

HEREFORDSHIRE BIRDS

By
H. A. GILBERT
AND
C. W. WALKER

"HOPE ON"



"HOPE EVER"

WOOLHOPE NATURALISTS' FIELD CLUB
c/o CITY LIBRARY, BROAD STREET
HEREFORD

1954

HEREFORD :
PRINTED BY THE HEREFORD TIMES LTD.

FOREWORD

No report on the status of the county's birds had been published since the Woolhope Club brought out Hutchinson's list (1899) until 1941, when the Club published *Herefordshire Birds* under the names of Captain H. A. Gilbert and myself. This work was intended to cover only those species regularly to be met with in the county, whether breeding, winter visitors, or migrants on passage.

As this 1941 edition has long since been unobtainable, it appeared desirable not only to correct and bring it up to date, but to make the work as complete as possible by including all the occasional visitors and rare vagrants. The inclusion of all species, however rare, raises the number dealt with from 136 to 233 species, of which 70 are resident and breeding, 33 summer visitors and breeding, 28 regular visitors and passage migrants, 94 occasional and vagrant, and 8 insufficiently substantiated but deserving of mention with reserve. The sources of individual records are as far as possible given in the text, but in some cases no source is mentioned; such records may be found in the Woolhope Club *Transactions* for the relevant date, or, if in 1951 or subsequently, in the *Annual Reports* of the Herefordshire Ornithological Club. The number preceding the name of each bird, and the names—English and Latin—are those used in *The Handbook of British Birds* (1938-41).

Much of the 1941 edition, written by Capt. Gilbert, and the outcome of his own observation and research, remains as the framework of the present publication, and all alterations have been made after careful consideration by both authors. We have received invaluable assistance from Mr. R. H. Baillie, editor of the Herefordshire Ornithological Club's annual reports, in the tracing and tabulating the records of occurrence of the vagrants and rarer species, and also in the compilation of the index; in addition we have freely availed ourselves of his ornithological knowledge, and of his admirable club reports, for all of which services we are deeply grateful.

C. W. W.

Hereford, 1954.

AUTHORITIES

- BULL *Notes on the Birds of Herefordshire*, by Henry Graves Bull, M.D. 1888.
- HORNE *List of the Birds of Herefordshire*, by George Horne. 1889.
- HUTCHINSON *Birds of Herefordshire*, by T. Hutchinson. 1899.
- V.C.H. *Victoria History of the Counties of England. Herefordshire. Birds*, by E. Cambridge Phillips. 1908.
- W.C.T. *Woolhope Club Transactions*.
- H.B. *The Handbook of British Birds*, by H. F. & G. Witherby, 1938-41.
- WILLIAMS' COLLECTION Manuscript data of the collection made by the late Dr. Williams of Croaze House, Kingsland.
- LINGWOOD, R. M. ... *Annals Nat. Hist.* Vol. V, p. 184, refers to south-east Herefordshire.
Mr. Lingwood also has notes in W.C.T.
- Paintings of Herefordshire Birds*, by Mrs. Armitage of Dadnor. Painted between 1851 and 1897.
- Geographical Bibliography of Brit. Ornithology*, part 2, pp. 132-136 (Herefordshire). 1920.
- Herefordshire Ornith. Club Reports*. 1951, *sqq.*
- B.B. "British Birds" Magazine, 1907, *et seq.*

HEREFORDSHIRE BIRDS

1. THE RAVEN. *Corvus corax corax*, L.

Once extinct, now rare resident and breeding.

BULL. Not uncommon in the more wild and hilly districts, 1888.

HORNE. Only now found in a few of the wildest districts in the county, 1889.

HUTCHINSON. A pair nested in the old Scotch firs at Kentchurch until 1880, when the keepers shot them.
Rev. Morgan G. Watkins of Kentchurch.

V.C.H. Quotes Hutchinson.

LINGWOOD. 1840. Breeds at Stoke Park (apparently meaning Stoke Edith).

"When I was a boy, raven trees were often pointed out by old men, in my constant and vehement birds' nesting rambles, but I never once met with a nest in a tree. Is it true that they do still breed upon trees in Herefordshire?" Thus wrote the Rev. William Clement Ley at a time during the middle of last century.¹

Dr. Bull mentions two ravens' nests about 1835 within this county, the first "within the memory of the old men" in Mr. Ley's own parish of Sellack, a pair of ravens built in a tall elm tree, the other in tall beech trees on Dinmore Hill. He states also that the latter nest was occupied until about 1875.

One of the last nests of the raven in Herefordshire, probably the very last, was that recorded by Mr. Morgan Watkins at Kentchurch in 1880, "when the keepers shot them". For many years thereafter the game preservers were victorious and the raven became extinct in the county of Herefordshire as a breeding species. It was indeed very rarely seen at all except as a rare vagrant from across the Welsh border in autumn and winter. Nearly fifty years later, however, the raven returned to live and nest within the county.

In April, 1924, a gamekeeper reported the presence of a pair of ravens close to Hereford. He said that he had shot one of a pair of ravens two months before, but that the survivor immediately obtained another mate and began to nest. This nest was placed sixty feet up on a branch of an enormous larch tree, and a single

¹ Bull, p. 81. The Rev. W. C. Ley was curate of King's Caple from 1863 to 1871. His father, the Rev. W. H. Ley, was vicar of Sellack and King's Caple from 1841 to 1887. Presumably Mr. Ley refers to a period roughly from 1850 to 1860. See his notes: *W.C.T.* 1869, p. 71.

young one flew from the nest. Since that day a pair of ravens has nested either in the same or a nearby tree annually. The raven has steadily increased in numbers and spread eastwards over the county during the last 30 years. It is now plentiful in the west, and thinly distributed over the remainder of the county. There were at least twelve pairs nesting in 1952. The Herefordshire nests are in trees, generally—but not always—conifers. It is possible that it will be unable to continue increasing away from the hills, owing to lack of food. The raven (*Cigfran*—the flesh crow) feeds almost entirely on carrion: on the hills dead sheep lie unburied and supply their needs. On the low ground the only carrion left unburied are the rabbits either killed by stoats or dead from disease. For that meagre supply there is great competition from carrion crows, buzzards, rats, badgers, etc., hence very little food can be obtained by ravens. At any rate Herefordshire ravens appear to go great distances, fifteen miles or more, into the hills where they forage. They return at a great height and have obviously been many miles away.

Another point to record is that Herefordshire ravens now live and nest under the strict protection of landowners, a change of heart from the past when Mr. Clement Ley lamented "the ruthless persecution of the gamekeeper", and continued: "In a few years the sight of one of the larger birds of prey which used to be such an ornament to our landscape will be as unexpected a pleasure as the discovery of a dodo, or a megatherium".

2. THE HOODED CROW. *Corvus cornix cornix*, L.
Rare winter visitor.

Bull gives six records, and there have been about a dozen since, all occurring between October and February, except one seen at Brinsop in July, 1921.

3. THE CARRION-CROW. *Corvus corone corone*, L.
Common resident and breeding.

BULL. Very common 1888.

HORNE. Exceedingly numerous and increasing, 1889.

The carrion-crow nests all over the county, save in a few small areas where game preservers destroy the birds. No sorrow need be wasted on the crow, oppressor of everything weaker than itself, in fact the most mischievous and destructive bird in Herefordshire, and one well able to look after its own continued existence.

4. THE ROOK. *Corvus frugilegus frugilegus*, L.
Common resident and breeding.

Dr. Bull records a rookery of 36 nests in 1884 built in the Cathedral Close at Hereford, and another of 54 nests in the Castle

Green. In 1932 there were 142 occupied rooks' nests in Hereford city: in 1935 the number was 109: in 1952 there were between 30 and 40 only. Census-keeping of rook nests should be done in rural areas also. It is hoped these have not decreased *pari passu* with the urban birds.

5. THE JACKDAW. *Corvus monedula spermologus*, Vieill.
Common resident and breeding.

Our commonest member of the crow tribe. Ubiquitous and increasing.

7. THE MAGPIE. *Pica pica pica* (L.)
Common resident and breeding.

9. THE NUTCRACKER. *Nucifraga caryocatactes*, subsp. (L.)
Rare vagrant.

One of a pair seen at Credenhill was shot on 19th Nov., 1900, and went to Cardiff Museum.

[Reports of occurrences at Fownhope in 1927, and Weobley in 1940, were made by single observers.]

11. THE BRITISH JAY. *Garrulus glandarius rufitergum*, Hart.
Common resident. Well distributed and breeding.

14. THE STARLING. *Sturnus vulgaris vulgaris*, L.
Common resident and breeding: also winter visitor.

These birds collect in thousands to roost in winter. In 1938-9 such a roost was known to exist near Kilpeck, receiving the birds from the whole central area of the county, from as far east as Ocle Pychard and as far west as Hay and Clifford; but during January, 1939, the birds feeding by day in the central parishes were seen to have changed their direction at sunset, and to have deserted Kilpeck for a roost near Stoke Lacy. In previous years coverts at Garnstone, Holme Lacy, Ballingham, Arkstone and Mordiford have been used as roosts. The winter flocks decreased greatly during the second World War years, but are now slowly increasing in numbers. A very populous roost existed at Ullingswick during the early months of 1953.

16. THE ROSE-COLOURED STARLING. *Pastor roseus* (L.)
Rare vagrant.

Thrice recorded. The specimen in Hereford Museum was labelled "Garway 1858". One was seen at Leintwardine 2nd-14th Sept., 1937, and one at Mordiford with starlings in the winter of 1940-41.

17. THE GOLDEN ORIOLE. *Oriolus oriolus oriolus* (L.)
Rare summer visitor.

There are thirteen records for the county, mostly in the month of May. Later dates were 28th August (Cusop, 1911) and 1st. Dec. (Aymestrey 1902).

18. THE HAWFINCH. *Coccothraustes coccothraustes coccothraustes* (L.)

Resident, breeding, but appears to have decreased and now quite rare.

BULL. Not a common bird.

HORNE. Not rare. Have seen many specimens.

HUTCHINSON. Commoner resident than formerly.

V.C.H. Resident and fairly abundant. Believed to be on the increase.

WILLIAMS' COLLECTION. 13 nests recorded between 1886 and 1913.

The Rev. Prebendary G. H. Powell, of Dorstone, has seen large winter flocks of hawfinches, amounting at times to seventy, feeding on the kernels of hawthorn berries on the hill sides to the south of Dorstone. The hawfinch, however, appears to have decreased of late years. For instance, immediately after the war, 1914-18, the birds could be seen daily round Bishopstone, and on the Garnons and Foxley estates seven or eight nests could easily be found in May. Nowadays the hawfinch is rarely seen in that district and nests are very difficult to find.

19. THE GREENFINCH. *Chloris chloris chloris* (L.)
Common resident and breeding.

20. THE BRITISH GOLDFINCH. *Carduelis carduelis britannica*, (Hart.)

Common resident, breeding and increasing.

BULL. Fairly plentiful.

HORNE. Generally abundant.

HUTCHINSON. A resident which the birdcatcher is exterminating.

Very few goldfinches remain in Herefordshire during the winter, but small flocks are to be seen on the river banks, or feeding on alder-fruit in any winter month.

21. THE SISKIN. *Carduelis spinus* (L.)

Regular winter visitor in considerable numbers.

BULL. Probably bred at Letton Court in May, 1883.

HORNE. Sparingly scattered. May be seen on alders in winter.

HUTCHINSON. Rare in summer.

V.C.H. A resident, rare in summer and partly migratory.

The siskin can be seen during winter wherever there are alder trees, but it is not a resident and does not breed here.

23. THE MEALY REDPOLL. *Carduelis flammea flammea* (L.)
Scarce winter visitor.

Bull states that it often occurs but is overlooked. There are five records for the twentieth century: one bird was trapped, making the identification quite certain.

25. THE LESSER REDPOLL. *Carduelis flammea cabaret*, (P. L. S. Müll.)

Winter migrant in small numbers. Very rare resident and breeding.

BULL. Not common—small flocks seen in winter and it is believed a few remain to nest.

V.C.H. Annually observed at Kingsland where it breeds. (Williams.)

On only one occasion has one of us seen a breeding pair of lesser redpolls—among birch trees in the south-west of the county. Dr. Williams in his catalogue records three nests, one at Kingsland (1889), the second near Kentchurch (1907), and the third at Aymestrey with a cuckoo's egg.

- 28/29. THE TWITE. *Carduelis flavirostris, subsp.* (L.)
Winter visitor in small numbers.

BULL. Winter visitant. Sometimes seen in tolerable abundance on slopes of the Black Mountains.

HUTCHINSON. Uncommon resident, local, breeding.

V.C.H. Scarce. Has been observed on the Black Mountains.

The twite flocks are small, and do not as a rule mix with the other finches. They frequent stubbles and, when disturbed, settle again on the ground, but do not fly up into the hedges as do the chaffinches and greenfinches.

30. THE LINNET. *Carduelis cannabina cannabina* (L.)
Common resident and breeding.

33. THE BRITISH BULLFINCH. *Pyrrhula pyrrhula nesa*,
Math. and Ired.

Common resident and breeding.

HORNE. Becoming rarer owing to the birdcatcher.

The bullfinch, though persecuted by fruit farmers, seems to maintain its numbers.

36. THE COMMON CROSSBILL. *Loxia curvirostra curvirostra*,
L.

Irregular but frequent late summer immigrant and winter visitor; sometimes in considerable numbers.

BULL. A frequent visitant, and sometimes stays to breed. In 1868, June was the only month out of 12 successive months in which the crossbills failed to appear in the vicarage garden at Sellack (Ley).

HORNE. Appears from time to time. Believe they breed near Kington. (Lloyd.)

HUTCHINSON. An uncommon and irregular visitor.

V.C.H. Records "visitations" 1866, 1869, 1887-8, 1894, 1895.

Mrs. Armitage's painting is dated 28th January, 1889.

The *Handbook* (p. 95) gives a "probable but not positive" record of nesting in 1895.

Between 1920 and 1930 the crossbill was seen almost annually in Herefordshire, arriving in July. When they first arrive the birds have frequently been reported as a nuisance to gardeners because they have been feeding on peas. Its appearances have been less regular of recent years.

The cones of the scotch fir and larch provide the normal food of the crossbill, and during autumn a small flock can often be seen in the avenue of Scotch firs at Monnington, and at other places where there are Scotch firs or larches.

The crossbill is a very early breeding bird, nesting in February and March; but though crossbills have sometimes remained until late April they do not appear to have nested here.

41. THE BRITISH CHAFFINCH. *Fringilla caelebs gengleri*,
Kleinschmidt

Common resident and breeding.

42. THE BRAMBLING. *Fringilla montifringilla*, L.

Regular winter visitor.

The brambling can generally be seen wherever there are beech trees, for example at Foxley and Homme House.

Occasionally it appears in unusual numbers, as in the winter of 1937-38, when large flocks appeared in Hampton Bishop parish, and fed in the stubbles from December to the end of February.

43. THE CORN-BUNTING. *Emberiza calandra*, L.

Very rare resident. Has bred.

BULL. Not infrequent, being fairly distributed over the arable parts of the county. It can scarcely be said to be abundant in Herefordshire.

HORNE. Does not mention the corn-bunting.

HUTCHINSON. Rare resident. Has nested in Lugg Meadows and at Mortimer's Cross. (Williams.)

V.C.H. A rare resident.

W.C.T., 1869, Included in birds seen at Bredwardine p. 159 (1864-9), by Rev. Robert Blight. 1873, p. 82. At Lingen.

Mr. R. D. Powell informs us that he has known a pair of these birds to breed near Eardisland.

There is no record of a Herefordshire nest in the catalogue of the Williams' collection in spite of the statement attributed to Dr. Williams by Hutchinson, and no mention by Lingwood.

The only eggs of this species known to have been taken in Herefordshire were found near Bodenham on 4th June, 1945, and though it is a conspicuous and easily recognised species, we have never seen the bird.

A painting of a dead specimen of this bunting is in the collection painted by Mrs. Armitage of Dadnor, dated 22nd March, 1884.

44. THE YELLOW BUNTING. *Emberiza citrinella citrinella*, L.
Common resident and breeding.

49. THE CIRL BUNTING. *Emberiza cirrus cirrus*, L.

Very rare local resident and breeding.

BULL. A native of the county. Anyone who can distinguish its note will come to the conclusion that it is not an uncommon bird in Herefordshire. Sites mentioned: Callow Pitch, Birch, King's Caple, The Chase, Ross.

HORNE. Not so uncommon as is supposed. Occurs at Kingsland (Williams) and Kimbolton, near Leominster (S. Hutchinson).

W.C.T., 1884, p. 224.

Zoologist, 1892, p. 122. O. V. Aplin states: "Cirl bunting is resident in Herefordshire", and quotes J. B. Pilley, "must be fairly common". A nest with eggs recorded by Dr. Bull as found quite near Mitcheldean road station in 1880 appears to be the first record of a nest in the county.

It nested also at Wormbridge in 1884, and the eggs are in the possession of Mr. G. N. Carter.

In the *Williams' Catalogue* ten nests are recorded, one with a cuckoo's egg, between 1886 and 1909, all of them from the north-western side of the county.

In 1914 a girl's nest containing a cuckoo's egg was found at Ganarew. *Woolhope Club Transactions* 1914, p. 42.

Two nests with young and one small winter flock seen by H. A. Gilbert, a fair-sized flock seen by Miss N. Marsh, in 1931, a singing cock seen by L. Smith in 1940, and a cock bird seen in May, 1950, by C. Catchpole are the only occurrences recorded in the last 25 years.

55. THE REED-BUNTING. *Emberiza schoeniclus schoeniclus* (L.)

Resident and breeding in all suitable marshy localities, osier beds, etc. Has suffered from drainage of recent years.

59. THE SNOW-BUNTING. *Plectrophenax nivalis nivalis* (L.)
Rare winter visitor.

A specimen in the museum was shot at Much Dewchurch in 1856. There are only five other records for Herefordshire, the most recent being for 1947, when snow buntings were seen on the high ground near Fownhope during that severe winter.

61. THE HOUSE-SPARROW. *Passer domesticus domesticus* (L.) Common resident and breeding.

62. THE TREE-SPARROW. *Passer montanus montanus* (L.)
Local but generally distributed. Resident and breeding.
Probably has decreased of late years.

BULL.	Common in all suitable localities.
HORNE.	Sparingly distributed.
HUTCHINSON.	A local resident.
V.C.H.	A local resident.

Decreasing as a breeding species since the ancient orchards which provided its principal nesting grounds are now rapidly disappearing (see under the lesser spotted woodpecker). Large flocks are seen in winter.

69. THE WOOD-LARK. *Lullula arborea arborea* (L.)
Resident and breeding.

BULL.	Not a frequent bird.
HUTCHINSON.	Common resident but local.
LINGWOOD.	Common.

The wood-lark is resident all over the county, though nowhere is it numerous. Confined almost entirely as to its breeding area to sloping uncultivated ground, the bird is more common in the western side of the county and is almost unknown on the heavy clay soil of the north east. It breeds, however, to the north of Ledbury in the Eastnor district. The wood-lark was almost destroyed during the great frost of 1929; and only in 1938 could it be said to have regained its former abundance. Its numbers were reduced again greatly in 1947, but are now once more increasing.

The earliest Herefordshire ornithologist, the Rev. W. E. Evans, Prebendary of the Cathedral, who lived at Burton Court, wrote *The Songs of the Birds* (1st Edn., 1845). He knew the wood-lark well, and wrote of it as follows: "Its voice is clearer and sweeter than that of the sky-lark and seems to tell a tale of deep and tender feeling".

The following is his poem referring to the bird's song in autumn and winter:—

SONG OF THE WOOD-LARK.

How sweet to me, the cold calm morn,
When Summer's pride is ended,
And the hoar frost hangs upon the thorn,
With its fading tresses blended.
Each merry voice from brake and bough
That sung so loud—is silent now;
And I sing upon the leafless tree,
The last of all their minstrelsy.

My autumn note goes forth alone,
The thrush's song is over;
The blackbird's clear and mellow tone
Is silent in the covert.
My kinsman lark on quivering wings
To the cold morn no carol sings;
The warblers all, a fickle band,
Have flown to seek a warmer land.

Time servers they! When fading fast
They saw the year declining;
When Summer's golden prime was past
His sun no longer shining;
Like friends untrue in grief's dark day
On faithless wings they fly away
Far from the gloom of wintry hours
From scenes all stript of leaves and flowers.

Tho' earth look dark and cold, that voice
Will still be sweetly singing,
And make the chilly heart rejoice
With notes of comfort ringing.
Amid the dying scenes around
That voice, like mine, will clearer sound;
And sweeter far its heavenly tone,
Because it sings in silence and alone.

70. THE SKY-LARK. *Alauda arvensis arvensis*, L.
Common and resident.

72. THE SHORE-LARK. *Eremophila alpestris flava* (Gm.)
Vagrant.

A single bird was seen on the Worcester-Herefordshire border at the top of the "Happy Valley" between Great and West Malvern on the 14th Jan., 1920—the only record.

74. THE TAWNY PIPIT. *Anthus campestris campestris* (L.)
Rare passage migrant.

Two were seen by H. A. Gilbert at Bishopstone on 9th September, 1931.

75. THE TREE-PIBIT. *Anthus trivialis trivialis* (L.)
Common summer visitor and breeding in all suitable localities.

76. THE MEADOW-PIBIT. *Anthus pratensis* (L.)
Resident and breeding. Many passage migrants, most noticeable in spring.

The meadow-pipit, though generally distributed, cannot be described as a common bird in the county. In fact in many areas it is rare. It is commonest on the Herefordshire portion of the Black Mountains, and on our few heath lands, but is distinctly rare in the agricultural area, except for flocks which winter annually on the low-lying grasslands.

81. [THE ROCK-PIBIT. *Anthus spinoletta petrosus* (Mont.)

Is stated by de Winton to be plentiful on the Black Mountains. His note (*W.C.T.*, 1897, p. 269) reads: "Rockpipit (*Anthus obscurus*) very plentiful, young in all stages being found". This refers to a visit to the Herefordshire portion of the mountains, and the water-pipit (*Anthus spinoletta spinoletta*) (L.) is stated in the *Handbook* (p. 205) to be "possibly" a regular winter visitor to Great Britain. We have never seen either bird at any time of the year either on the Black Mountains or anywhere in Herefordshire. Mr. de Winton must have been in error.

There is a painting of a rock-pipit, dated 25th February, 1898, in the collection of paintings by the late Mrs. Armitage of Dadnor.]

84. THE BLUE-HEADED WAGTAIL. *Motacilla flava flava*, L.
Rare summer visitor?

Bull stated that "it occurs regularly every season at Belmont near Hereford". This may have been true in 1885, but there has been no record since.

88. THE YELLOW WAGTAIL. *Motacilla flava flavissima* (Blyth.)

Summer visitor and breeding. Locally distributed. Numerous in certain meadows adjoining rivers Wye and Lugg.

BULL. A regular summer visitant throughout the county.

HORNE. Very generally diffused.

HUTCHINSON. Generally distributed.

WILLIAMS' COLLECTION. Recorded breeding at Kingsland, 1893 and 1898.

The yellow wagtail is commonest in Lugg Meadows, but is present elsewhere, especially in open agricultural areas. It breeds by the Wye as far up as Llysven in Breconshire.

89. THE GREY WAGTAIL. *Motacilla cinerea cinerea*, Tunst.
Resident and breeding. Can be seen wherever there is a bridge, mill, waterfall, or riverside cliff: chiefly on the side streams to the river Wye.

BULL. Nowhere plentiful—occurs locally about the more secluded streams in the northern district of the county.

HORNE. Common in winter—a few may be seen in summer.

HUTCHINSON. Common resident.

This, one of the most beautiful birds in Great Britain, is frequently confused with the yellow wagtail, though the habits and appearance are very different. It breeds near Hereford bridge within the city.

90. THE PIED WAGTAIL. *Motacilla alba yarrellii*, Gould.
Common resident and breeding.

V.C.H. States regarding the white wagtail 91. (*Motacilla alba alba*, L.), i.e. the continental form of the pied wagtail:

"Occurs near Ludlow, and several nests with eggs have been found during recent years"; but it is not recorded by Dr. Williams, and cannot be included in the list.

93. THE BRITISH TREE-CREEPER. *Certhia familiaris britannica*, Ridgw.

Common resident and breeding.

BULL. A small unobtrusive bird probably more common than is generally thought.
HORNE. Far from uncommon.
HUTCHINSON. Common resident.
V.C.H. A common resident.

96. THE BRITISH NUTHATCH. *Sitta europaea affinis*, Blyth.
Common resident and breeding.

BULL. Very common.
HORNE. Common round Hereford and in most of our large woods.
HUTCHINSON. Common generally distributed.

98. THE BRITISH GREAT TIT. *Parus major newtoni*, Pražak

100. THE BRITISH BLUE TIT. *Parus caeruleus obscurus*, Pražak.

102. THE BRITISH COAL-TIT. *Parus ater britannicus*, Sharpe and Dress.

107. THE BRITISH MARSH-TIT. *Parus palustris dresseri*, Stejn.

These four tits are common, resident and breeding, the two former being commoner than the two latter.

The coal-tit becomes distinctly rare in the county in the breeding season though common in winter.

108. THE BRITISH WILLOW-TIT. *Parus atricapillus kleinschmidti*, Hellm.

Rare local resident and breeding.

Recorded at Cradley and Acton Beauchamp. *British Birds*, vol. V, p. 189.

Records of this bird are few, but it may have been overlooked. Two typical nests have been found by Capt. H. A. Gilbert at Canon Frome, and one at Yazor by Hon. G. Charteris. In addition the bird has been occasionally identified by other observers, but more information is needed.

111. THE BRITISH LONG-TAILED TIT. *Aegithalos caudatus rosaceus*, Mathews.

Common resident and breeding.

114. THE GREAT GREY SHRIKE. *Lanius excubitor excubitor*, L.

Rare passage-migrant or winter visitor. There are nine county records, mostly of single birds seen in winter. The Rev. Clement Ley, however, reported seeing "a small flock in winter" on the Black Mountains (1872). The most recent records are of a single bird on Lugg Meadows, Tupsley, 1st and 2nd April, 1949, one at Checkley, 27th Sept., 1951, and one near Peterchurch, 12th Jan., 1953.

119. THE RED-BACKED SHRIKE. *Lanius collurio collurio*, L.
Rare summer visitor. Breeding.

BULL. Not uncommon—its eggs are to be seen in nearly every schoolboy's collection. Built for many years in the tall hedges of the tramway within half a mile of Hereford.

HORNE. Not numerous.

HUTCHINSON. Generally distributed.

This species has dwindled to vanishing point of recent years. It had not been seen or reported in the county since 1946, but a pair bred successfully at Hereford in 1951, and again in 1952. It appears, however, to be holding its own in the Malvern area.

120. THE WAXWING. *Bombycilla garrulus garrulus* (L.)

Rare vagrant.

Bull records an occurrence in 1856. There was no further record till 1921 when an adult male was shot near Ross on 22nd Nov.

In 1947—an "immigration winter" there were four records of waxwings in or near Hereford—one shot, two seen feeding on berries, and one caught after it had descended a chimney into Dr. C. W. Walker's surgery in the town: two more were seen at Yatton, near Aymestrey. A waxwing was seen feeding on cotoneaster berries in a Leintwardine garden on 28th Nov., 1949, and a number were seen in an orchard at Lyonshall on 14th Dec. of the same year.

121. THE SPOTTED FLYCATCHER. *Muscicapa striata striata* (Pall.)

Common summer visitor and breeding.

123. THE PIED FLYCATCHER. *Muscicapa hypoleuca hypoleuca* (Pall.)

Uncommon but regular passage migrant in spring.

Uncommon but regular summer visitor to valleys in the north-west of the county and to parks and woodlands in central and northern Herefordshire.

- BULL. A rare visitant.
 HORNE. Very scarce—has bred at Stoke Edith.
 V.C.H. Breeds at Downton, Eywood and Croft.
 W.C.T. 1899, p. 49. First recorded nest for Herefordshire found by Dr. Williams in 1899.
 W.C.T. 1899, p. 109. Nests in Stoke Edith Park.
 WILLIAMS' COLLECTION. Nest recorded at Eywood, 23rd May, 1899.
 LINGWOOD. A pair shot, 18th June, 1839.

There is a gap in Herefordshire, on the east of which breeds the nightingale, and on the west the pied flycatcher, while in between is barren ground where neither species is found. Since the above was written (1938) the species has increased and now nests sparsely in various parts of the county. The gap has thus been somewhat narrowed.

127. THE BRITISH GOLDCREST. *Regulus regulus anglorum*, Hart.

Generally distributed wherever suitable trees occur—resident and breeding but nowhere numerous.

- BULL. Common throughout the county.
 HORNE. Very frequently met with.
 HUTCHINSON. Rare in summer.
 LINGWOOD. The firecrest is commoner than the goldcrest. (This is an obvious mistake.)

There are not many Douglas firs, cedars, or firs of any sort in the county, but wherever there are any or even a couple of yew trees in a churchyard, there will be goldcrests. They leave the county completely only in the severest winter, e.g. 1935-6, in which year the February frost banished the goldcrest. Successive mild winters favour this tiny bird, and in 1938, after two such winters, it was exceedingly common. In the early frosts of 1940 it was again almost exterminated and the same happened most notably in 1947.

128. THE FIRECREST. *Regulus ignicapillus ignicapillus* (Temm.) Rare vagrant.

Bull records a pair seen at Sellack in 1864 by Rev. Clement Ley. This is the only county record which can be accepted as authentic.

129. THE CHIFFCHAFF. *Phylloscopus collybita collybita* (Vieill.)

132. THE WILLOW-WARBLE. *Phylloscopus trochilus trochilus* (L.)

Common summer visitors and breeding.

135. THE WOOD-WARBLE. *Phylloscopus sibilatrix* (Bechst.) Summer visitor and breeding in suitable woodlands.

- BULL. Very local and nowhere abundant.
 HORNE. Local resident.
 V.C.H. Fairly common—plentiful near Ross.

Rev. W. E. Evans, of Burton Court, in *The Songs of the Birds* (1st Edition, 1845), writes: "When any foot approaches his nest or even enters the shade of his favourite trees during the nesting season he utters a plaintive note soft and melancholy beyond description".

Possibly this is the earliest record of the wood wren's nesting note. These three warblers are generally distributed over the county in suitable areas in spring and summer, the wood wren being the rarest of the three and the willow wren the most numerous. Wherever there are well-grown deciduous woods the wood wren may be met with in small numbers, chiefly associated with oak, provided the undergrowth is not too dense, but it is nowhere so common in Herefordshire as it is in the oak woods over the border by the Upper Wye.

145. THE GRASSHOPPER-WARBLE. *Locustella naevia naevia* (Bodd.)

Local, and variable summer visitor and breeding.

- BULL. Not uncommon in the central districts of the county and quotes (1) Rev. Clement Ley, that it is common in the Ross district "in the clover fields".
 (2) Mr. W. C. Blake: Marcle Wood is a good locality for this bird.
 HUTCHINSON. Local resident. Common in Ross district—occurs in Bromyard district (Blathwayt); Kingsland (Williams); and Kimbolton (S. Hutchinson).
 WILLIAMS' COLLECTION. Five nests recorded between 1898 and 1907 at Kingsland and Aymestrey.

This bird will breed in Herefordshire wherever it finds suitable ground, such as woodlands cut down and growing back into scrub with grass and bramble; or new plantations. As the trees grow high the birds will abandon the area, hence its breeding grounds are variable. In one or two marshy areas it is constant, being a bird which breeds either on very wet or very dry ground. Its main requirement is undisturbed grass, growing in deep and matted tufts,

with a few brambles. Has decreased owing to diminution of suitable sites.

149. THE REED-WARBLER. *Acrocephalus scirpaceus* (Herm.)

Rare but regular summer visitor; breeding only in one small area.

BULL. Not common. Nest or two generally to be met with at Tyberton, Moccas, Shobdon, etc.

HORNE. Not abundant; seen in north and western portions of the county (Ley).

HUTCHINSON. Rare. Resident April to September. Breeding.

Herefordshire is on the extreme western limit of the reed warbler's range. There is little ground which is suitable for its nesting habits, and the bird breeds only in one small area. Mr. Hubert Williams writes of this area: "When I was a boy, there were 40-60 pairs of reed warblers", but the ground has become less favourable with the passage of time, and only a few reed warblers, two or three pairs at most, nest in Herefordshire nowadays.

150. THE MARSH-WARBLER. *Acrocephalus palustris* (Bechst.)

Rare and local summer visitor, known to have bred in 1938, possibly in previous years, and certainly annually since that date.

H.B., Vol. II Recorded as nesting in Hereford, 1938.

Bull mentions it, but not as occurring in Herefordshire. Other authorities do not mention the bird. For many years we could get no trace of this warbler within the county of Hereford, though it is wellknown in the adjoining counties of Gloucester and Worcester. As in the case of the reed-warbler, Herefordshire seems to be the north-western limit of its range. It, of course, needs its own special type of ground in which to nest, not over water but in "rubbishy" dry ground near water as a rule, and wandering far away from water at times into corn and bean fields.

In 1936 for the first time a marsh warbler was seen and heard singing in a suitable area, but breeding was not proved. In the same place the birds were again present in 1938, and three nests were found and two more in another locality in that year. Breeding has taken place annually from 1938 until the present date (1952) at the first site, three or four nests being found there annually. In 1949 all the nests appear to have been destroyed owing to drainage operations in this area but the birds returned in 1950 and bred successfully. In addition single nests have been found in different years in one or other of three or four sites at a considerable distance from the above-mentioned colony. In 1952 five nests were found in the county.

153. THE SEDGE-WARBLER. *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus* (L.)
Summer visitor, breeding in all suitable moist localities, but is suffering from increased drainage.

BULL. Common in valleys of Lugg and Arrow, and on the banks of the Wye.

HORNE and } Common
HUTCHINSON. }

V.C.H. One of the most abundant warblers and is everywhere common in the county.

161. THE GARDEN-WARBLER. *Sylvia borin* (Bodd.)

162. THE BLACKCAP. *Sylvia atricapilla atricapilla* (L.)

Common summer visitors. Generally distributed in suitable places, the former being the more abundant. The blackcap exceptionally winters in the county. A hen bird frequented Col. Thornycroft's garden at Breinton in January, 1936; a bird, also a hen, came for food in a Hereford garden from 24th December, 1938, until the end of January, 1939; a hen and a cock were seen during early frosts of 1940 in Hereford gardens, and there have been several February records in more recent years.

163. THE WHITETHROAT. *Sylvia communis communis*, Lath.
Summer visitor.

The commonest warbler in Herefordshire, but diminishing in numbers as hedge-trimming becomes steadily more severe and efficient.

164. THE LESSER WHITETHROAT. *Sylvia curruca curruca* (L.)

Generally but sparsely distributed. Summer visitor, being commoner on the eastern side of the county than on the western.

169. [THE DARTFORD WARBLER. *Sylvia undata dartfordiensis*, Lath.]

In the *Victoria County History* is the following note:—

"Two nests of this rare warbler were seen near the banks of the Teme a few years ago by Mr. Palmer of Ludlow, who not only saw the birds but found the nests. Unfortunately the gorse where the nests were placed was burnt down two years ago, and the birds have not been observed since (Pilley)."

In the *Handbook* is the following note of the distribution of this, the only warbler resident in Britain throughout the year:—

"A pair or two said to have bred tolerably regularly in one locality in Salop."

It is possible that the above notes refer to the same birds since the Teme is the border of the county, and we believe the first note refers to a locality near Leintwardine which is in Shropshire.

We do not think the Dartford warbler is likely to be seen in Herefordshire and therefore do not include the bird in this list.]

173. THE FIELDFARE. *Turdus pilaris*, L.
Common winter visitor.

174. THE MISTLE-THRUSH. *Turdus viscivorus viscivorus*, L.
Common resident and breeding.

175. THE BRITISH SONG-THRUSH. *Turdus ericetorum ericetorum*, Turton
Common resident and breeding.

178. THE REDWING. *Turdus musicus musicus*, L.
Common winter visitor.

182. THE RING-OUZEL. *Turdus torquatus torquatus*, L.
Summer visitor to the mountainous portion of the county and breeding. Elsewhere seen rarely on passage.

BULL. A summer visitant sparsely distributed through the higher uncultivated districts of the county.

HORNE. Not numerous. I have seen it a few times on Eign Hill, Hereford.

HUTCHINSON. Local resident from April to September. Breeding.

V.C.H. Summer migrant. Fairly plentiful on all the hills.

The ring-ouzel cannot be regarded as a common bird in Herefordshire, since the high ground on which it spends the summer is limited in extent, but on the Herefordshire portion of the Black Mountains it is not an uncommon bird, and can be seen and heard throughout the summer from March to September.

184. THE BLACKBIRD. *Turdus merula merula*, L.
Common resident and breeding.

186. THE WHEATEAR. *Enanthe cenanthe cenanthe* (L.)
Summer visitor, breeding in suitable areas chiefly on hilly ground. Also passage migrant over the county in some numbers.

BULL. Moderately plentiful on the hills separating the Wye and the Dore; and on the slopes of the Black Mountains.

HORNE. Found scattered through the county. The writer has seen many round Hereford at the autumn migration.

HUTCHINSON. Local resident from March to October.

WILLIAMS' COLLECTION. Nest on Bircher Common, May, 1884.

The wheatear is not a common or generally distributed bird in Herefordshire, since for breeding purposes it requires common land, sheep walks, etc., and is chiefly to be found nesting in the Black Mountain area.

187. THE GREENLAND WHEATEAR. *Enanthe cenanthe leucorrhoa* (Gm.)
Passage migrant.

Wheatears also cross the county during migration in some numbers, and among these migrating birds the Greenland wheatear has been obtained. It is probable that wheatears of this form cross Herefordshire annually as passage migrants.

197. THE WHINCHAT. *Saxicola rubetra* (L.)
Common summer visitor and breeding.

BULL. Found scattered throughout the open meadow districts but more plentifully on the southern side.

HORNE. A regular summer visitor and fairly plentiful.

HUTCHINSON. Generally distributed.

198. THE BRITISH STONECHAT. *Saxicola torquata hibernans*, (Hart.)
Resident and breeding until 1947. Status at present doubtful.

BULL. Not so common as the whinchat.

HORNE. Is occasionally found in the county.

HUTCHINSON. Local resident—frequenting hills and rough ground.

The whinchat, nesting in Lugg meadows and marshy rushy areas, on railway embankments and waste ground all over most of the county is far the commoner breeding bird of the two. Its rarity in the north is borne out by observers of our times, as in Dr. Bull's.

The stonechat, chiefly associated with gorse, is confined almost entirely to the few commons in the county, though here and there it may be found nesting in dense bracken on the hilly grounds. Few

stonechats winter in Herefordshire, but their number increases in spring. Had not been reported in the county since 1947, when it was practically wiped out here as elsewhere inland by the severe winter weather, until 1951, when it was twice recorded.

201. THE REDSTART. *Phoenicurus phoenicurus phoenicurus* (L.)
Summer visitor and breeding.

The redstart is not a rare bird in Herefordshire and is found nesting both on high and low ground.

202. THE BLACK REDSTART. *Phoenicurus ochrurus gibraltariensis* (Gm.)
Rare winter visitor.

Bull states that specimens were killed in the county in 1878 and 1879. It was recorded in January, 1895, at Canon Frome, and by the Rev. S. Cornish Watkins at Staunton-on-Arrow on 8th November, 1917. In six different winters between 1918 and 1932 it was seen at Hereford Cathedral by the late Canon W. B. Glennie, and has occurred at the same place every winter for the last 5 years (1947-1951) as well as at Kington and Much Birch. A female haunted some farm buildings at Lugwardine in early March 1952.

203. THE NIGHTINGALE. *Luscinia megarhyncha megarhyncha*, Brehm.
Summer visitor and breeding.

BULL. Not at all abundant and is almost confined to the southern half of the county—mentions Sellack, Broomy Hill, Aylestone Hill, Hereford, Eastwood, Ashperton, How Caple, Lyndon, etc.

HORNE. Not numerous. Fownhope, Dinedor Camp, Ewias Harold, Sellack, Ashperton, How Caple.

HUTCHINSON. Resident from April to September.

WILLIAMS' COLLECTION. Nest at Kingsland, 25th May, 1911.

Mr. Hubert Williams informs me that this was the only occasion on which the bird nested in that district during his father's lifetime.

W.C.T., 1910, pp. 134-139. A. B. Farn reports a nest in 1908 at Norton Canon.

As Herefordshire is a borderland for the nightingale it is of interest to record the details of its breeding area in the county. West and northwest of Hereford city the bird is very rare or absent. Seven miles north of Hereford the Dinmore area has been colonised

since about 1933, but the colony has diminished though nightingales have bred recently in two localities near Leominster. It bred for two years prior to the last war at Shobdon. Southwest of Hereford nightingales breed annually in Allensmore parish, sometimes in Pontrilas or Vowchurch, and generally in Dulas. South and south-east of Hereford it breeds on both sides of the Wye, e.g., at Holme Lacy, Birch, Mordiford, Woolhope and Symond's Yat: to the east it is scattered in suitable woods in Westhild, Cowarne and Ledbury areas.

208. THE BRITISH ROBIN. *Erithacus rubecula melophilus*, Hart.
Common resident and breeding.

211. THE BRITISH HEDGE-SPARROW. *Prunella modularis occidentalis* (Hart.)
Common resident and breeding.

213. THE WREN. *Troglodytes troglodytes troglodytes* (L.)
Common resident and breeding.

218. THE BRITISH DIPPER. *Cinclus cinclus gularis* (Lath.)
Resident and breeding.

BULL. Not uncommon on many of the weirs, waterfalls and smaller streams of the county.

The dipper seldom nests on the Herefordshire Wye, though the birds can be seen here and there all the way up and down the river from Hereford especially in winter. The dipper nests, however, on nearly all of the little brooks flowing into the Wye, and on the Lugg and Arrow in some numbers.

220. THE SWALLOW. *Hirundo rustica rustica*, L.
Common summer visitor and breeding.

222. THE HOUSE-MARTIN. *Delichon urbica urbica* (L.)
Common summer visitor and breeding.

For a picturesque colony, look under Mordiford Bridge over the Lugg.

223. THE SAND-MARTIN. *Riparia riparia riparia* (L.)
Common summer visitor and breeding.

224. THE ALPINE SWIFT. *Apus melba melba* (L.)
Rare vagrant.

A single bird of this species was seen by Rev. S. Cornish Watkins flying overhead at Staunton-on-Arrow on 16th July, 1917. He identified it by its size and white underparts.

225. THE SWIFT. *Apus apus apus* (L.)
Common summer visitor and breeding.

227. THE NIGHTJAR. *Caprimulgus europaeus europaeus*, L.
Regular but local summer visitor and breeding, also passage migrant.

BULL. Not infrequent in the northern and western districts of the county but is comparatively rare elsewhere.

HORNE. Abundant in the Herefordshire district—may frequently be heard at Rotherwas.

HUTCHINSON. A common resident from May to September.

V.C.H. A common summer migrant.

Local, tending to appear where a sloping wood has recently been felled, and before much rank growth of herbage or scrub has asserted itself: disappearing again from that locality when the ground loses its bare character.

231. THE BEE-EATER. *Merops apiaster*, L.
Rare vagrant.

A pair frequented a garden at Kimbolton for about six weeks during the summer of 1875 (Hutchinson). The only record.

232. THE HOPOE. *Upupa epops epops*, L.
Rare visitor.

There are about fifteen records of the hoopoe in Herefordshire. All occurred between April and September, except for records of one in November, 1879, and of a pair of hoopoes seen by several persons near Bodenham on Christmas Day a few years back. The most recent record is of a hoopoe seen in several gardens in St. Margaret's Road, Hereford, between 24th and 26th May, 1949.

233. THE ROLLER. *Coracias garrulus garrulus*, L.
Rare vagrant.

A specimen in the Hereford Museum is labelled "Goodrich 1857"—(Bull).

234. THE KINGFISHER. *Alcedo atthis ispida*, L.
Resident and breeding—here and there on all rivers.

235. THE GREEN WOODPECKER. *Picus viridis pluvius*, Hart.
Plentiful, resident and breeding.

237. THE BRITISH GREAT SPOTTED WOODPECKER.
Dryobates major anglicus (Hart.)

Plentiful, resident and breeding, chiefly in woodland, but also to be found wherever there is old timber in gardens or hedgerows.

238. THE BRITISH LESSER SPOTTED WOODPECKER.
Dryobates minor comminutus (Hart.)
Uncommon resident and breeding.

In 1829 W. H. Hill recorded (*Loudon's Magazine*, N.H. II, p. 387), that "*Picus minor*" abounds in the large oak groves in Herefordshire. It is a remarkable fact that Napoleon affected the status of the tree sparrow and the lesser spotted woodpecker in Herefordshire.

Mr. E. F. Bulmer has given us this information. During the Napoleonic wars, foodstuffs such as barley became scarce and in consequence beer became expensive. The people took to drinking cider, for which there was a great demand. Hundreds of thousands of gallons were exported down the Wye, then a busy river. To fill this demand, great numbers of apple orchards were planted. This demand continued into the Victorian era, when the cider-makers began to use lead to join the two halves of the stone-crushing mills. The malic acid absorbed some of the lead, and there were cases of lead poisoning. From that moment the sale of cider ceased abruptly, but the orchards remained.¹ Gradually the trees became old and decayed, and the orchards became a paradise for nesting tree-sparrows and lesser spotted woodpeckers. The life of an apple tree is roughly a hundred years, though it may linger on in decay

¹ Dr. H. E. Durham has sent us the following facts on Herefordshire Orchards:—

"The 'Devonshire colic', which was annually epidemic, was found by the celebrated Doctor Sydenham to be due to lead poisoning, I think, at the end of the 18th century. Other counties jeered at Devon and its poisonous cider; Hereford, Somerset, etc., were all right.

"During the Napoleonic wars, French wines could no longer be obtained and also patriotic motives looked for some home-produced beverage to take their place. Thus much attention was paid to cider and to the increase of orchards or to their renewal. Centuries before, Worlidge had described the county as 'one huge orchard'. Another factor at the commencement of the nineteenth century was the influence of our great pomologist, Thomas Andrew Knight, and much planting and renewal must have been done at his instigation. Another boom in orchard renewal occurred in the eighties of last century through the influence of Dr. H. G. Bull, Dr. R. Hogg, and Mr. Radcliffe Cooke. Trees then planted are now getting past their prime (over forty to fifty years) and, like the few survivors of the T. A. Knight period, are becoming decayed through loss of branches, canker and other disease. Such old damaged trees are a paradise for the nesting of tree-sparrows and lesser spotted woodpeckers, but their disappearance has been accentuated by later clearings of the old trees and plantations since the war of 1914-18. The average life of an apple tree is estimated at about eighty years, though some individual trees may survive to nearly twice that figure. Anyhow, with the disappearance and diminution in numbers of old apple trees these birds no longer have such favourable sites for their nesting habits."

up to one hundred and fifty years. Hence after the war, 1914-18, there were many old decaying orchards in Herefordshire, each the home of a colony of tree-sparrows and of a pair of lesser spotted woodpeckers. However, by 1940 these orchards had nearly all disappeared, and no longer is our county the paradise for tree sparrows and lesser spotted woodpeckers that it was once. The woodpeckers, especially the green and lesser spotted, suffered severely in the 1947 frost. The greater spotted, a bird with a more northerly range than the other two species and better adapted to severe winter conditions, became in consequence our commonest woodpecker, and at the moment of writing (1951) is still commoner than the green, though the latter bird is again rapidly increasing in numbers.

238A. [THE BLACK WOODPECKER. *Dryocopus martius martius* (L.)
Rare vagrant.

There can be no doubt of its having been observed on several occasions in Herefordshire. (Bull.) The recorded instances are as follows:

One in Ruckhall woods, Eaton Bishop, June? 1874, by the Rev. Clement Ley and E. W. Dubuisson: one at Belmont in spring 1879 by D. R. Chapman: two at Frogmore by Capt. Mayne Reid in 1880.

These records were not accepted by Yarrell, Newton, Saunders, Seeborn or Witherby, but the extreme reliability of the Rev. Clement Ley and the fact that he both heard and saw the bird flying at 20 yards' distance and in a good light, having already had experience of the bird's appearance and note on the continent, are very strongly in favour of his record's authenticity. Its occurrence at Dinas, Brecon, in 1885 was recorded by E. Cambridge Phillips, F.L.S., an ornithologist of high standing. The birds may of course have escaped from captivity. Any one interested in this old controversy should refer to Cambridge Phillips' paper on the subject (*W.C. Trans. and Zool.* 1889), to Mayne Reid's *Naturalist in Siluria*, 1889, and Townsend's article (*Zool.* 1902).]

239. THE WRYNECK. *Jynx torquilla torquilla*, L.

Formerly well known summer visitor and breeding—now extremely rare.

BULL.	A regular summer visitor and pretty generally distributed throughout the county.
HORNE.	A constant summer visitor.
HUTCHINSON.	Resident from March to September—breeding.
V.C.H.	Occurs in the Ross district and locally throughout the county.

R. M. Lingwood, *Ann. Nat. Hist.*, Vol. V, p. 184 (1840), mentions the wryneck in S.E. Hereford.

The Handbook, 1938, Vol. II, p. 293, says of the wryneck:

"Distribution—England and Wales; has decreased and it is now absent or scarce in many localities where formerly well known."

During the last thirty years we have seen the wryneck in Herefordshire once and only heard of two nests. It is a noisy bird in spring and on that account not easily overlooked. Therefore it appears that the wryneck, once well-known in the county, is now nearly extinct as a breeding bird; but it is included in the list on account of its former abundance.

Mrs. Kennedy Orton, daughter of Rev. Clement Ley, and herself an ornithologist, assured us that forty years ago it was to be found in the Ross district, nesting in holes in orchard trees.

240. THE CUCKOO. *Cuculus canorus canorus*, L.

Common visitor and breeding.

WILLIAMS' COLLECTION. The following 20 species of fosterers are recorded in Herefordshire by Dr. Williams: thrush, blackbird, tree-pipit, spotted flycatcher, robin, willow-wren, whitethroat, reed-warbler, hedge-sparrow, greenfinch, pied wagtail, grey wagtail, redstart, bullfinch, wren, sedge-warbler, garden-warbler, yellow-hammer, curl bunting, chaffinch, redpoll.

249. THE LITTLE OWL. *Athene noctua vidalii*, A. E. Brehm.
W.C.T. 1869, p. 158. Mentioned in Rev. Robert Blight's list of birds seen at Bredwardine 1864-9. Introduced to Great Britain 1879, 1889, 1896. Recorded at Acton Beauchamp, May, 1911. *British Birds*, Vol. 5, p. 195.

Resident and breeding.

It was seen in 1918 at Breinton by Canon W. B. Glennie (*W.C.T.* 1918) and by H. A. Gilbert at Canon Frome in 1919. The invasion came up the valleys, and the riverside meadows were first colonized. By 1922 the little owl was nesting in many places, and it is now distributed everywhere in the county, though it had decreased in numbers by 1940 and suffered a further severe reduction in the great frost of 1947.

250. THE LONG-EARED OWL. *Asio otus otus* (L.)

Believed to be resident and breeding.

BULL.	Nest near Aymestrey in March, 1884.
HUTCHINSON.	Quotes Dr. Williams—has nested at Shobdon and Croft, and seen at Berrington.

WILLIAMS' COLLECTION. Two nests recorded, both at Shobdon in 1888.

We have never proved that this owl breeds in Herefordshire though we have found nests in neighbouring counties, and have seen the bird in Herefordshire frequently in winter. We believe, however, that the long-eared owl still nests in north-west Herefordshire, and it certainly nests in Radnorshire in suitable areas in some numbers.

251. THE SHORT-EARED OWL. *Asio flammeus flammeus* (Pontopp.)

Rare passage migrant—a rare winter visitor.

BULL. Always rare.

HORNE. Scarce.

HUTCHINSON. A rare resident.

This owl can be flushed (chiefly in November) off bracken or gorse covered slopes; and even at times out of turnip fields—but it is never easy to find, and does not breed in the county.

253. THE BRITISH TAWNY OWL. *Strix aluco sylvatica*, Shaw.
Common resident and breeding in all wooded areas.

254. THE WHITE-BREASTED BARN-OWL. *Tyto alba alba* (Scop.)

Resident and breeding, but not common.

259. THE PEREGRINE FALCON. *Falco peregrinus peregrinus*, Tunst.

BULL. A very rare visitor to Herefordshire.

HUTCHINSON. Now a rare visitor but formerly bred in the county.

HORNE. An occasional visitor.

The peregrine falcon breeds close to the border though not within the county, and is resident in the sense that the bird hunts for food over Herefordshire soil throughout the year.

The peregrine both as a passage migrant and as a winter visitor is not uncommon.

261. THE HOBBY. *Falco subbuteo subbuteo*, L.

BULL. Not infrequent throughout the wooded districts of the county.

HUTCHINSON. Rare, resident from May to September.

HORNE. A few appear most summers.

The hobby is a regular summer visitor in very small numbers. It probably nests annually in the county, but the bird does not constantly use the same locality as it does in some other parts of

England, and the nest in consequence is not easy to find. The authors have seen two nests only, in 1930 and in 1953, though they have seen birds every summer. Nests were reported at Weobley in 1946, at Moorhampton in 1951, and at Titley in 1952. A nest was found in 1953, and fledging was successful.

262. THE MERLIN. *Falco columbarius aesalon*, Tunst.

BULL. Usually a winter visitor, but sometimes stays to breed in Herefordshire. The Rev. Clement Ley has taken its eggs in May from beneath the heather on the Fwddog mountain.

HORNE. Scarce.

HUTCHINSON. Rare resident. Breeding.

The Fwddog, though once part of Herefordshire, is now included in Monmouthshire. The merlin breeds regularly in the Black Mountains and probably does so at times among the heather on the Herefordshire portion of that area.

This falcon is also not rare as a passage migrant, particularly in autumn (September).

263. THE KESTREL. *Falco tinnunculus tinnunculus*, L.

BULL. The most common of all the hawks.

HORNE. Very general.

HUTCHINSON. A common resident but becoming rarer.

Resident and generally distributed but by no means a very common bird, owing to persecution.

In winter the kestrel becomes much commoner, especially when comparatively mild and dry conditions have favoured the field vole. The increase is no doubt due to migrant birds.

267. THE SPOTTED EAGLE. *Aquila clanga*, Pall.

Rare vagrant.

An immature bird was shot near Brinsop Court on 15th Nov., 1915.

268. THE ROUGH-LEGGED BUZZARD. *Buteo lagopus lagopus* (Pontopp.)

Rare vagrant.

A specimen was killed at Yatton Court, Kingsland, in November 1879. (Hutch.)

269. THE COMMON BUZZARD. *Buteo buteo buteo* (L.)

BULL. The least rare of the large hawks—nested in the Doward Wood in 1881, and on the ruins of Goodrich Castle in 1886.

HORNE. Far from numerous. Bred at Bishopswood in 1881.

HUTCHINSON. Resident, becoming rare.

Seventy years ago the buzzard was not uncommon, at any rate in the woods near Ross. Incessant persecution caused the bird to become extinct in the county except as a rare vagrant; but after the war, 1914-1918, it returned and began to nest again. Nowadays there are many nests every year in the county and the bird's increase has been maintained.

In some areas of W. Herefordshire, where it has become very common, it is now being accused of taking young mallard, partridges, moor-hens, and, occasionally, domestic chickens.

272. MONTAGU'S HARRIER. *Circus pygargus* (L.)

Rare vagrant.

A pair was seen at Ross-on-Wye, 15th Sept., 1945. (B.B., 39: 192.)

273. THE HEN-HARRIER. *Circus cyaneus cyaneus* (L.)

Rare winter visitor.

About 1870 not infrequently seen in the Ross district, at Breinton, Monnington and Bredwardine. (Bull, quoting Rev. C. Ley.)

There are five county records for the 1870's and 80's and six in the present century, including a male seen at Kington on 21st April, 1948, and a cock and a hen about a year later at Dilwyn. A cock bird was seen by the River Lugg near Hereford on 16th Nov., 1952.

277. THE SPARROW-HAWK. *Accipiter nisus nisus* (L.)

Resident and breeding.

278. THE KITE. *Milvus milvus milvus* (L.)

Formerly resident. Now extinct as a breeding bird.

BULL. Some years ago the kite nested in Brampton Bryan Park. The keeper, by patient watching, managed to shoot the male bird; the female found a new mate and returned to share the same fate.

HORNE. Getting very rare.

HUTCHINSON. Resident, but becoming very rare, if not extinct in the county. Breeding.

"The kite was once no stranger to these hills and within the last fifty years, Dr. Booker, in his *Letters on Malvern*, thus mentions the bird, as if not then very uncommon: 'So singular was the

serenity of the air at that elevation, that while over his head a kite was taking his pastime on steady outstretched pinions, a downy feather dropt from it in almost a perpendicular direction'."

My friend, Mr. Jabez Allies, the observant author of the *Antiquities and Folk Lore of Worcestershire*, has informed me that in his youthful days the kite was well known about Alfrick. (From *Pictures of Nature in the Silurian Regions around the Malvern Hills*, by Edwin Lees, 1856, p. 17.)

Dr. Booker's observation was made about 1812 and recorded in a footnote to one of his letters.

W.C.T., 1869, The kite is almost a bird of the past in our county. Last week in the parish of Sellack we had a fine view of a pair of these birds. In the woods that border the Wye Valley between Ross and Monmouth, they may still be seen, but are rapidly disappearing under the ruthless persecution of the gamekeeper. (The Rev. W. C. Ley.)

LINGWOOD, 1840. "Only inserted in list on the authority of my gamekeeper."

The kite is included in the list because, after being extinct for many years, it has lately been seen within the county on several occasions.

280. THE WHITE-TAILED EAGLE. *Haliaeetus albicilla* (L.)

Rare passage migrant.

One was trapped at Hampton Court about 1850; a female shot at Berrington 1875; one seen near Leominster 1896, was later shot and is in Hereford Museum. One was shot near Hereford in 1908, one seen near Eardisley 1917, and one seen at Staunton-on-Arrow 1947.

281. THE HONEY-BUZZARD. *Pernis apivorus apivorus* (L.)

Formerly summer visitor and breeding, but now extinct.

BULL. Some few years since the honey-buzzard was not uncommon, but it has now become very scarce from the relentless persecution of the gamekeepers. About 10 years since the Hereford bird-stuffers had two or three honey-buzzards brought to them every year. In 1880 three were brought from Whitfield to be stuffed. The old bird was sold at a bazaar in aid of St. Devereux church, and for the young birds the keeper asked the prohibitory price of £5.

HORNE. Rare.

HUTCHINSON. Rare resident from May to November. Breeding.

Bred at Whitfield, 1877.

Bred at Bishop's-wood, Ross, 1895—eggs taken and old birds killed.

W.C.T., 1869, A female shot from her nest in Newent p. 72. Wood.¹ The nest contained three eggs.

Zoologist, 1879, In 1877 the honey-buzzard nested at p. 132. Whitfield. The young were taken and the old birds killed.

The Field, The butler at Gayton Hall reports a Aug. 20th, honey-buzzard trapped in Queen's 1881. Wood.

The Naturalist's A pair of honey-buzzards shot this Journal, summer on an estate within 5 miles of 1895, p. 276. Ross. Two eggs were also taken.

Zoologist, 1911, The latest record of nesting in England p. 149. appears to be from Herefordshire in 1895. (F. C. R. Jourdain.)

Ditto, p. 199. "I found the honey-buzzard's egg on 8th June, 1867, in Penyard Wood, in an old nest—relined—of the common buzzard.

In 1868 I disturbed a honey-buzzard from an old buzzard's nest in Hacker's Hole, about half a mile from Penyard Wood." (Letter of W. C. Palmer.)

"In 1883 (or 1885) a honey-buzzard was seen on various occasions at Cradley by members of the Carter family." (Letter from Mr. G. N. Carter.)

Let us hope that both this beautiful and harmless bird and the kite may return to us as the buzzard and raven have done, and that, if they do, both the gamekeeper and the collector will give protection and not molest the eggs or the parent birds.

284. THE OSPREY. *Pandion haliaëtus haliaëtus* (L.)

Rare passage migrant.

BULL. One was shot near Fownhope in October, 1879.

An adult bird frequented the decoy pool, Shobdon, from 23rd till 29th September, 1949. The next day an osprey was seen at Cabalva on the Wye near Whitney, where it was seen daily

¹ This wood is in Gloucestershire, on the boundary of Herefordshire.

until mid-October. On 16th Oct. one was seen at Whitchurch-on-Wye. It is presumed that these reports refer to the same bird. An osprey was reported to have been seen for one day at Shobdon in April, 1951, and occurrences of birds on spring migration were recorded also in 1952 and 1953.

288. THE GLOSSY IBIS. *Plegadis falcinellus falcinellus* (L.)

Rare vagrant.

One was obtained in December, 1902, at Winforton and a second bird seen in the neighbourhood. (B.B. 14: 139.)

A young bird was shot at Castle-end, near Ross, on 2nd Sept., 1920. (W.T. 1920: 219.)

289. THE COMMON HERON. *Ardea cinerea cinerea*, L.

Resident and breeding.

BULL. Not infrequent. In the early 18th century there was a heronry at the Moor within a mile of the city of Hereford. Others at Brampton Bryan, Lingen, the Moor near Hay and at Canon Frome. Heronries existing reduced to two; one at Berrington near Leominster and the other at Letton.

HORNE. Common.

HUTCHINSON. Common resident. Nests at Bredwardine, Eywood, Knill, Canon Frome, Letton and Berrington.

The Field, Records destruction during that spring May 1st, of a heronry within 3 miles of the City 1915. —16 to 18 nests. The nests were in large wild cherry trees. This was at Rotherwas.

Rarer than in former times and decreasing. Now nests at four places in the county, of which one is a heronry consisting of about 40 nests. Another a mere remnant of two or three occupied nests is all that remains of the heronry formerly existing at Rotherwas (see above). The other two heronries are also very small—two nests or so occupied in each.

294. THE SQUACCO HERON. *Ardeola ralloides* (Scop.)

Rare vagrant.

Bull records a party of five of these birds as having spent some 10 days on the Wye 5 miles above Hereford in the summer of 1873. One of these was shot.

Another shot on the Wye on 3rd May, 1867, and recorded by Bull was probably shot not in Herefordshire, but just over the Welsh border, and the occurrence is not included by Horne or Hutchinson.

295. THE NIGHT-HERON. *Nycticorax nycticorax nycticorax* (L.)
Rare vagrant.

BULL. "The specimen in Hereford Museum . . . is labelled 'Backney Marsh, a marsh situated about two miles from Ross . . .'"
(A list compiled by W. Blake, of Ross, mentions "Backney Marsh bird, 1837.")

One found above Wilton bridge, Ross, W.C.T. 1912, p. 47.
[Two other records, one of a bird taken about 1876 (*Vict. C. Hist.*) and one of two birds seen flying over Kington on 16th July, 1947, cannot be claimed as fully authenticated.]

296. THE LITTLE BITTERN. *Ixobrychus minutus minutus* (L.)
Rare vagrant.

Dr. Bull mentions two instances of this bird having been obtained in Herefordshire. There have been no further occurrences.

297. THE BITTERN. *Botaurus stellaris stellaris* (L.)
Rare vagrant.

Bull says that the bittern was moderately plentiful in Herefordshire at the beginning of the 19th century. There are fifteen records of single birds shot in the county in the last hundred years. There is no record for the county for the 40 years between 1887 and 1917, but since its re-establishment as a breeding-species in Norfolk, four have been shot in Herefordshire—an index of ignorance or callousness not to the county's credit.

300. THE WHOOPER SWAN. *Cygnus cygnus* (L.)
Rare winter visitor.

BULL. One shot near Ross, 1854.
HUTCHINSON. Five seen at Whitney 1854, one of which was shot.

A flock of ten were seen on the flooded Lugg meadows at Tidnor on 29th and 30th March, 1947, in company with Bewick's and mute swans, and for one day in the following winter on Eastnor moat, again accompanied by Bewick's. Two were seen on a small pool near Leominster on 17th April, 1953.

301. BEWICK'S SWAN. *Cygnus bewickii bewickii*, Yarr.
Rare winter visitor.

A Bewick's swan was killed near Ross in 1854. One was killed at Dadnor in the winter of 1885-6, and two immature birds, out of a flock of four, were killed in the Ross area on 28th Dec., 1890. (W.C.T. 1947, p. 162, Hutch., and V. Hist.)

Two were seen along with whoopers at Tidnor in 1947, and (number not specified) at Eastnor in 1948 (see previous note—whooper swan).

302. THE MUTE SWAN. *Cygnus olor* (Gm.)
Common resident and breeding.

304. THE WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE. *Anser albifrons albifrons* (Scop.)

Regular passage migrant. Of late years a small flock has wintered in the county.

Grey geese pass over Herefordshire annually in some numbers. At Slimbridge, where grey geese spend the winter in large numbers, and where the geese seen over Herefordshire are passing to, or returning from, the white-fronted goose is by far the most numerous. It is probable that both the grey-lag and the pink-footed goose also pass over the county, but we do not include the grey-lag in the list because we have no proof of its doing so. Undoubtedly the grey goose which settles on Herefordshire soil is the white-fronted.

There is one regular winter-haunt of the species in the county, and the number of geese frequenting the area appears to be increasing, thanks to the protection afforded them by the gentleman whose land they feed on. Between 1940 and 1945 50 to 60 geese were generally present: in 1953 the number was 140 to 150, and 110 to 120 in 1954. The flock usually arrives at the end of November or early in December, but in 1953-54 not until January, the early winter being a very mild one: they migrate northwards at the end of February or the beginning of March. A small flock formerly wintered regularly at Allensmore bog, but drainage done about ten years ago has made the terrain unsuitable.

306. THE BEAN-GOOSE. *Anser fabalis fabalis* (Lath.)
Rare passage migrant.

Bull thought that flocks not infrequently passed over Herefordshire but there are only two certain records. A bird was killed at Mordiford in 1881, and two were shot out of a flock of 14 at Wilton during the first week of December, 1921.

307. THE PINK-FOOTED GOOSE. *Anser fabalis brachyrhynchus*, Baillon
Rare passage migrant.

One was killed near Moccas in the winter 1879-80, and one near Lugg Mills in December, 1880.

[A solitary bird of this species frequented some stubbles at Sutton St. Nicholas during February, 1952, but its comparative tameness marked it as an escaped captive bird.]

308. [THE SNOW-GOOSE. *Anser hyperboreus hyperboreus*, Pall.
Rare vagrant.
A pair of these birds were seen flying north over flooded meadow land at Shelwick on 28th January, 1937. Escaped captive birds?]
311. THE BARNACLE-GOOSE. *Branta leucopsis* (Bechst.)
Rare passage migrant.
A female was shot at a pool near St. Weonards but no date is given by Dr. Bull for this—the only—county record.
312. THE BRENT GOOSE. *Branta bernicla subsp.* (L.)
Rare passage migrant.
One was shot out of a flock near Mordiford on 16th January, 1939. This bird was of subspecies *hrota* (light-breasted). A skein of 22 flew low over Hereford in a southerly direction on 24th August, 1950.
314. THE CANADA GOOSE. *Branta canadensis canadensis* (L.)
Rare vagrant. Has bred.
Two flocks were seen on the Wye in the winter of 1885-6. One male bird was shot from one of these flocks at Goodrich. A pair took up residence and nested at Brampton Bryan in 1952. Swans drove them from Brampton Bryan in the spring of 1953, but the birds nested beside the Lugg near Leintwardine.
315. THE SHELD-DUCK. *Tadorna tadorna* (L.)
Uncommon passage migrant.
There are about a dozen records of sheld-duck, single birds or twos or threes, nearly all on the banks of Wye or Lugg, or on flooded meadows.
316. [THE RUDDY SHELD-DUCK. *Casarca ferruginea* (Pall.)
Rare vagrant.
Hutchinson reports one shot at Holme Lacy in 1892. Two were seen flying about and settling on meadows at Shelwick on 7th February, 1937, but they were presumed to be escaped captive birds.]
317. THE MALLARD. *Anas platyrhynchos platyrhynchos*, L.
Common and resident. Breeding.
318. THE GADWALL. *Anas strepera* L.
A lone female of this species was shot at Much Marcle on 31st December, 1953, the only record for the county.

319. THE TEAL. *Anas crecca crecca*, L.
Winter visitor in some numbers. A few remain to breed.
The teal has bred at Brampton Bryan, Sarnesfield, Moccas, Allensmore, Brockhampton near Bromyard, Letton, Bredwardine and Wigmore Moor.
322. THE GARGANEY. *Anas querquedula*, L.
Rare summer visitor.
There are only three Herefordshire records, a bird killed at Moccas in 1882; a pair, one of which, a drake, was shot near Leominster in the spring of 1893; a drake seen at Aymestrey pool on 7th March, 1949.
323. THE WIGEON. *Anas penelope*, L.
A regular winter visitor in numbers which vary according to climatic conditions.
In wet winters many wigeon visit the county and feed on the flooded meadows. A favourite haunt is the Wye between Bredwardine Bridge and Whitney.
325. THE PINTAIL. *Anas acuta acuta*, L.
Winter visitor but not common.
Small flocks of pintail come every winter to the Wye or flooded Lugg.
326. THE SHOVELER. *Spatula clypeata* (L.)
Uncommon winter visitor, but also breeding.
For some years two or three pairs of shoveler bred in one locality in the county.
328. THE COMMON POCHARD. *Aythya ferina* (L.)
A winter visitor in small numbers.
330. THE TUFTED DUCK. *Aythya fuligula* (L.)
Winter visitor, also breeding.
Tufted ducks visit several pools in the county annually, e.g., Eastnor, Eywood and Shobdon, where they remain until May. At Eywood the tufted duck appears to breed and the nest has been found.
331. THE SCAUP-DUCK. *Aythya marila marila* (L.)
Rare winter visitor.
There are half-a-dozen records of birds shot in winter on the Herefordshire Wye—in 1851, 1855, 1890, 1892, 1894 and 1895

The Rev. Cornish Watkins saw several scaup at Shobdon in early January, 1917.

332. THE GOLDENEYE. *Bucephala clangula clangula* (L.)
Scarce winter visitor and regular passage migrant.

A few goldeneye can be seen annually on the Wye, chiefly during the spring migration.

339. THE COMMON SCOTER. *Melanitta nigra nigra* (L.)
Rare winter visitor.

Bull says it sometimes pays a passing visit to the upper reaches of the Wye in Herefordshire. Birds were shot at Goodrich in 1891 and 1894, and seen near Backney in 1919.

An exhausted scoter drake was picked up at Woonton by Col. A. P. J. Hibbert during the severe weather early in 1947.

342. THE GOOSANDER. *Mergus merganser merganser*, L.
Regular winter visitor, remaining until April.

343. THE RED-BREASTED MERGANSER. *Mergus serrator*, L.
Rare winter visitor.

Of the two "saw bills" visiting the Wye the goosander is by far the commoner. In fact it is by no means easy to find the merganser though one or two visit the river almost annually.

344. THE SMEW. *Mergus albellus*, L.
Rare vagrant.

Hutchinson, Cambridge Phillips and Blake mention a female killed near Ross, apparently in 1895, and Phillips states that a male had been obtained by Col. de Winton (no date).

346. THE CORMORANT. *Phalacrocorax carbo carbo* (L.)

A not uncommon visitor at all seasons.

It is perhaps commonest in late summer and autumn, but a single bird or a pair may be seen in any month flying up or down the Wye or Lugg, or perched upon a post or tree to dry its wings after fishing in the river.

The Rev. Prebendary S. Cornish Watkins wrote: "One of the most curious occurrences of the year was the appearance, on 14th May, of eight cormorants, who settled for a time on the tower of the Cathedral, to the great disgust of those Canons Residentiary, the jackdaws." *W.C.T.* 1929, iii, 226.

348. THE SHAG. *Phalacrocorax aristotelis aristotelis* (L.)
Rare vagrant.

There are four records only, none in the last 50 years: a first-year male was killed while resting on All Saints' steeple, Hereford, on 11th October, 1876: immature bird killed at Ross in January, 1892: another at Eardisley, 22nd February, 1898: one brought alive to Mrs. Blake at Ross in January, 1902, was presented to Hereford Museum.

349. THE GANNET. *Sula bassana* (L.)
Rare vagrant.

Bull mentions a young bird picked up in an exhausted state at Peterchurch in 1881, while Hutchinson gives two further records for that year—one near Mordiford, and one at Preston-on-Wye, and one shot or found at Hereford in 1876. An apparently uninjured adult bird was found sitting on a garden path at Aylestone Hill, Hereford, on 17th September, 1935, after a gale: it flew away westwards. An adult bird was found near Callow on 1st June, 1942, in an injured condition: it was fed on fish for about a fortnight, but died without recovering its power of flight. An injured bird was caught at Leominster on 6th June, 1949. One was found on Flintsham Pool on 22nd September, 1953, after a severe gale.

- 349A. [THE RED-BILLED TROPIC-BIRD. *Phaethon aethereus*, L.
Rare vagrant.

A stuffed specimen of this equatorial species in a collection at Cradley was said to have been found dead in Herefordshire on an unknown date. There is no other British record. *Handbook* 4: 25, etc.]

350. THE STORM-PETREL. *Hydrobates pelagicus* (L.)
Rare vagrant.

One was shot at Shobdon in December, 1867, one killed at Foy 1877, and one was found dead at Rotherwas after a two-day gale on 12th November, 1936.

351. LEACH'S FORK-TAILED PETREL. *Oceanodroma leucorhoa leucorhoa* (Vieill.)
Rare vagrant.

Specimens were picked up dead in 1832, at Dewsall in the severe snowstorm 1879-80, at Moccas in September 1905, and at Kington on 26th November, 1929.

Dead or dying Leach's petrels were found at Pontrilas (2), Stretton Grandison, Moreton-on-Lugg and Walford, Leintwardine during the last days of October and first of November, 1952, on the occasion of the widespread "wreck" of so many of this species in this country.

355. THE MANX SHEARWATER. *Puffinus puffinus puffinus* (Brünn.)

Rare vagrant.

There are eleven Herefordshire records, all autumnal, one in August, seven in September, and one in October. In two cases the month is not specified. The more recent records are for birds found dead at Eardisland on 18th September, 1935, at Leominster in October, 1946, one in injured condition at Leominster on 18th September, 1950, and one at Kingsland on 13th September, 1953.

368. THE FULMAR PETREL. *Fulmarus glacialis glacialis* (L.)

Rare vagrant.

The museum specimen (an immature bird) was caught at Pontrilas in October, 1889.

370. THE GREAT CRESTED GREBE. *Podiceps cristatus cristatus* (L.)

Resident and breeding.

The great crested grebe has bred on four lakes in the county. Four broods fledged successfully in 1950, and three or four in every season since.

371. THE RED-NECKED GREBE. *Podiceps griseigena griseigena* (Bodd.)

Rare vagrant.

Specimens have been shot on the Wye near Ross on three occasions: October, 1881, January, 1889, and 7th February, 1895.

373. THE SLAVONIAN GREBE. *Podiceps auritus* (L.)

Rare vagrant.

Hereford museum specimen is labelled "Hereford, 1849". A male bird was shot at Kingsland on 19th February, 1895.

374. THE BLACK-NECKED GREBE. *Podiceps nigricollis nigricollis*, Brehm.

Rare vagrant.

One was shot on the Wye near Sugwas in 1879, and one seen on Burcott pool on 14th April, 1903.

375. THE LITTLE GREBE. *Podiceps ruficollis ruficollis* (Pall.)

Common resident and breeding.

This grebe breeds on many lakes and ponds in the county and can be seen on the Wye and Lugg in winter.

376. THE GREAT NORTHERN DIVER. *Colymbus immer*, Brünn.

Rare vagrant.

Bull records a female shot about 1867 at Ross; Horne records one at Peterchurch in 1880, while Hutchinson states that the two specimens in Hereford Museum were obtained at Clifford and Holme Lacy—four occurrences in all.

378. THE BLACK-THROATED DIVER. *Colymbus arcticus arcticus*, L.

Rare vagrant.

One was caught at Kinnersley in 1891, and one shot on the Wye near Ross on 17th December, 1927.

379. THE RED-THROATED DIVER. *Colymbus stellatus*, Pontopp.

Rare vagrant.

There are five records of this bird having been shot on the Wye, all in winter, and all in the neighbourhood of Ross. The most recent occurrence was in 1887.

380. THE WOOD-PIGEON. *Columba palumbus palumbus*, L.

Common resident and breeding, also common passage migrant and winter visitor.

381. THE STOCK-DOVE. *Columba oenas*, L.

Common resident and breeding.

382. [THE ROCK-DOVE. *Columba livia livia*, Gm.]

Bull's statement that the rock-dove bred at Stanner Rocks was founded on J. W. Lloyd's list (*W.C.T.* 1869: 80) and cannot be accepted without reserve.]

383. THE TURTLE-DOVE. *Streptopelia turtur turtur* (L.)

Not uncommon summer visitor, breeding.

385. [PALLAS'S SAND-GROUSE. *Syrhaptes paradoxus* (Pall.)

Rare vagrant.

Hutchinson states: "Mr. B. Saunders, of Kingsland, states that some years ago, probably 1888, some sand-grouse flew low down over his head while playing tennis. They were travelling northward.—Williams." Probably authentic.]

386. THE BAR-TAILED GODWIT. *Limosa lapponica lapponica* (L.)

Rare vagrant.

One was shot at Mordiford in 1839, and one shot at Fawley in 1879 is now in Hereford museum.

387. THE BLACK-TAILED GODWIT. *Limosa limosa limosa* (L.)
Rare vagrant.

The bird now in Hereford museum was shot on the Lugg in March, 1876.

388. THE COMMON CURLEW. *Numenius arquata arquata* (L.)
Common summer visitor and breeding.

BULL. Breeds on the Herefordshire portion of the Black Mountains.

HUTCHINSON. Local resident during the breeding season. Nested at Shobdon and Aymestrey, 1899 (Williams).

W.C.T., 1911, The President was asked if he had reason to believe the curlew was coming to cultivated land. He replied in the affirmative.

The increase of the curlew during the years 1915 to 1940 was startling. The birds now nest over all our river valleys and low ground where they were unknown before the war, 1914-18. Saturation point has probably now been reached and their numbers have remained fairly constant in recent years.

389. THE WHIMBREL. *Numenius phaeopus phaeopus* (L.)
Passage migrant.

There are only four records of the Whimbrel—either shot or seen—on Hereford soil, but its unmistakable cry has often been heard on cloudy nights as flocks passed over on spring or autumn migration.

393. THE WOODCOCK. *Scolopax rusticola*, L.
Winter visitor, also resident and breeding; has increased.

BULL. The number of woodcocks that now remain to breed is believed to exceed very largely that of former years.

One of the earliest records of nesting in England was of a woodcock's nest in Queen's Wood, Ross, in 1766. The site is in Gloucestershire, close to the Hereford border. (vide *Annual Register* 1766.)

Dr. Bull gives as the first record of breeding 3rd May, 1848.

Nowadays the woodcock nests in practically every large woodland in the county.

394. THE GREAT SNIPE. *Capella media* (Lath.)
Rare vagrant.

Horne gives two instances of single birds seen at Rotherwas, the dates being 1886 and 1887.

395. THE COMMON SNIPE. *Capella gallinago gallinago* (L.)
Resident and breeding.

BULL. The abundance of the common snipe has given way much in Herefordshire to the reclamation by drainage of the wet marshy lands.

Dr. Bull's remarks apply at the present day, but snipe still nest on some marshy fields, though drainage has caused a great decrease in their numbers.

398. THE JACK SNIPE. *Lymnocyptes minimus* (Brünn.)
Winter visitor, but never common.

It is only on a few of the wettest swamps and river-banks in the county that the jack snipe can be seen in winter.

400. THE GREY PHALAROPE. *Phalaropus fulicarius* (L.)
Rare passage migrant.

There are sixteen Herefordshire records, six of which occurred in September and October, 1890. The most recent occurrences were in November, 1930, in the north of the county, and in September, 1950, when a single bird spent a week (7th-14th September) on a large pond at Preston Wynne.

402. THE TURNSTONE. *Arenaria interpres interpres* (L.)
Rare vagrant.

A specimen in the Museum was labelled "Backney Marsh 1859"—Bull.

403. THE KNOT. *Calidris canutus canutus* (L.)
Rare vagrant.

One was killed at Dewsall in 1879, one was seen at Llanwarne in March, 1883, and one found in a field at Newcourt in 1884. One was seen feeding in company with a ruff at Hereford sewage works during hard frost on 1st February, 1954.

404. THE DUNLIN. *Calidris alpina* (subsp.).
405. Rare passage migrant.

H. Southall of Ross (W.C.T. 1883-5) says that the Dunlin "seems to occur more frequently than formerly, though by no means common". Two were shot in the Lugg meadows in 1880, and one at Eardisland on 5th November, 1895. One was seen at Hereford sewage works on 11th July, 1945, and one on Kington golf course on 15th August, 1948. The Eardisland bird belonged to the northern subspecies (*Alpina*), while the two last-named may have been southern dunlin (*Schinzii*). A specimen was picked up

in dying condition at Widemarsh during hard frost on 3rd February, 1954, and one was seen feeding at Hereford sewage works on the following day (both *alpina*).

417. THE RUFF. *Philomachus pugnax* (L.)
Rare vagrant.

A male was taken at Garnstone on 31st August, 1894. A single male in winter plumage frequented the tips and tanks at Hereford sewage works for a few days during the hard frost of January-February 1954. The bird was extremely tame, allowing approach to about three yards.

421. THE COMMON SANDPIPER. *Actitis hypoleucos* (L.)
Summer visitor and breeding.

Above Hereford there are many pairs on the Wye in the breeding season and also on the Lugg, Arrow and Monnow.

423. THE WOOD-SANDPIPER. *Tringa glareola*, L.
Uncommon passage-migrant.

One was seen on the Wye bank in the winter of 1939-40, and two others in spring, one at Winforton and the other by a pond at Bishopstone.

424. THE GREEN SANDPIPER. *Tringa ochropus*, L.
Regular passage migrant and scarce winter visitor.
[HUTCHINSON. Reported to have bred at Kington, 1886 and 1887. (This record is not accepted.)]

The green sandpiper is not common in Herefordshire, but small numbers may be found by Wye or Lugg on the spring and autumn migrations, while it may be seen—generally solitary or at most a pair—in any winter month. There are local records for recent years in every month but June.

428. THE BRITISH REDSHANK. *Tringa totanus britannica*, Math.

Uncommon summer visitor and breeding.

The redshank has bred or attempted to breed in a very few localities in the county, but does not seem to do so regularly. A dry spring drives the birds away.

431. THE SPOTTED REDSHANK. *Tringa erythropus* (Pall.)
Rare vagrant.

One was shot at Monkland in 1881.

432. THE GREENSHANK. *Tringa nebularia* (Gunn.)
Rare passage migrant.

There are nine records of greenshank shot in the county, of which two were in March, four in August and two in October. A single bird of this species frequented Hereford sewage farm from 10th to 15th October, 1941.

435. THE RINGED PLOVER. *Charadrius hiaticula hiaticula*, L.
Rare passage migrant.

Horne states that the museum specimen was killed at Backney marsh near Ross. A single immature bird was seen daily at Hereford sewage farm for several weeks in October, 1948; another was seen at Aymestrey gravel-pits on 23rd August, 1952.

440. THE SOUTHERN GOLDEN PLOVER. *Pluvialis apricaria apricaria* (L.)

Rare but regular winter visitor. Winter birds may be *altifrons*. Also has bred and possibly still does so.

W.C.T., 1897, On the occasion of a visit to the Herefordshire portion of the Black Mountains on 17th June, 1897, Mr. W. E. de Winton said the golden plover "has, as far as I can learn, never been recorded as breeding within the limits of the county. The cock bird . . . in his manoeuvres, and warning notes to his mate was well worth seeing. The hen bird ran a considerable distance from the neighbourhood of the nest before rising . . . I did not search for the nest . . . but I was perfectly satisfied that a nest of eggs was there."

The golden plover is rare in Herefordshire, but a few can be seen annually in winter mixing with the lapwings on the Lugg meadows and on the arable fields near Madley, and another place which is sometimes frequented is the glebe at Staunton-on-Wye.

There is no proof that the bird still nests in Herefordshire, though some of the hill ground is most suitable. Mr. de Winton's birds probably had young. The bird has been shot on several occasions on Mr. Trafford's grouse moor, which is in Herefordshire, in August and September.

444. THE GREY PLOVER. *Squatarola squatarola* (L.)
Rare passage migrant.

Seven examples have been shot in the county. A small flock was seen in the Lugg meadows on 26th November, 1936.

446. THE DOTTEREL. *Eudromias morinellus* (L.)
Rare passage migrant.

A small flock was seen at Letton in 1878, and a specimen was shot on the Hereford-Monmouth border about 1890. An immature bird was picked up dead in Hereford city on 22nd September, 1906.

449. THE LAPWING *Vanellus vanellus* (L.)

Common resident and breeding. Has now deserted many of its former breeding sites, partly, at any rate, owing to the increased use of slag.

452. THE BRITISH OYSTER-CATCHER. *Haematopus ostralegus occidentalis*, Neum.
Uncommon winter visitor.

Bull says it "not infrequently visits Herefordshire" and adds that "one or two are shot nearly every winter on the banks of Wye or Lugg". It appears to be distinctly less common nowadays, though still occasionally seen. A single bird frequented the Lugg meadows near Hereford throughout December, 1950.

453. THE CREAM-COLOURED COURSER. *Cursorius cursor cursor* (Lath.)
Rare vagrant.

Bull states that one was shot at Backney marsh in 1852.

454. THE PRATINCOLE. *Glareola pratincola pratincola* (L.)
Rare vagrant.

456. THE STONE-CURLEW. *Burhinus oedipnemus oedipnemus* (L.)
Rare vagrant.

Three birds have been killed in the county, all at Lyde, and two of them in November. The years were 1875, 1884 and 1894.

459. THE WESTERN LITTLE BUSTARD. *Otis tetrax*, (L.)
Rare vagrant.

One was shot near Dorstone, and is now in Hereford museum (date unknown).

462. THE BLACK TERN. *Chlidonias niger niger* (L.)
Rare passage migrant.

Bull mentions one shot at the Mynde Pool in 1859. One was seen at Whitbourne Court on 22nd May, 1901, and one shot at Bridge Sollars on 16th August, 1931. Although these are the only dated records, the bird has certainly been seen more recently on a few occasions, especially at Shobdon decoy pool in springtime.

467. THE SANDWICH TERN. *Sterna sandvicensis sandvicensis*, Lath.

Rare passage migrant.

A bird was picked up in a street in Ross-on-Wye, after it had damaged itself against a street-lamp in its flight, on 22nd October, 1886. This bird was accompanied by a second which settled for a moment on the ground beside it. (Bull.)

469. THE COMMON TERN. *Sterna hirundo hirundo*, L.
Uncommon passage migrant.

Bull considered all terns rare in Herefordshire and only to be seen after severe storms. Horne saw common terns in 1889 and noted the species as a not infrequent visitor to the county. Birds were shot near Hereford in November, 1893, and at Preston-on-Wye in September, 1896. The late Canon W. B. Glennie stated that he had often seen one or two common terns in summer pass up the river, hawking over the shallows, and return downstream later in the same day—a habit which has been observed in terns on certain other rivers.

470. THE ARCTIC TERN. *Sterna macrura*, Naumann.
Rare passage migrant.

A single bird was picked up dead at Stansbatch near Staunton-on-Arrow where it had been seen flying about for several days previously—1st June, 1903.

Small parties were seen in the Lugg valley at Lugg bridge and Sutton, and also near Kington in April 1947—a year when an exceptionally large overland migration was noted elsewhere in England.

471. THE LITTLE TERN. *Sterna albifrons albifrons*, Pall.
Rare vagrant.

Bull cites one example, shot at Marden in September, 1869 after stormy weather, and Hutchinson records another killed at Hereford in 1876 by flying against telegraph wires. A third was seen at Huntington pond by A. B. Farn on 18th April, 1912.

472. THE SOOTY TERN. *Sterna fuscata fuscata*, L.
Rare vagrant.

Bull records one picked up dead at Marston, near Pembridge, after stormy weather in May, 1885.

477. THE LITTLE GULL. *Larus minutus*, Pall.
Rare vagrant.

A single bird was seen on the Wye near Hereford in company with black-headed gulls on 28th January, 1950, by A. Tucker and

R. Bower, the first record for the county.—*B.B.* 43: 408. An adult in winter plumage, again consorting with black-headed gulls, was seen at Hereford sewage works on 16th January, 1954.

478. THE BLACK-HEADED GULL. *Larus ridibundus ridibundus*, L.

Formerly only passage migrant, now also summer visitor and breeding, and winter visitor.

W.C.T., 1911, Contains the first mention in these p. 252. *Transactions* of the breeding of this gull locally.

The black-headed gull first nested in the adjoining county of Radnorshire in 1908.

The Herefordshire "gulleries" are ill-defined and have had short but chequered histories. In some years gulls have nested "in thousands", in others to the numbers of twenty or so, depending on local drainage and the wetness of the season. The nesting sites are in the extreme north of the county.

481. THE COMMON GULL. *Larus canus canus*, L.

Very common passage migrant and winter visitor.

Large flocks feed in the county by day throughout the winter, returning at sunset to roost at the Severn's mouth.

482. THE HERRING-GULL. *Larus argentatus argentatus*, Pont.
Passage migrant and uncommon winter visitor.

485. THE BRITISH LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL. *Larus fuscus graellsii*, Brehm.

The lesser black-backed gull is a summer visitor in some numbers, though it does not breed. They spend the summer flying up and down the Wye, from which they appear to draw the whole of their food supply. A few also accompany the winter flocks of common gulls, especially in conditions of flood. This and the black-headed are the only species of gulls which may be seen in the county on any day throughout the year.

486. THE GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL. *Larus marinus*, L.
Passage migrant.

The herring and greater black-backed gull are seen in parties flying over on spring and autumn migration. (H.A.G.)

489. THE KITTIWAKE. *Rissa tridactyla tridactyla* (L.)
Rare vagrant.

Bull mentions the kittiwake as having been seen on several occasions, and a record of a bird killed at Vennwood on 12th December, 1887, is added on p. xv of the introduction to his book.

There are four other winter records of specimens shot or picked up dead in the county prior to 1895. W. C. Ashdown, F.Z.S., calls it "by far the most numerous of the gulls seen in Herefordshire" (*W.C.T.* 1890-92: 383), but in this view he is plainly in error, and he perhaps confused the kittiwake with the common gull or black-headed gull in winter plumage.

492. THE POMATORHINE SKUA. *Stercorarius pomarinus* (Temm.)
Rare vagrant.

The specimen in Hereford museum was trapped on 8th August, 1882, on the Foxley estate when it returned to devour a young pheasant which it had killed. The only other record is of an immature bird in exhausted condition picked up at Marston in October, 1902.

493. THE ARCTIC SKUA. *Stercorarius parasiticus* (L.)
Rare vagrant.

One was killed when following a plough at Staunton Park in September, 1869; one was shot at Street Court (? date); and an immature specimen was caught near Hereford on 28th September, 1900, and died later. (Museum specimen.)

494. THE LONG-TAILED SKUA. *Stercorarius longicaudus*, Vieill.
Rare vagrant.

One was shot on the Herefordshire slope of the Black Mountains on 28th August, 1912.

502. THE LITTLE AUK. *Alle alle alle* (L.)
Rare vagrant.

A single bird was found alive in a ditch at Canon Pyon on 23rd December, 1938.

503. THE SOUTHERN PUFFIN. *Fratercula arctica grabae* (Brehm.)
Rare vagrant.

There are three records, but there is some uncertainty as to the dates; Fownhope, June 1876 or 1878, Aconbury, November 1893 or 1894, Moccas 1898. All three went to Hereford museum.

504. THE LAND-RAIL or CORN-CRAKE. *Crex crex* (L.)

Formerly common summer visitor, now passage migrant and very rare breeding bird verging on extinction as such. The voice of the corncrake is still heard in May or June of most years, but a nest has not been recorded within the last 25 years.

LINGWOOD. 1840. Common.

505. THE SPOTTED CRAKE. *Porzana porzana* (L.)

Rare summer visitor.

Bull was of opinion that "a few pairs visit the county most summers, and there is every probability that it breeds here. Four specimens were brought to the museum from April to June in the years 1880-1884—all of which came from the Lugg valley". One was shot at Allensmore in 1849, two on the Wye near Hereford in October, 1875, and another at Llangarron on 15th November, 1905. One was found dead at Bromsash, near Ross, on 14th March, 1954.

509. THE WATER-RAIL. *Rallus aquaticus aquaticus*, L.

Resident and breeding, but rare in summer; a few winter in the county.

BULL. Breeds.
HUTCHINSON. Resident.

510. THE MOORHEN. *Gallinula chloropus chloropus* (L.)

Common resident and breeding.

511. THE COOT. *Fulica atra atra*, L.

Resident. Breeds on many lakes and ponds in the county.

It is also to be seen on the Wye in winter, especially at Hampton Bishop, upstream from "The Carrots".

513. THE BRITISH BLACK GROUSE. *Lyrurus tetrix britannicus*, With. and Lonn.

Resident and breeding but almost extinct.

BULL. Breeds at Craswall—seen (1840) at Stoke Edith—killed on Bircher Common, Shobdon, etc.
Zoologist, 1886, Black Game have lately settled down in p. 250. Craswall. (H. W. Wood.)
Ditto, 1850, Grey hen killed at Hampton Court. p. 2852.

A blackcock was seen about 10 years ago at Huntington by Dr. C. D. E. Edwards.

At one time black game existed in some numbers in the Craswall district.

Major T. P. Powell's game books record a few killed on Cefn Hill and Cusop Hill. Grey hens were not shot, but Major Powell records that a gun "in youthful ardour and blood lust" once shot three young ones out of a brood. In 1929 a pheasant-blackgame hybrid, believed to be the result of a cross between cock-pheasant and gray-hen, was shot at Cusop.

The birds became so scarce that they were believed to have become extinct. In 1938, however, a pair were seen in that area, and two henbirds in 1939. It has not been seen since.

514. THE BRITISH RED GROUSE. *Lagopus scoticus scoticus* (Lath.)

BULL. Found on Bircher Common.

There is only one grouse moor in Herefordshire, on the Black Mountains, belonging to Mr. Trafford. Grouse are residential also in small areas on the low ground south-west of Dorstone. Major T. P. P. Powell's game books record 104 grouse shot in this area between 1894 and 1915.

The best seasons of late years on Mr. Trafford's moor have been 229 and 200 birds, in 1933 and 1934.

The grouse has also bred near Moorhampton in the Golden Valley.

517. THE PHEASANT. *Phasianus colchicus*, L.

Resident and breeding.

H.B. Introduced into Great Britain before 1066.

518. THE COMMON PARTRIDGE. *Perdix perdix perdix* (L.)

Resident and breeding.

519. THE RED-LEGGED PARTRIDGE. *Alectoris rufa rufa* (L.)

H.B. Introduced into Britain about 1770.

BULL. A rare bird—seems to have wandered from Gloucestershire. One shot at Fawley. (1864.)

The Field, Oct. 15th, 1881. French partridge shot near Ross. The Editor states: "We do not remember to have heard of the bird before in Herefordshire".

Local, more numerous on the eastern and northern side of the county than the west. They appear to favour certain farms on which they persist. Though the birds may disappear for a year or two, they return to the same area. Rare in the west, though specimens have been shot south of Dorstone, and at Treago. It is said to be fairly plentiful near Hay, and also in the Leominster district.

520. THE QUAIL. *Coturnix coturnix coturnix* (L.)

Regular passage migrant and summer visitor, but rare. Has bred.

BULL. More numerous in former years.
HUTCHINSON. Rare.

Mrs. Armitage's painting is dated 12th October, 1867.

One of us (H.A.G.) has seen quail while out partridge-shooting on three occasions during the last 15 years, and has had several sent to him found dead under telegraph wires.

Mr. W. P. Pritchard possesses eggs taken at Rotherwas about 60 years ago, and the late Mr. Bolt had a clutch of 10 which are labelled "taken at Shobdon by T. Norris—1912". There is no reason to doubt the authenticity of either record, and as regards the 1912 record, it is interesting to note that quail appear to be faithful to the Shobdon neighbourhood, as their call has been heard there in the early summers of 1952 and 1953, while just north of this and over the Radnorshire border four quail were seen in September 1945 and one in September 1946. A pair were seen and heard at Bridstow in June, 1952, but breeding was not proved. A pair frequented Castle Farm, Staunton-on-Arrow, during the summer and early autumn of 1953. The call has been heard in different years in Holmer, Lyde, Tillington, Almeley and Ross district.

INDEX

	Page		Page
Auk, Little	51	Falcon, Peregrine	30
Bee-eater	26	Fieldfare	22
Bittern	36	Firecrest	18
—, Little	36	Flycatcher, Pied	17
Blackbird	22	—, Spotted	17
Blackcap	21	Gadwall	38
Brambling	10	Gannet	41
Bullfinch, British	10	Garganey	39
Bunting, Cirl	11	Godwit, Bar-tailed	43
—, Corn-... ..	11	—, Black-tailed	44
—, Reed-... ..	12	Goldcrest, British	18
—, Snow-... ..	12	Goldeneye	40
—, Yellow	11	Goldfinch, British	8
Bustard, Western Little	48	Goosander	40
Buzzard, Common	31	Goose, Barnacle	38
—, Honey-... ..	33	—, Bean	37
—, Rough-legged	31	—, Brent	38
Chaffinch, British	10	—, Canada	38
Chiffchaff	18	—, Pink-footed	37
Coot	52	—, Snow-... ..	38
Cormorant	40	—, White-fronted	37
Courser, Cream-coloured	48	Grebe, Black-necked	42
Crane, Corn-... ..	51	—, Great Crested	42
—, Spotted	52	—, Little	42
Creeper, Tree-... ..	16	—, Red-necked	42
Crossbill, Common	10	—, Slavonian	42
Crow, Carrion	6	Greenfinch	8
—, Hooded	6	Greenshank	46
Cuckoo	29	Grouse, British Black	52
Curlew, Common	44	—, British Red	53
—, Stone-... ..	48	Gull, Black-headed	50
Dipper, British	25	—, British Lesser Black-backed	50
Diver, Black-throated	43	—, Common	50
—, Great Northern	43	—, Great Black-backed	50
—, Red-throated	43	—, Herring-... ..	50
Dotterel	47	—, Little	49
Dove, Rock-... ..	43	Harrier, Hen-... ..	32
—, Stock-... ..	43	—, Montagu's	32
—, Turtle-... ..	43	Hawfinch	8
Duck, Ruddy Sheld-... ..	38	Hawk, Sparrow-... ..	32
—, Scaup-... ..	39	Hedge-Sparrow, British	25
—, Sheld-... ..	38	Heron, Common	35
—, Tufted	39	—, Night-... ..	36
Dunlin, Northern	45	—, Squacco	35
—, Southern	45	Hobby	30
Eagle, Spotted	31	Hoopoe... ..	26
—, White-tailed	33	Ibis, Glossy	35

	Page		Page
Jackdaw	7	Pochard, Common	39
Jay, British	7	Pratincole	48
		Puffin, Southern	51
Kestrel	31	Quail	53
Kingfisher	26		
Kite	32	Rail, Land-	51
Kittiwake	50	—, Water-	52
Knot	45	Raven	5
		Redpoll, Lesser	9
Lapwing	48	—, Mealy	9
Lark, Shore-	14	Redshank, British	46
—, Sky-	14	—, Spotted	46
—, Wood-	12	Redstart	24
Linnet	9	—, Black	24
		Redwing	22
Magpie	7	Ring-Ouzel	22
Mallard	38	Robin, British	25
Martin, House-	25	Roller	26
—, Sand-	25	Rook	6
Merganser, Red-breasted	40	Ruff	46
Merlin	31		
Moorhen	52	Sand-Grouse, Pallas's	43
		Sandpiper, Common	46
Nightingale	24	—, Green	46
Nightjar	26	—, Wood-	46
Nutcracker	7	Scoter, Common	40
Nuthatch, British	16	Shag	40
		Shearwater, Manx	42
Oriole, Golden	8	Shoveler	39
Osprey	34	Shrike, Great Grey	17
Ouzel, see Ring-Ouzel		—, Red-backed	17
Owl, British Tawny	30	Siskin	8
—, Little	29	Skua, Arctic	51
—, Long-eared	29	—, Long-tailed	51
—, Short-eared	30	—, Pomatorhine	51
—, White-breasted Barn	30	Smew	40
Oyster-catcher, British	48	Snipe, Common	45
		—, Great	44
Partridge, Common	53	—, Jack	45
—, Red-legged	53	Sparrow, Hedge-	25
Peregrine Falcon	30	—, House-	12
Petrel, Fulmar	42	—, Tree-	12
—, Leach's Fork-tailed	41	Starling	7
—, Storm-	41	—, Rose-coloured	7
Phalarope, Grey	45	Stonechat, British	23
Pheasant	53	Swallow	25
Pigeon, Wood-	43	Swan, Bewick's	36
Pintail	39	—, Mute	37
Pipit, Meadow-	14	—, Whooper	36
—, Rock-	14	Swift	26
—, Tawny	14	—, Alpine	25
—, Tree-	14	Teal	39
—, Water-	14	Tern, Arctic	49
Plover, Grey	47	—, Black	48
—, Ringed	47	—, Common	49
—, Southern Golden	47	—, Little	49
		—, Sandwich	49

	Page		Page
Tern, Sooty	49	Warbler, Grasshopper	19
Thrush, British Song-	22	—, Marsh-	20
—, Mistle-	22	—, Reed-	20
Tit, British Blue	16	—, Sedge-	21
—, Coal-	16	—, Willow-	19
—, Great	16	—, Wood-	19
—, Long-tailed	17	Waxwing	17
—, Marsh-	16	Wheatear	22
—, Willow-	16	—, Greenland	23
Tree-Creeper, British	16	Whimbrel	44
Tropic-bird, Red-billed	41	Whinchat	23
Turnstone	45	Whitethroat	21
Twite	9	—, Lesser	21
		Wigeon	39
Wagtail, Blue-headed	15	Woodcock	44
—, Grey	15	Woodpecker, Black	28
—, Pied	15	—, British Greater Spotted	27
—, White	15	—, Lesser Spotted	27
—, Yellow	15	—, Green	26
Warbler, Dartford	21	Wren	25
—, Garden-	21	Wryneck	28