

In 1824 Prince Lucien Bonaparte contributed to the *Journal* of the Philadelphia Academy, a series of critical articles on Wilson's American Ornithology. These referred chiefly to the nomenclature, a subject to which Wilson paid but little attention. During the ten years succeeding the above date, several editions of Wilson's work appeared, each containing the changes in the nomenclature suggested by Bonaparte, and having descriptions of such new species as had from time to time been brought to light. Bonaparte's principal work was his "American Ornithology," published in 1833, in which the number of species described was 366. In 1838 he published in London his "Geographical and Comparative List of the Birds of Europe and North America," in which the number of species was farther raised to 471. The *Fauna Boreali-Americana* was now in course of publication. The volume descriptive of the birds, which appeared in 1831, not only described many hitherto unknown species, but contained a vast amount of valuable information regarding the nests, eggs, and habits of the birds in their northern homes, about which little or nothing had been known.

In the meantime John James Audubon, a man of high culture, ample means, and a large amount of material to start with, was busy preparing his great work, the first volume of which appeared in 1827, but was not completed till 1839. The number of birds described was 506, nearly every species being shown in a colored illustration.

The attention of Ornithologists was now turned to the west, and a most valuable contribution was made to the subject by Mr. John Cassin, who published in 1856 a beautiful book entitled "Illustration of the Birds of California," illustrated with fifty colored plates.

In 1858 appeared the celebrated 9th volume of "Pacific Railroad Reports," which overturned the whole previous form of the subject. The number of specimens sent in by the different surveying parties was very great, and nearly all different species from those already known in the east. These, with the reports referring to them, were placed in the hands of Professor Baird, who with the assistance of Messrs. Cassin and Geo. N. Lawrence, revised the whole subject, and introducing for the sake of comparison the eastern species already known, made the volume a complete

expositi
Americ
species

In
lished
been ad

In
specime
found t
thus inc

In
list, in
publishe
stand at
species
reductio
at prese

No
advance
which w
Park, N
called b
and pr
present

twenty
enjoyab
other b
remain
and Mr

the form
known
those o
Allen, c
Merriam
formed
Nomen
desirab
Distrib