

### The proper name for the Arctic Horned Owl.

Swainson's name *Strix (Bubo) arctica* (Fauna Boreali-Americana, II, 86, Feb., 1832) for the Arctic Horned Owl, which has been unhesitatingly used by ornithologists for the boreal form of *Bubo virginianus*, appears to rest on an insecure foundation, since Forster in 1817 (Synoptical Catalogue of British Birds, 47) made use of the term *Bubo arcticus* for the Snowy Owl. Forster's name was rather timidly proposed as a new one for *Strix nyctea*, and as it has several years priority over that of Swainson it follows that our present *Bubo virginianus arcticus* will require another name. Hoy's *Bubo subarcticus*, which passed current for the Western Horned Owl until shown by Mr. Stone to be synonymous with Swainson's *arctica* will apparently have to supplant the latter. If this view should prove to be the correct one the Arctic Horned Owl ought in future to be called *Bubo virginianus subarcticus* (Hoy).—*Charles W. Richmond.*

### A new name for *Buthotrephis divaricata* D. W.

In a paper describing some supposed fossil algaë from the Upper Silurian (Eurypterid beds) at Kokomo, Indiana, the writer recently gave the name *Buthotrephis divaricata* to a type resembling in form and apparently in texture the living *Codium tomentosum*. The name *Buthotrephis divaricata* was preoccupied by Kidston in 1886 (Cat. Palaeozoic Pl. Brit. Mus., p. 243) for a species from the Wenlock shale (Upper Silurian) in Shropshire. Therefore the name *Buthotrephis speciosa* is here given to the plant from Kokomo described in the Proceedings of the U. S. National Museum, Vol. XXIV, p. 265, pl. xvi, 1901. The figure illustrating this species was reduced to three fourths the natural size, contrary to the explanation which reads "natural size".—*David White.*

### Change of name of *Ficus? hesperia* from vicinity of Ashland, Oregon.

In my "Flora of the Montana Formation" (U. S. Geol. Surv., Bulletin No. 163, p. 45, pl. ix, fig. 5, 1900) I give the name *Ficus hesperia* to a new species of fossil plant from the north fork of Dutton Creek, Laramie Plains, Wyoming. In my paper on the "Fossil Plants Associated with the Lavas of the Cascade Range", (U. S. Geol. Surv., 20th Ann. Rept., Pt. III, p. 45, pl. ii, fig. 4, 1900), I employed the same name (*Ficus? hesperia*) for a different species from the vicinity of Ashland, Oregon. As the first mentioned publication antedates the other in appearance, the species so named in the latter paper must be changed. I therefore propose for it the name *Ficus? Applegatei*, in honor of the collector, Mr. Elmer I. Applegate.—*F. H. Knowlton.*