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SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE

November 30, 1931.

Mrs. J. E. Stewart,  
1245 West 37th Street,  
Des Moines, Iowa.

My dear Mrs. Stewart:-

I duly received your letter of the 20th instant, and more recently Mr. DuMont's Birds of Polk County, Iowa, for which please accept my thanks. This seems to be a very carefully prepared paper for which considerable thorough research of the literature has been made. I like the arrangement of it and the conservative policy followed in regard to doubtful species, which are enclosed in brackets.

Mr. Watson's records of the American brant, look doubtful to me, as this bird would be far off its normal beat in Iowa, being essentially a coast-wise species.

The record of the purple gallinule may be authentic, as this bird has been known to wander far north on several occasions.

There are a number of other such cases that might be discussed, but on the whole the list is very good.

There is, however, one unfortunate blemish in it, namely, the use of the word "specie," which means money, instead of the word "species." This occurs too often to be considered a typographical error.

Sincerely yours,

*A. C. Bent*

ACB/N.