

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

GENERAL NOTES.

Earliest name for the American Crow.

Corvus americanus, in general use for the American Crow, dates from Audubon, 1834 (Orn. Biogr., II, p. 317), but C. L. Brehm fully described and named the species in 1822 (Beiträge zur Vögelkunde, II, 1822, p. 56), as *Corvus brachyrhynchos*. As there can be no question about the applicability of Brehm's name, it will become necessary to adopt it for the Common Crow. One subspecies will be affected by this change, viz: *Corvus brachyrhynchos pascuus* (Coues).—Charles W. Richmond.

Relationships of the Madagascar genus *Hypositta* Newton.*

The genus *Hypositta* has by common practice been placed in the family *Sittidae*, but possesses so many pronounced and unique structural characters that I believe it to be entitled to rank as a distinct family, which may be characterized (in part) as follows:

HYPOSITTIDÆ, new family.

Small ten-primaried acutiplantar Oscines, related to *Sittidae*, but with maxilla uncinatè at tip, its tomia distinctly notched subterminally; hallux (without claw) nearly as long as middle toe (without claw); outer toe very nearly as long as middle toe, and united to the latter for the whole of its basal and half its subbasal phalanges; inner toe only about half as long as outer; acrotarsium booted; tail three-fourths as long as wing.—Robert Ridgway.

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