

sion of actual personal knowledge and observation, yet the latter reaches 241 species, including several not found in the more general list, which only numbers 271. It is much to be regretted that Mr. McIlwraith's list was not, like an earlier one, which he communicated to this journal, some years since, among the materials accessible in compiling Professor Hincks' list, which it was hoped might be a useful aid to lovers of ornithology, throughout the country. For their convenience, we will here give the names of the birds added by Mr. McIlwraith, which may be inserted in their places in the more general catalogue. But we must first notice the difficulty of comparing the two lists, from the different order in which the birds are placed, and the great difference in the names employed.

The writer of this article being the compiler of one list, has of course no idea of adding to its authority by any expression of approbation here. He performed a very humble labour, at the request of the Board of Arts and Manufactures, to assist in the public object of sending to the Paris Exhibition as good a set as the time would allow of being collected of the feathered inhabitants of Western Canada. He employed the arrangement and nomenclature to which he is accustomed, and which seemed to him most likely to be of general use. In immediate reference to Mr. McIlwraith's list, he adds now a few words of explanation. At the head of his own catalogue is a key to its arrangement. To assist comparison, he will here attempt to explain Dr. Baird's plan, which is followed by Mr. McIlwraith. Neither of the two, it will be observed, is that found in ornithological works. First, Dr. Baird begins with the birds of prey—our second order,—and with the family Vulturidæ—our third family in this order,—which, indeed, does not appear in our catalogue, as we learn for the first time from Mr. McIlwraith's present list, that *Cathartes aura*, the turkey-buzzard (his only vulture) visits Canada occasionally. We place the Eagles first, as the most powerful and specially Raptorial group; then the Falcons; then the Vultures, and last of all the Owls. There are also differences in the order of the sub-families. Dr. Baird, not only like Cuvier, puts Insectores, the perching birds, after the birds of prey, but also after the order Scansores, and not receiving Cuvier's Suborders of Insectores, he adopts a new set, which would mislead the student of ordinary ornithological works. We believe it comes very near the system explained by the editor of Orr & Co.'s English edition of Cuvier, in his additions to the text. Thus we have Humming-birds, Swifts, represented by our Chimney-swallow, Night-hawks, Kingfishers, and then the general body of perching birds, amidst which are introduced the Swallows. The remaining orders occur in the usual series: Gallinaceous birds, Waders, Swimmers. We cannot now criticise this system, or bring it into comparison with our own. We only wish to give the reader some aid in comparing the different lists. But the chief difficulty will be found in the names employed. Dr. Baird assumes that species must not be supposed to be common to Europe and America; hence *Aquila chrysaetos* becomes *A. Canadensis*; *Circus cyaneus*, *C. Hudsonius*; *Falco peregrinus*, *Falco anatum*, &c. &c.; besides which,

small sections, or subgenera, are all distinguished by generic names, increasing their number in a manner very trying to the memory, and which, in fact, nearly takes away the use of generic groups; besides all which, there are a few instances in which the decisions of Dr. Baird and Dr. George Gray, respecting the generic names proper to be adopted, differ. It is, then, scarcely to be wondered at that so large a proportion of our birds appear under different names, in lists derived from such different authorities. With great respect for Dr. Baird's scientific character and acquirements, we think a wise discretion is exercised in preferring Dr. Gray's names for our Canadian use. We know that some excellent practical ornithologists amongst us think that even he has carried sub-division too far; but few would be satisfied with the vague generic characters of earlier times, and it is desirable to follow some widely recognized authority. Looking around, we can find none better than Dr. George Gray.

We may now give the additions to our general list of the birds of Western Canada, derived from Mr. McIlwraith's latest Hamilton list:

- Ord. Insectores. Subord. Dentirotres.
 Fam. Laniidæ: 1. *Myiobius Traillii*. Traill's Fly-catcher.
 Subord. Conirotres.
 Fam. Sturnidæ: 2. *Xanthornis varius*. The orchard oriole.
 Ord. Raptores. Fam. Aquilidæ.
 3. *Buteo Bairdii*. Baird's buzzard.
 4. *Buteo elegans*.
 Fam. Vulturidæ.
 5. *Cathartes aura*. The Turkey-buzzard.
 Ord. Gallatores. Fam. Charadridæ.
 6. *Charadrius hiaticula*. The piping plover.
 Ord. Natatores. Fam. Laridæ.
 7. *Stercorarius pomarinus*.
 8. *Hydrochelidon fissipes*.
 Fam. Anatidæ: 9. *Anser frontalis*.
 Fam. Alcidæ: 10. *Uria grylle*.
 11. *Uria Troile*.

Of these eleven species, *Xanthornis varius* was known to us as Canadian, but accidentally omitted. We hesitated about the two species of *Uria*, but did not consider that we had certain evidence. Both species of *Buteo*, and the *Anser*, we still regard as uncertain as to their being good species.

We add here, that in our list *Ibis falcinellus* should have been *I. guarana*, which is equivalent with *I. Ordii*, of Mr. McIlwraith's list. *Phalaropus* should have been made a family, and *Alcidæ* occurs twice, being in the first instance a misprint for *Colymbidæ* Divers. We shall be glad to record any further additions to the list of our native birds.

Mr. McIlwraith deserves the gratitude of all Canadian ornithologists."

Hard rubber type is said to be manufactured at Dalston, England, at one-third the cost of metallic type and of equal durability.

Tannin is present in 140 plants, caoutchouc in 96, and gutta-percha in 7.

A coating of three parts lard and one part resin applied to farm tools of iron or steel will effectually prevent rust.