at any time, with as exact, simple, reliable and accurate an account of such occurrence as possible." "Starting in 1899, with a list of 365 species and subspecies that had been recorded from, or were supposed to have occurred at some time within the State, the number has fallen away from time to time, until now we recognize but 357 in all, that we believe are really entitled to a place, and are therefore embraced in the list proper of the present paper."

The list proper is followed by a 'Hypothetical List' of 21 species. Several of these have been attributed to the State, but on what the authors consider unsatisfactory evidence. In several cases, if not in most, their occurrence in the State is not improbable, and therefore the rigid conservatism that has led the authors to exclude them, and thus draw a sharp line between the known and the unknown, is to be emphatically commended. Specimens difficult of determination appear to have often been referred to experts for identification. Thus a number of western forms, included on the basis of one or two specimens taken in the State, rest on the authority of Mr. Brewster, as *Empidonax traillii*, *Junco montanus*, *Hylocichla ustulatus almæ*, etc.

Among the half-tone plates is one showing 'Nest and Eggs of Blue-winged X Nashville Warbler,' with a statement in the text of the evidence for the belief in this alleged strange parentage. It is also stated that the Short-eared Owl is destructive "to smaller birds during the breeding season," and a list of some thirty species is given of victims identified from wing and tail feathers taken from a mass of such debris on which a family of young owls was resting.

It is only necessary to add that the list is liberally and judiciously annotated, that the authors appear to have strictly adhered to the plan outlined in the foregoing extracts from their prefatory note, and have thus given to the public a résumé of Wisconsin ornithology entitled to take its place, for accuracy and authoritativeness, in the front rank of local lists. The paper is well printed, and exceptionally free from typographical errors, notwithstanding the lamented death of the senior author, Mr. Kumlien, before the manuscript was completed, and the absence of the junior author, Mr. Hollister, in Alaska while the paper was passing through the press.—J. A. A.

Silloway's 'The Birds of Fergus County, Montana.'¹—Fergus County,

¹ The Birds of Fergus County, Montana. By P. M. Silloway, Member of the American Ornithologists' Union, Author of Sketches of Some Common Birds, Summer Birds of Flathead Lake, etc. Bulletin No. 1, Fergus County Free High School, Lewistown, Mont., 1903. 8vo, pp. 77, 17 half-tone plates and map.

in central Montana, is varied in its physical features, its western portion including several outlying spurs of the Rocky Mountains, with also two rather isolated groups of mountains, the Judith and Moccasins, in its central portion, while the eastern half is plains and 'bad lands.' The elevation varies from three thousand to eight thousand feet. The bird fauna is correspondingly varied, consisting of the usual species of the northern plains region, with a mixture of alpine forms that extend eastward from the Rocky Mountains.

The present list numbers 179 species, divided into: "Residents, 30 species; summer residents, 101 species; migrants, 31 species; winter residents or visitors, 13 species; other visitors, 4 species."

The list is based partly on the author's observations made during several years' residence in the county, and partly on the published records of other observers. 'A Partial Bibliography of Montana Birds' occupies three pages preceding the list,¹ and there are two pages descriptive of the topography and boundaries of the county. In addition to the usual annotations, a short description (usually of two to four lines) is given of each species, for the convenience of "teachers and others interested in nature study." In many instances, in the case of the lesser known western species, much original biographical matter is included. The large number of half-tones are from photographs of living birds, by Mr. E. R. Warren of Colorado Springs, and of nests and eggs, by Prof. M. J. Elrod of the University of Montana. An interesting feature of the work is its publication as a special 'Bulletin' by the Board of Trustees of the Fergus County Free High School, of which Mr. Silloway is the Principal, apparently for free distribution to those interested, and as a part of the educative mission of the school. The list, while not presumed to be complete, is believed to be as nearly so as present information will permit, and will serve as an excellent basis for further investigation. — J. A. A.

Oberholser's 'Review of the Wrens of the Genus *Troglodytes*.'² — The strictly American genus *Troglodytes*, as here defined, includes not only the species usually heretofore referred to it, but also many West Indian forms which have been commonly referred to *Thryophilus*. The one exception of exclusion is the *Troglodytes browni* Bangs, from the mountains of Chiriqui, Panama, which is made the type of a new genus *Thryorchilus*. Thirty-seven forms are recognized, of which 18 are given the rank of species, and 19 that of subspecies, three of the latter being described as new. The status and nomenclature of the North

¹ By a curious typographical error Coues is uniformly entered as "Coues, Elliott B.," though the name is elsewhere correctly given. Also, on p. 36, *Melanerpes* "*erythrophthalmus*" is evidently a lapsus for *erythrocephalus*.

² A Review of the Wrens of the Genus *Troglodytes*. By Harry C. Oberholser, Assistant Ornithologist, Department of Agriculture. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., Vol. XXVII, No. 1354, pp. 197-210, with map. Feb., 1904.



Silloway, Perley Milton. 1904. "Silloway's 'The Birds of Fergus County, Montana'" *The Auk* 21, 302–303. <https://doi.org/10.2307/4070079>.

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